

Standardization of medical devices nomenclature

5th March, 2024

Adriana Velazquez Berumen
Team Lead Medical Devices









Agenda

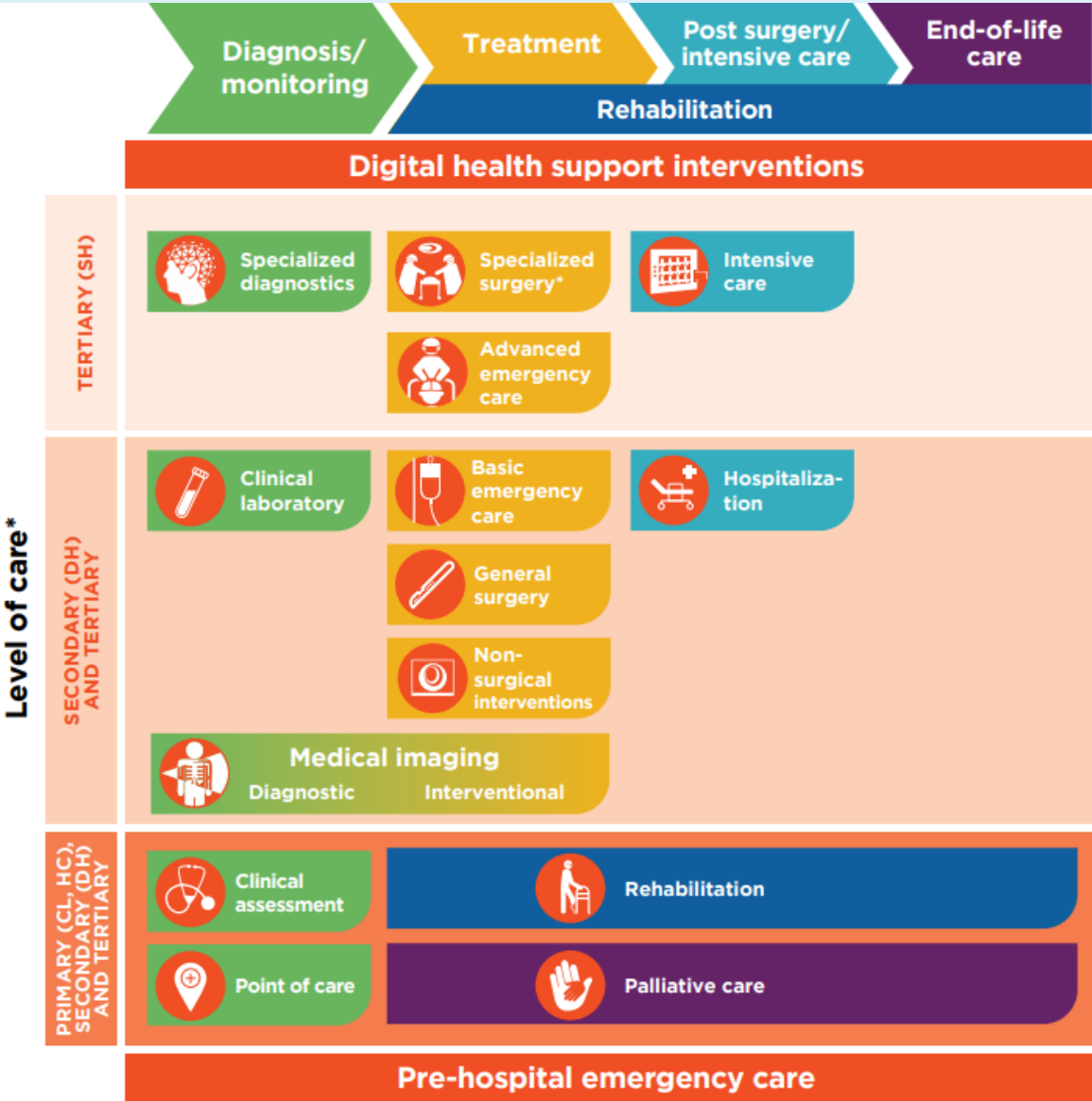
1. Why is nomenclature important?
2. Responding to Member States.
3. Searching a solution having 2 systems.



There are thousands of types of Medical devices...

used at all levels of health care.

	In vitro diagnostic, laboratory		Medical equipment
	Surgical instruments		Single use medical devices
	Implantable medical devices		Some assistive devices
	Some personal protective equipment		Software as medical device

