



World Health  
Organization

## Survey – Questions for NGOs

As mandated by WHA74 and for input towards EB 150.  
August 2021

NGO Organization	<a href="#">Clinton Health Access Initiative</a>
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WHO thanks you very much for your participation in the meeting to discuss the standardization of medical devices nomenclature, as mandated by WHA74.

Please find below the survey for the NGOs, as mentioned during our meeting. Please provide all the evidence required for every statement provided (for example, website screenshots, links to your website or attach the documents required).

1. Is your organization currently using one or more Medical Device Nomenclatures? If yes, please indicate:	
a. which one(s) do you use?	
EMDN	
GMDN	
UMDNS	
UNSPSC	
none	<a href="#">Not formally. We follow WHO and/or UNICEF guidance with regard to medical devices and find the GMDN descriptions to be most appropriate/helpful.</a>
Other, specify:	
Developed by your organization: Yes: , No: <span style="background-color: yellow;">No</span>	

b. In which language(s) is your nomenclature available? <a href="#">N/A</a>	
English	
Spanish	
French	
Russian	
Chinese	
Arabic	

c. Please provide a copy of your license agreement including any subscription or other costs associated with the use of your nomenclature	
<a href="#">N/A</a>	

d. Is the subscription free? For each level and in what conditions?	
<a href="#">N/A</a>	

e. What are the limitation(s) of the nomenclature(s) used?

Limitations / Nomenclature	EMDN	GMDN	UMDNS	UNSPSC	Other
Language					
Definitions					
Terms					
Hierarchy					
Codes					
Structure					
Continuous updating					
Economical resources					
Other (specify)					

2. Does your NGO see the need for using a standardized nomenclature? Please elaborate.

Akin to DHIS and how DHIS2 has rolled out (<https://dhis2.org/in-action/#map>), a standardized, stationary, free-of-charge nomenclature would be helpful in ensuring smoother and more consistent exchange of information from point of manufacture to point of use and back.

As an NGO we work across geographies and regulatory jurisdictions. It would be very beneficial to have internationally harmonized nomenclature at a minimum, to facilitate distribution of devices purchased across suppliers from different geographies and/or distributed across geographies.

3. Please describe the reasons your NGO uses the Nomenclature

a. Planning and evaluation	<u>Y</u>
b. Budget and financing	<u>Y</u>
c. Procurement, supply	<u>Y</u>
d. Maintenance (CMMS)	<u>Y</u>
e. Medical Technologies quality assurance and surveillance	<u>Y</u>
f. Medical Technologies Assessment	<u>Y</u>
g. Complete follow up to supply chain for medical devices	<u>Y</u>
h. Other (specify):	

**Commented [MG1]:** Answers are hypothetical. At this point, we do not have a standard use-case for nomenclature as we support many governments who use many systems.

4. Please describe how codes / nomenclature are used by your final users (beneficiaries)?

Our partner governments typically do not clearly and consistently use medical device nomenclature that I have been made aware of. Typically, unique identifiers are ascribed to devices as assets (both from an inventory and a maintenance perspective), and descriptions thereof vary widely from one geography to the next.

**Commented [MG2]:** Aspirational:  
- Any tie-in to clinical practice? Job-aids depicting what product to pull?  
- Enable regulatory categorization as categories vary from one jurisdiction to the next at present.

5. How do you reconcile when your final users use different nomenclature than the NGO is using?

We typically work with existing system(s) or approaches; we have not imposed/inculcated any formal nomenclature model into any HSS work to date (that I am aware of).

6. Do you map nomenclatures? If yes, how do you map them?

No

7. Have you had any experience working with Unique Device Identifiers? If so, please describe any nomenclature-related work in this area.

See comment above, and no nomenclature cross-over.

Please send this questionnaire, one per NGO before 26<sup>th</sup> of August to [medicaldevices@who.int](mailto:medicaldevices@who.int)

Thank you !