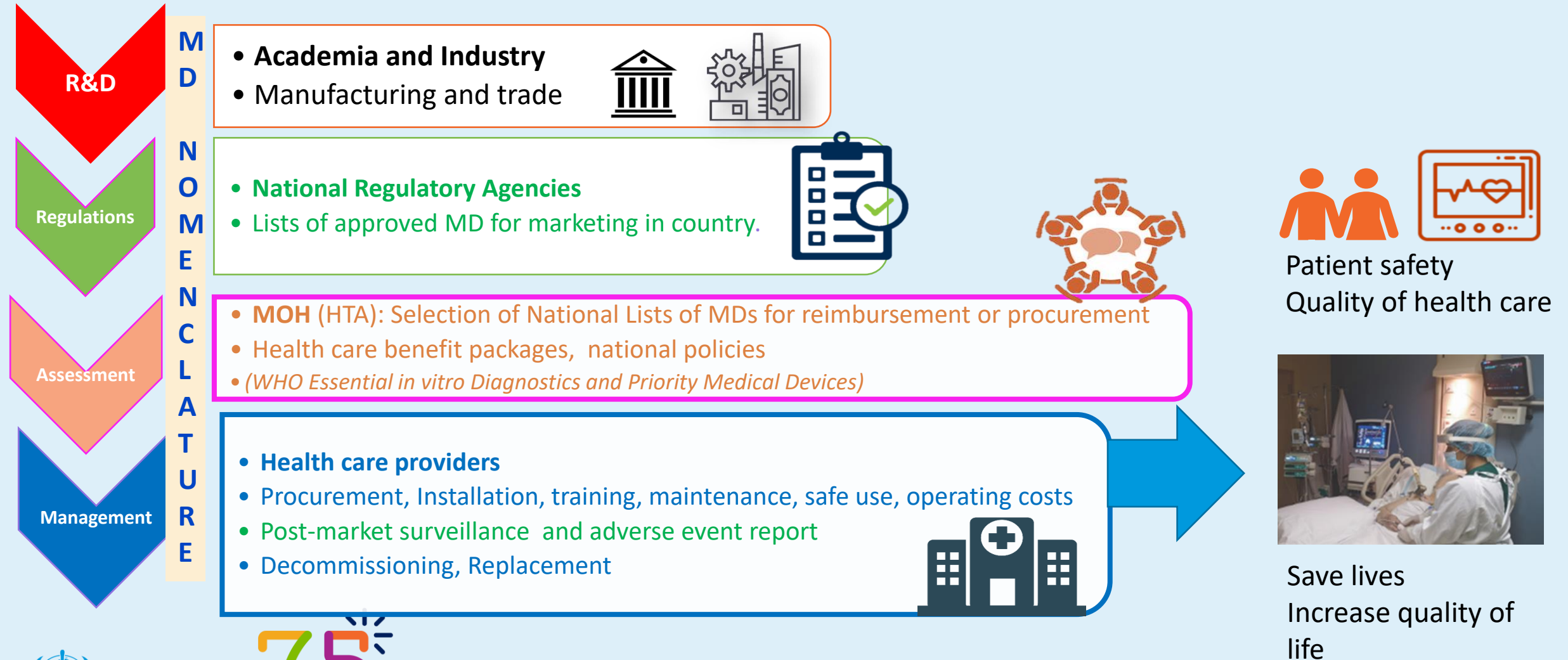


World Health
Organization

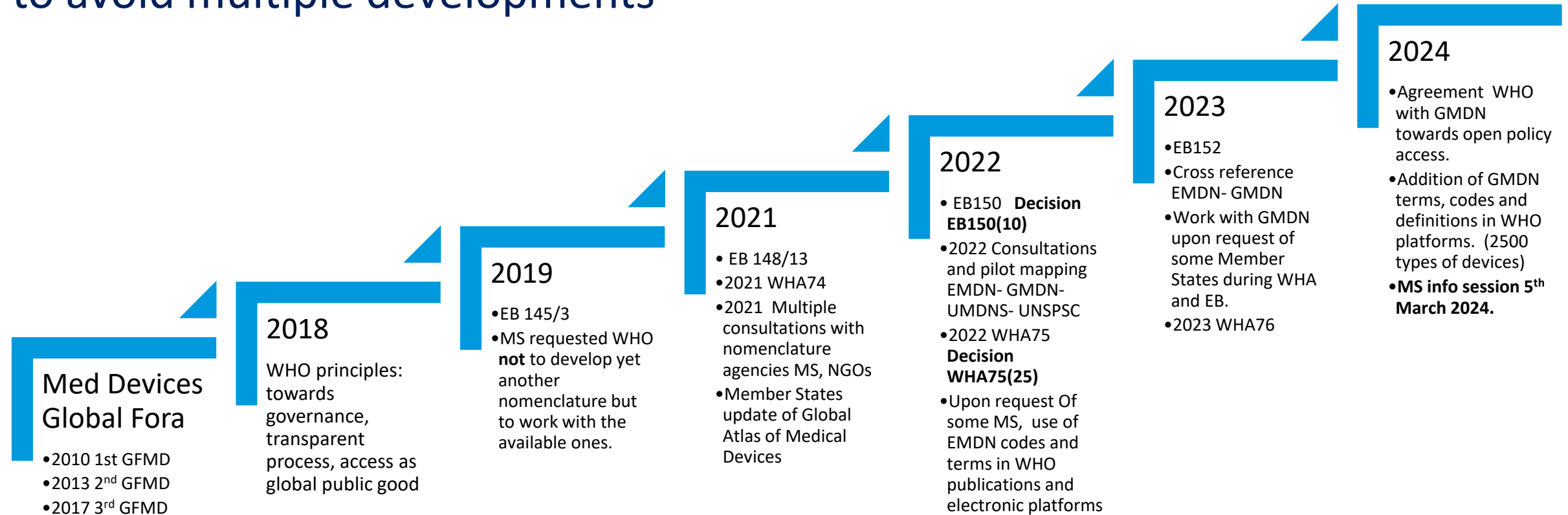


HEALTH
FOR ALL

Harmonized Nomenclature improves access to safe, quality, affordable medical devices, towards increased quality of health care everywhere



We have come a long way, uphill, approaching, but still not there...
need to ensure everyone has access to naming system for medical devices,
to avoid multiple developments



Decision approved 28 May 2022 in WHA 75 on Standardization of medical devices nomenclature: WHA75(25)

- Member States request to the Director General:
- to integrate **available** information related to medical devices, including **terms, codes, and definitions**, in the web-based database and clearinghouse established in line with resolution WHA60.29 (2007) and now available as the Medical Devices Information System (MEDEVIS); and to **link this to other WHO platforms**, such as the International Classification of Diseases, (ICD-11) to serve as a reference to stakeholders and Member States;
- (2) to submit a substantive report on progress made in implementing this decision to the Executive Board at its 152nd session in January 2023, and **its 156th session in January 2025**

Medical Devices Nomenclature systems most used.

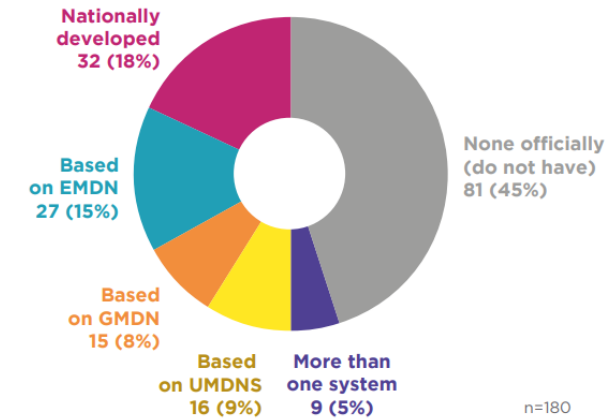
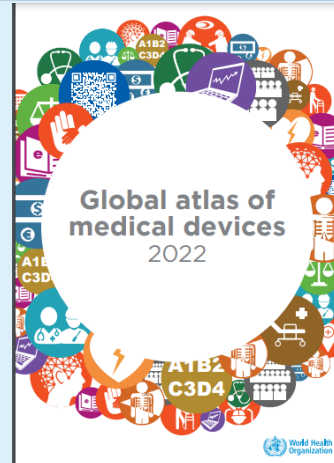


Figure 2. Type of an official nomenclature system for medical devices (data from the 2020 Country survey and 2021-2022 Nomenclature consultations)

European Medical Devices Nomenclature ([EMDN](#))

- Last update September 2021.
- ongoing public consultation until March 2024.
- Has free access of information for everyone.
- Governed by MDCG.
- Anyone can comment.

Global Medical Devices Nomenclature ([GMDN](#)),

- Continuous updates
- About 25,000 codes
- Requires membership and the system and accepts licence.
- Free for some, including governments and public health providers.

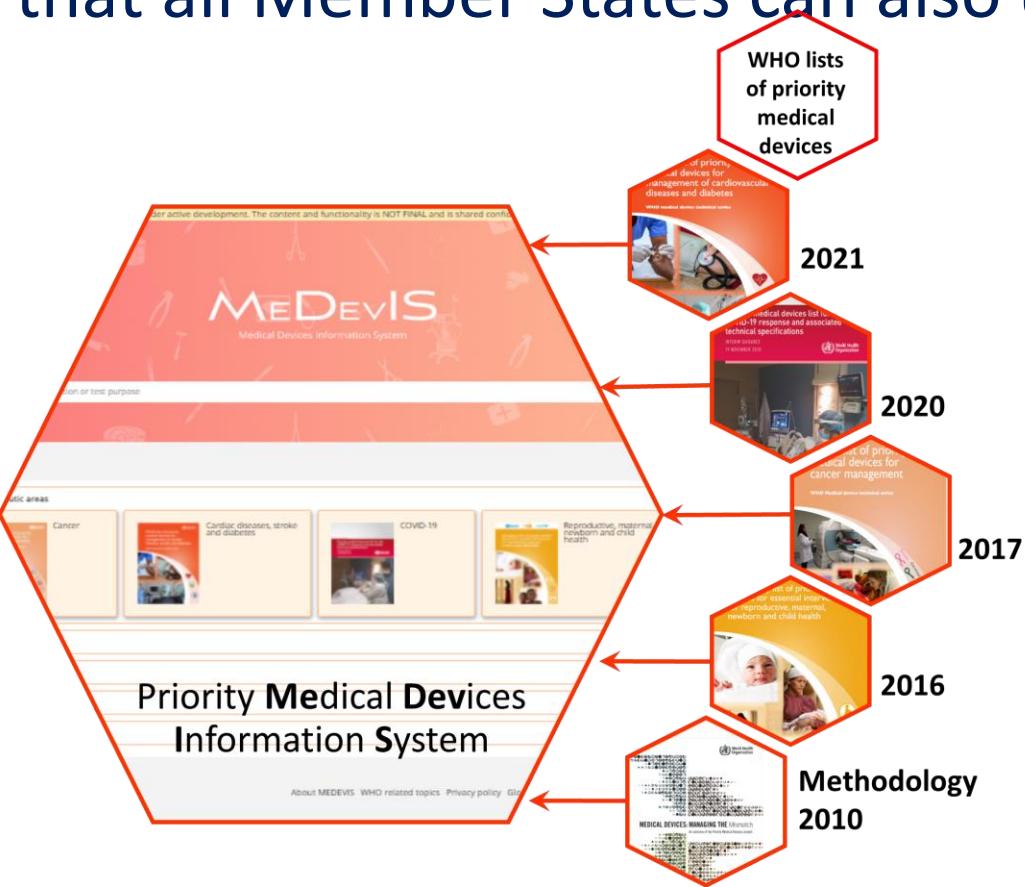
Universal Medical Devices Nomenclature System ([UMNDS](#)),

- Monthly updates.
- About 43,000 terms
- Requires that user registers in their system and accepts licence.
- Not free
- Mostly used in hospitals for health technology management

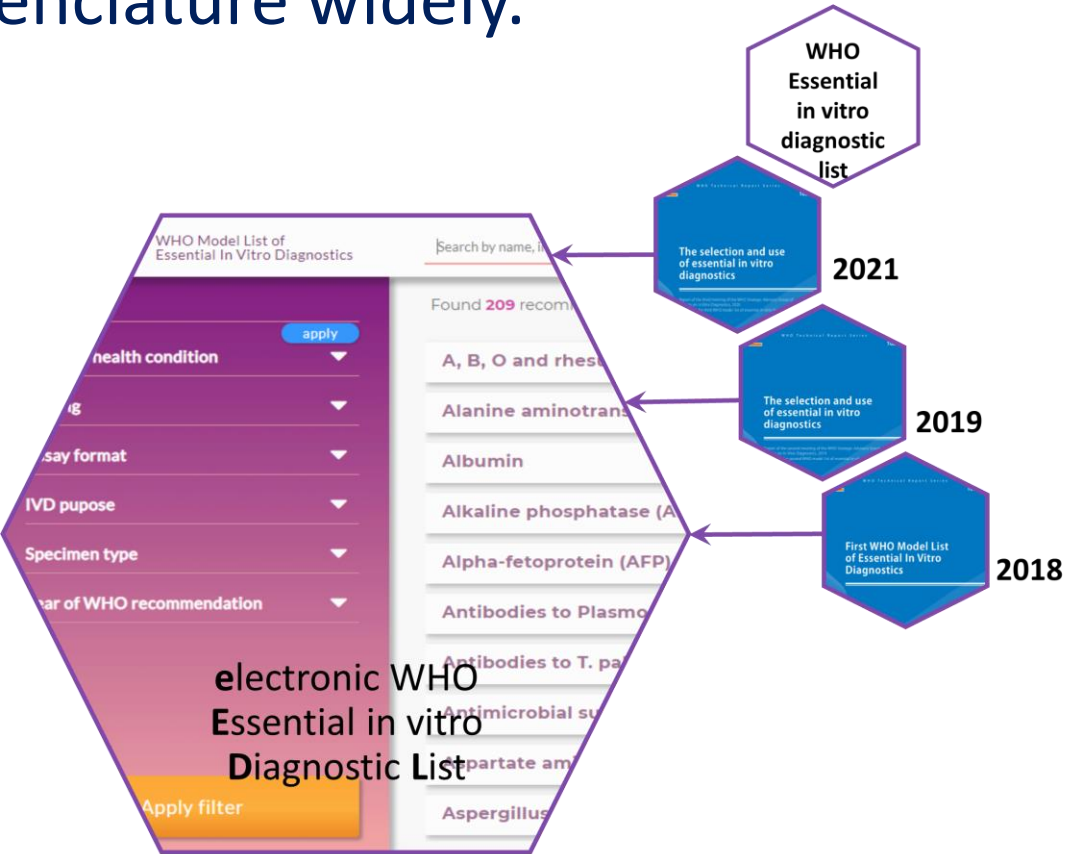
The United Nations Standard Products and Services Codes ([UNSPSC](#)),

- includes medical devices plus other multiple types of products and services.
- Mostly used for procurement.
- UNGM.

Goal:1. to include naming, codes, definitions in all WHO publications and electronic platforms, for public reference and
2. that all Member States can also use nomenclature widely.



MeDeVIS

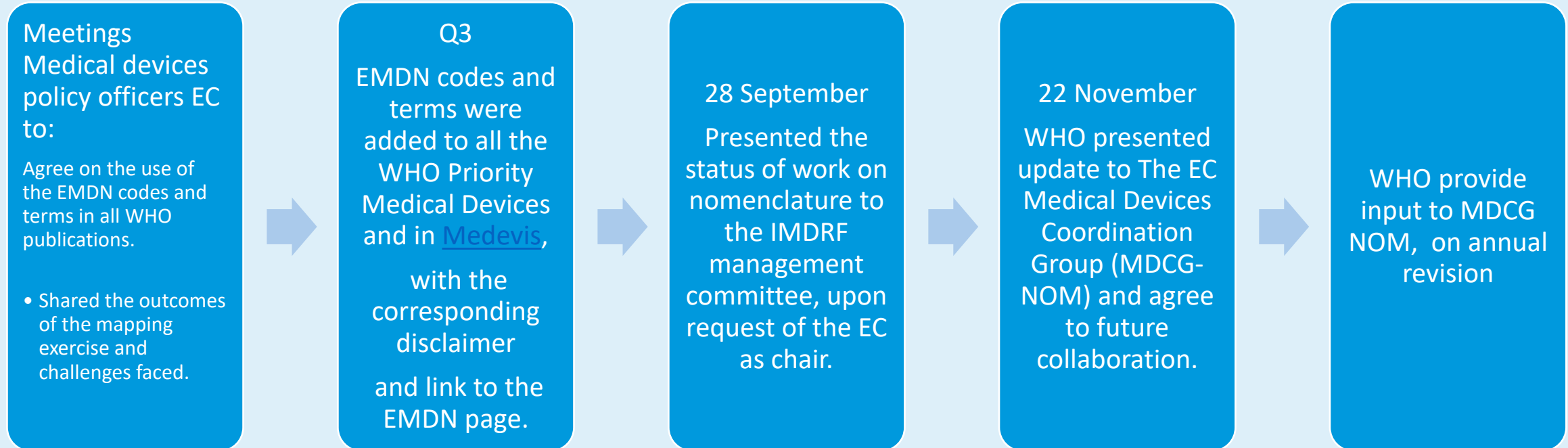


eEDL

Mapping process and results

- **Goal:** 5,200 EMDN-GMDN pairs
- **Source:** initially: AccessGUDID and EUDAMED
- **Time:** 7 months (finalize September 2023)
- **Method applied:** Automatic matching tools, similarity of term/definitions
- **Final result:** 7,500 pairs (table available to MS only as reference)
- **Challenges:** Multiple:
 - The continuous updating of the GMDN nomenclature code/terms, unless it continues in real time with everyone's collaboration.
 - Unable to perform automated creation of EMDN-GMDN pairs using UDI system as a source.
 - It is possible to establish relationships between nomenclatures, even though the different granularity of the nomenclature, but it would not be one to one.

Collaboration with EMDN 2023.



Collaboration with GMDN 2023-24

Meetings to share concerns and define collaboration

- March to December 2023
- Definition of technical and legal aspects
- Scope

Agreement:

- Licence open access, noncommercial, for publicly available information, reached February 2024.
WHO adding disclaimer and link to GMDN website.

The scope:

- Terms, codes and definitions of the WHO selected medical devices.
- 1. [WHO model list of essential in vitro diagnostics](#)
- 2. [WHO Priority Medical Devices lists](#), other associated subsets.
- 3. WHO would not publish the whole GMDN list

Funding:

- Financial compensation to GMDN for the management of 3,000 initial codes, annual expansion.

License of MeDevIS, using Creative commons non commercial was agreed to host the GMDN codes, terms and definitions.

© World Health Organization [2024]

Some rights reserved. This work is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO licence (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO; <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo>).

Under the terms of this licence, you may copy, redistribute and adapt the work for non-commercial purposes, provided the work is appropriately cited, as indicated below. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that WHO endorses any specific organization, products or services. The use of the WHO logo is not permitted. If you adapt the work, then you must license your work under the same or equivalent Creative Commons licence. If you create a translation of this work, you should add the following disclaimer along with the suggested citation: “This translation was not created by the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO is not responsible for the content or accuracy of this translation. The original English edition shall be the binding and authentic edition”.



World Health
Organization



Status of nomenclature (terms and codes) of medical devices (22 February)

Outcomes of mapping has been shared with the 3 agencies (EMDN, GMDN, UMDNS).

WHO-EMDN

- Codes and terms already used in all WHO MeDevIS data since 2023.

WHO- GMDN

- Inclusion of codes, terms and definitions in WHO MEDEVIS (tests in February 2024)
- Approval for WHO open access, using Creative Commons non commercial licence.

WHO- UMDNS

- In pause.
- ECRI still does not have a publicly available nomenclature system

WHO- UNSPSC

- WHO secretariat will contact in Q3. 2024.
- They are interested.

The way forward, by WHO in 2024

- Organize consultations and monthly webinars*
- With the agreements achieved place codes, terms and definitions in WHO resources and make them publicly available.
- Use the nomenclature systems for any new device added in WHO Lists and publications.
- Continue collaboration with EMDN and GMDN to support MS, co-existing as the measurement system...



World Health
Organization

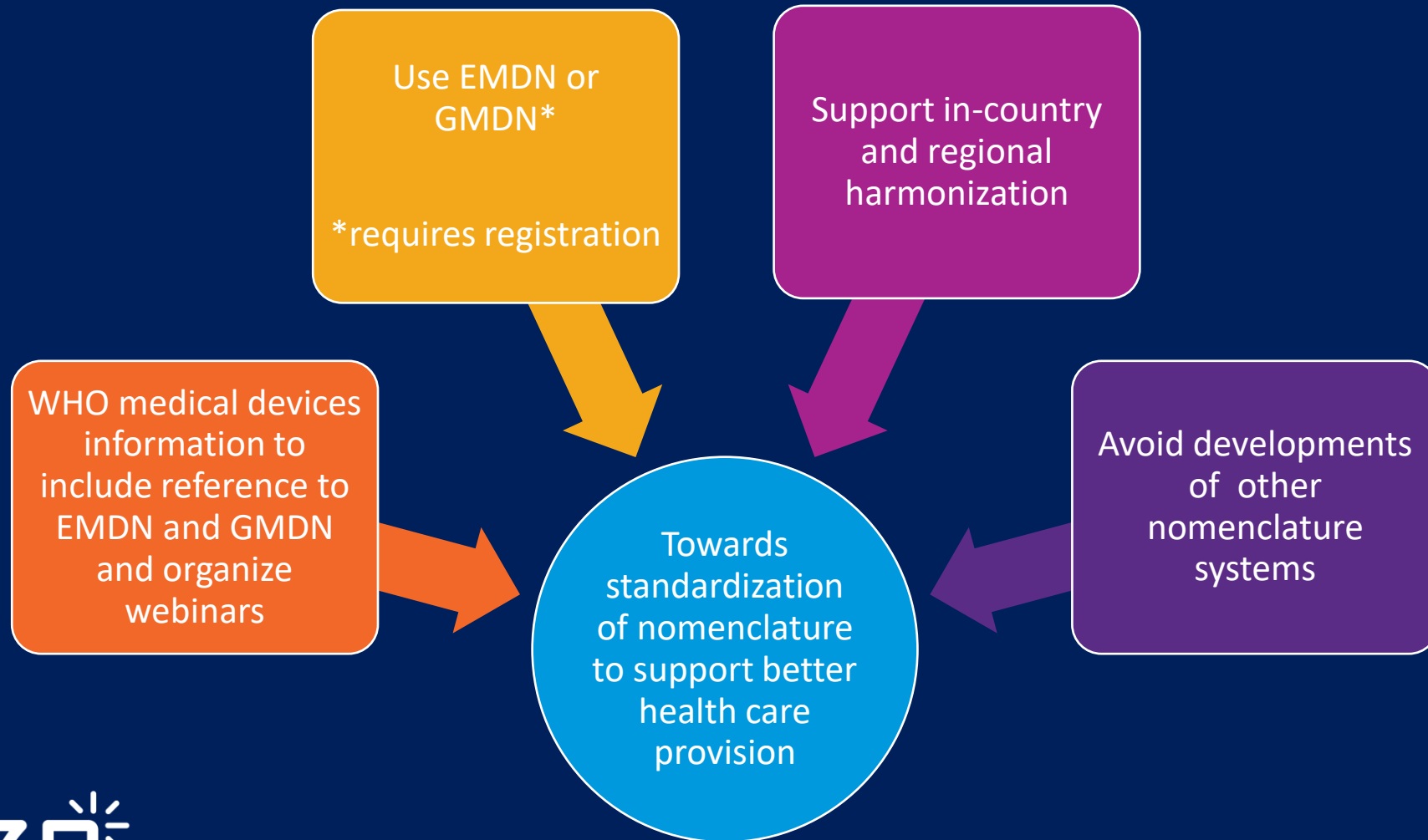


HEALTH
FOR ALL

Next steps: Proposal to have monthly webinar on nomenclature of medical devices

1. **When?** First Tuesday of every month at 13:00 CET to be available to all countries.
Webinar, in Teams, open to all participants
3. **Who?** Member States, NGOs, nomenclature agencies, etc..
4. **What?** Nomenclature use cases, lessons learned and challenges, examples:
April: WHO tools, EMDN, GMDN
May: Ministries of Health, policies, national lists
June: Regulatory agencies: registration, to post market surveillance
July: Procurement and supply management, NGOs and humanitarian agencies
August: UDI, unique device identifier
September: At facility level: inventories, maintenance, CMMS
October: HS, harmonized code, WCO,
November: Med tech industry
December: creation of communities of practice

Way forward: Nomenclature of medical devices



Gracias
Thank you
Merci
Shokran
Xie xie
Spasiva



World Health
Organization

WHO

20, Avenue Appia
1211 Geneva

Switzerland

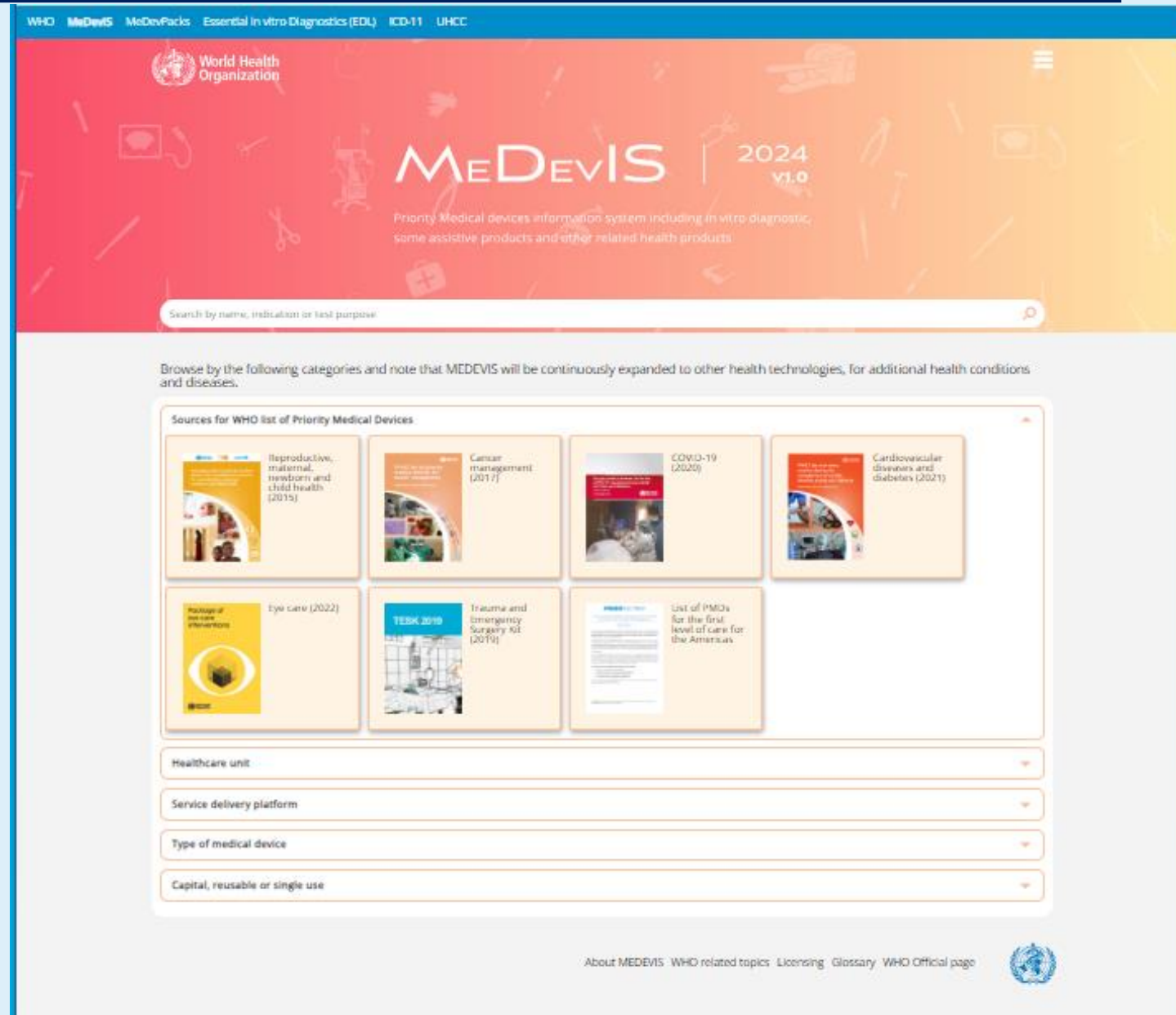
medicaldevices@who.int

Medical devices website:
https://www.who.int/health-topics/medical-devices#tab=tab_1

Additional complementary slides 5th March 2024

MeDevIS, 2024 v 1.0
is being released today.

As per decision
WHA75(25),
*“to integrate available
information related to
medical devices,
including terms, codes,
and definitions, in the
web-based database and
clearinghouse...”*



Including EMDN and GMDN codes, terms, disclaimer, link to their website.

WHO MeDeVIS MeDevPacks Essential in vitro Diagnostics (EDL) ICD-11 UHCC

World Health Organization MeDeVIS Search by name, indication or test purpose

Export device

< Stent, Drug-Eluting (DES)

Primary use: Treatment / Resuscitation / Palliative care / Surgery

Type of medical device or related product: Implantable devices

General vs. specific use (health condition): Specific

EMDN related code(s): P0704020103 CORONARY DRUG ELUTING STENTS (DES)

The code(s) and term(s) in this section were observed and retrieved from public databases and have not been validated by health regulatory authorities. Please consult your regulatory agency and EMDN site:
<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/dyna2/emdn/>

GMDN related code(s): 56304 Drug-eluting coronary artery stent, fully bioabsorbable (A bioabsorbable tubular or coil-shaped device with a drug coating intended to be implanted, via a delivery catheter, into a de novo or restenotic native coronary artery during a percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) to temporarily maintain its patency, typically in patients with symptomatic atherosclerotic heart disease. The drug coating is intended to inhibit restenosis by reducing vessel smooth muscle cell proliferation. The device is made of a material capable of being degraded and absorbed by body tissues (e.g., bioabsorbable polymer) and is designed to remain in the vessel to provide support for the stenosed lesion until it degrades.)

The medical device term(s), code(s) and definition(s) in this section were retrieved from databases external to WHO. As there might be more than one name, definition and "Nomenclature Code" related to the specific medical device, please consult:
<https://gmdnagency.org/>, GMDN ®. © GMDN Agency 2005-2024

WHO MeDeVIS MeDevPacks Essential in vitro Diagnostics (EDL) ICD-11 UHCC

World Health Organization MeDeVIS Search by name, indication or test purpose

Export device

< PET/CT (Positron Emission tomography / Computed Tomography) system

Primary use: Diagnosis / Measurement / Monitoring

Type of medical device or related product: Imaging / nuclear medicine equipment

General vs. specific use (health condition): General

Intended population age: Later adults (over 64 years), Adults (20 to 64 years), Adolescent (10 to 19 years), Childhood (28 days to 9 years)

Intended population sex: All

Level of technical knowledge: Specialized clinical

Capital: Yes

Reusable: Yes

Requirements: air conditioning / temperature control, electricity (mains), emergency power supply, HIS/LMIS/RIS/PACS, lighting, pre-installation preparation / mechanical guides, radiation protection

WHO list of priority medical devices: Cancer management (2017), Cardiovascular diseases and diabetes (2021)

Service delivery platforms / Healthcare levels: Second-level and third-level hospital services and specialized outpatient services

Healthcare unit: Medical imaging

EMDN related code(s): Z11020301 CT/PET SYSTEMS

The code(s) and term(s) in this section were observed and retrieved from public databases and have not been validated by health regulatory authorities. Please consult your regulatory agency and EMDN site:
<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/dyna2/emdn/>

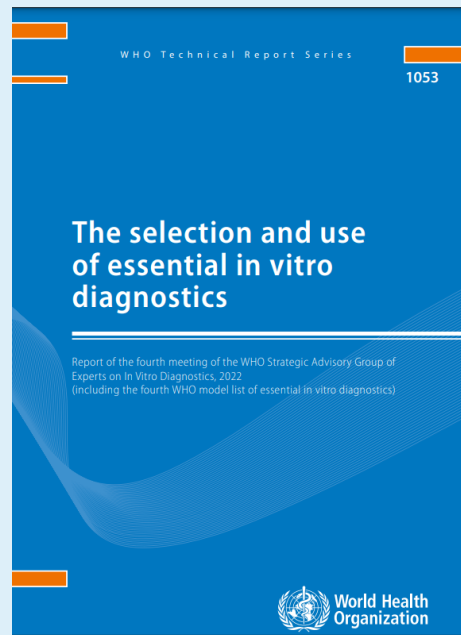
GMDN related code(s): 45143 PET/CT system (A diagnostic radiological imaging system that is a combination of a positron emission tomography (PET) camera system for nuclear medicine (NM) images, and a computed tomography (CT) camera system for x-ray images. The nuclear medicine images and the x-ray images may be registered and displayed in a fused format (overlaid in the same orientation) for the anatomical localization of the nuclear medicine data (i.e., distribution of radiopharmaceuticals). The PET and CT portions of the system may be used independently or in combination. The PET and CT images may be transferred to other systems for radiation therapy planning or additional processing.)


The medical device term(s), code(s) and definition(s) in this section were retrieved from databases external to WHO. As there might be more than one name, definition and "Nomenclature Code" related to the specific medical device, please consult:
<https://gmdnagency.org/>, GMDN ®. © GMDN Agency 2005-2024

Decommissioning: <https://youtu.be/D7TynSGG4c>, <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/330095>

WHO resources on medical devices: Interagency list of priority medical devices for essential interventions for reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, WHO list of priority medical devices for cancer management, WHO List of Priority Medical Devices for management of cardiovascular diseases and diabetes, WHO List of Priority medical devices list for the COVID-19 response and associated technical specifications, Package of eye care interventions, Trauma and Emergency Surgery Kit (TESK) 2019, WHO medical devices website, WHO priority medical devices website, WHO essential in vitro diagnostic website

4th WHO model list of Essential in vitro diagnostic (EDL) is included in eEDL 2024, v 1.0



 **World Health Organization**

WHO Model List of Essential In Vitro Diagnostics


Search by name, indication or test purpose

Licencing WHO EDL

WHO Model List of Essential In Vitro Diagnostics (EDL)

© World Health Organization 2024 v1.0

Some rights reserved. This work is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO licence (CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO; <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/igo>). Under the terms of this licence, you may copy, redistribute and adapt the work for non-commercial purposes, provided the work is appropriately cited, as indicated below. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that WHO endorses any specific organization, products or services. The use of the WHO logo is not permitted.

 **World Health Organization**

WHO Model List of Essential In Vitro Diagnostics

Search by name, indication or test purpose

Found **219** recommendations for **162 in vitro diagnostic**

FILTERS apply

Disease/health condition ▼

Setting ▼

Assay format ▼

IVD purpose ▼

Specimen type ▼

Year of WHO recommendation ▼

Apply filter

17-OHP ⓘ

ABO and RH

ABO and RH

Alanine aminotransferase (ALT)

Albumin

Alkaline phosphatase (ALP)

Alpha-fetoprotein (AFP)

Antibodies to Plasmodium spp.

Antibodies to T. pallidum

4th Essential in vitro diagnostic list is being classified with EMDN and GMDN codes. Work in progress.

DIAGNOSTIC TEST	TEST PURPOSE	ASSAY FORMAT	GMDN CT	GMDN CT NAME	GMDN CODE	GMDN TERM NAME	GMDN TERM DEFINITION
81 Combined HIV antibody/p24 antigen (antiHIV/p24 Ag)	To screen blood donations for HIV	Immunoassay method (if automated haematology analyser not available)	CT284	Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) IVDs	48445	HIV1/HIV2 antigen/antibody IVD, kit, enzyme immunoassay (EIA)	A collection of reagents and other associated materials intended to be used for the qualitative and/or quantitative detection of antigens from and antibodies to human immunodeficiency virus 1 and 2 (HIV1/HIV2) in a clinical specimen, using an enzyme immunoassay (EIA) method.
82 Haematocrit (Hct)	To diagnose and monitor anaemia. Note: Result time sensitive for emergency and critical care	Haematology analyser (preferred)	CT561	Haematology analyser IVDs	56696	Haematocrit analyser IVD	An electrically-powered automated or semi-automated laboratory instrument intended to be used to determine the red cell haematocrit or packed red cell volume of a whole blood specimen, using technology which may incorporate centrifugation, photometry or electrometry.
83 Haematocrit (Hct)	To diagnose and monitor anaemia. Note: Result time sensitive for emergency and critical care	Haematology analyser (preferred)	CT561	Haematology analyser IVDs	56696	Haematocrit analyser IVD	An electrically-powered automated or semi-automated laboratory instrument intended to be used to determine the red cell haematocrit or packed red cell volume of a whole blood specimen, using technology which may incorporate centrifugation, photometry or electrometry.
84 Haemoglobin (Hb)	To diagnose and monitor anaemia. To monitor the safety of certain drugs (e.g. zidovudine for HIV infection). To screen potential blood donors	Haemoglobinometer	CT1945	Haemoglobin analyser IVDs	32435	Haemoglobin analyser IVD, point-of-care	A mains electricity (AC-powered) instrument, which may include internal rechargeable batteries, intended to be used by health professionals at the point-of-care, and often also in the laboratory, to determine the concentration of haemoglobin in a clinical specimen, using technology which may include colorimetry, electrometry or photometry.
85 Haemoglobin (Hb)	Clinical marker for certain severe infections (e.g. malaria, viral haemorrhagic fevers). To aid in the diagnosis of intravascular haemolysis, renal conditions, rhabdomyolysis (myoglobinuria)	Dipstick	CT880	Hemoglobin IVDs	64807	Urine haemoglobin IVD, kit, rapid colorimetric, clinical	and/or (semi-)quantitative screening of urine for haemoglobin within a short period, relative to standard laboratory testing procedures, using a rapid colorimetric method. This is a rapid test commonly used in the laboratory or in point-of-care analyses. It is not intended to be used for self-testing.
86 Haemoglobin (Hb)	To diagnose and monitor anaemia and polycythaemia. To monitor the safety of certain drugs (e.g. zidovudine for HIV infection). To screen potential blood donors. Clinical marker for certain severe infections (e.g. malaria, viral haemorrhagic fevers). To aid in the diagnosis of intravascular haemolysis, renal conditions, rhabdomyolysis (myoglobinuria). Note: When used for emergency or critical care, results are time-sensitive.	Optical methods, haemoglobinometer, if automated haematology analyser not available	CT880	Hemoglobin IVDs	55872	Total haemoglobin (totHb) IVD, kit, spectrophotometry	A collection of reagents and other associated materials intended to be used for the qualitative and/or quantitative determination of total haemoglobin (totHb) in a clinical specimen, using spectrophotometry method.
Haemoglobin A1c (HbA1c)	To diagnose and monitor diabetes mellitus	Handheld and small analysers	CT833	Clinical chemistry substrate/metabolite (non-drug/non-hormone) IVDs	63151	Glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c) IVD, kit, spectrophotometry	A collection of reagents and other associated materials intended to be used for the qualitative and/or quantitative detection of glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c), also known as glycosylated haemoglobin, in a clinical specimen, using a spectrophotometry method.
Haemoglobin A1c (HbA1c)	To diagnose and monitor diabetes mellitus	Immunoassay	CT883	Clinical chemistry substrate/metabolite (non-drug/non-hormone) IVDs	61010	Glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c) IVD, kit, chemiluminescent immunoassay	A collection of reagents and other associated materials intended to be used for the qualitative and/or quantitative detection of glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c), also known as glycosylated haemoglobin, in a clinical specimen using a chemiluminescent immunoassay method.

A	B	D	E	F	G	I	J	K
No.	EDL TEST	SETTING		Assay format	Specimen type	Tag	EMDN code	EMDN term
1	A, B, O and rhesus factor (Rh)	No laboratory	To determine A, B and O groups and Rh type	Slide agglutination test	Capillary whole blood, Venous whole blood	EDL-001	W0103030299	RHESUS TYPING ASSAYS OTHER
2	Alanine aminotransferase (ALT)	Laboratory	To aid in the diagnosis of liver disease as a marker of liver injury.	Optical methods on semi-automated or automated chemistry analysers	Serum, Plasma	EDL-002	W01010103	ALANINE AMINO-TRANSFERASE
3		No laboratory	To detect or monitor kidney disease	Dipstick	Urine	EDL-003	W01010201	ALBUMIN (CC)
4	Albumin	Laboratory	To aid in the diagnosis and monitoring of diseases affecting protein metabolism (synthesis, loss, intake, absorption) e.g. liver disease, kidney disease, severe malnutrition, malabsorption, burns, etc.)	Optical methods on semi-automated or automated chemistry analysers	Serum, Plasma	EDL-004	W01010201	ALBUMIN (CC)
			To monitor kidney function	Optical methods on semi-automated or automated chemistry analysers	Urine	EDL-004	W01010201	ALBUMIN (CC)
	Alkaline phosphatase (ALP)	Laboratory	To aid in the diagnosis of hepatobiliary and bone disorders	Optical methods on semi-automated or automated chemistry analysers	Serum, Plasma	EDL-005	W01010105	ALKALINE PHOSPHATASE - TOTAL

MEDEVIS WEBSITE

<https://medevis.who-healthtechnologies.org/>



World Health
Organization



HEALTH
FOR ALL

Comparison of EMDN and GMDN vs. WHO principles (Feb 24)

	WHO Principles medical devices nomenclature	EMDN	GMDN
•Governance	1. Organizational and review structures should be in place to ensure that all stakeholders from different regions are able to provide feedback according to global needs.	MDCG, EC, and website	GMDN agency with their advisory groups and members only
•Classification, coding and nomenclature characteristics	1. a transparent methodology and processes;	Open website	For members only
	1. a transparent mechanism for regular updates (e.g. once per year);	open to input from all stakeholders	Continuous update and for members only
	1. hierarchies grouped into categories and subcategories to meet stakeholder needs;	Yes	Yes
	1. medical devices used outside highly regulated countries;	Yes	Yes
	1. mutually exclusive terms;	Yes	Yes
	1. availability of terms in other languages	In process	Yes
•Access to information	1. be capable of being referenced and used by regulators, procurers, managers and all users of medical devices (hospitals/health care workers and patients);	Yes	Yes for internal institutional use, publicly limited to licence
	1. be freely available and considered a global public good;	Yes	Limited
	1. support unique device identifier system;	Yes	Yes
	1. be accessible through simple and intuitive search;	Yes	Yes
	1. be available for use in all health-related data base systems.	Yes	Limited to licence
More information	https://www.who.int/teams/health-product-policy-and-standards/assistive-and-medical-technology/medical-devices/nomenclature	https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/udi-helpdesk/en/other-relevant-information/emdn-codes.html	https://www.gmdnagency.org/

Background

- The World Health Assembly Report by the Director-General [WHA75/11](#) and the Decision [WHA75\(25\)](#).
- The Executive Board report [EB152/11](#)
- The WHA76 [Consolidated report by the Director General](#), section 13.7
- The WHA76 - [Committee A, twelfth session, on 27/05/2023, 09:15-11:30 hrs.](#) _webcast MS discussion, including Dr. Nakatani's ADG Access to Medicines to Medicines and Health Products.