

# Survey - Questions for the Nomenclature Agencies

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

Agency /	UNSPSC
Organization	
Contact	Hussam El-Leithy
information	Hel-leithy@gs1us.org
(name, email,	+16096491145
phone)	
Website	www.unspsc.org
Date	8/23/2021

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 Nomenclature Agencies, 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).

# I. General questions on nomenclature structure, access, and copyright

1. Please provide an overview of the processes used for: code development and maintenance, requests for updates, change control procedures, communication, and distribution of update versions. Who performs them and the periodicity?

Only subscribers can contribute to the code development. Subscribers submit their change request via the UCoM tool and GS1 US staff will review and approve the changes. GS1 US staff will create a new version at least once a year.

Due to legal requirements, we can also only communicate with subscribers about codeset updates directly. All other parties will see updates only on the web page. We plan to start a newsletter subscription service in 2022 so we can start communicating to non-subscribers who opted into the newsletter.

New UNSPSC Codeset versions will be posted on the UNSPSC web page in XLS and PDF as soon as they are available.

2. Please describe in detail the structure of your nomenclature - hierarchy, levels, etc.

Hierarchical 4-level tree structure: Segment, Family, Class and Commodity where Category titles are unambiguous and mutually exclusive. Products appear in only one category; categories each have only have one parent and products are grouped according to dominate usage in world market at the time of addition to the codeset.

3. Please provide a copy of your license agreement including any subscription or other costs associated with the use of your nomenclature.

The UNSPSC Codeset is owned by the UNDP and they are responsible for the license agreement. I attached the latest version of their agreement for you.

4. Please describe how codes, names and descriptions are accessed by user groups.
4.1 Is a login/ registration/ subscription required?
If a user group is formed to enhance the codeset by proposing codeset changes and new codes all the member of the user group need to be subscribers and agreeing to the IP tenfor codeset additions. All user groups are self-organized by the subscribers. The additions would be made via the UCoM tool which is available for all subscribers.
4.2 Are their APIs available ?
No APIs are available.
4.3 Is the full dataset (codes, names, descriptions, hierarchies) downloadable?
4.3.1. No, explain:
4.3.2. yes, only partial, explain conditions:
4.3.3 Yes, only with previous registration or login, explain.
Yes, after registration the user can download a free PDF version of the complete dataset
or a spreadsheet version of the dataset for a fee.
4.3.4. Yes, can be open and downloaded by anyone, anywhere.  No. not without registration since the user must agree to the terms prior to download.
4.4 Is the information freely available?
Yes, free PDF document with all the information.
If not, please specify which are the costs associated with the access of your nomenclature?
Spreadsheet format is available for pay for companies who want to process the data further.
4.5.Which also the missississississississis
4.5 Which electronic platform are you using?
Web page via web store.
I. Work for convergence/ standardisation /access
<ol> <li>Please describe the ways your organization currently supports WHO in the work for convergence and standardisation of medical device nomenclature by completing the following.</li> <li>Please select the applicable options you make available (open access) and describe any</li> </ol>

conditions tied to that option.

e)

b) \_\_X\_\_ the codes c) \_\_X\_\_ the terms

d) \_\_X\_\_ the definitions \_\_X\_\_ the hierarchy

2. For each item not checked above, please describe how you will be willing to make each item available to support convergence and meet WHO Member States requirements.
N.A.

3. Does your Agency map to other existing Nomenclatures? (Please select the applicable option(s), when applicable).			
Nomenclature	Yes	No	N.A.
EMDN		Х	
GMDN		Х	
UMDNS		Х	
LINSPSC			Y

4. If you answered "yes" to the question 3 of section II, please indicate the periodicity of mapping updates. Please provide your answer in the table below, when applicable:
Periodicity of mapping updates

	Periodicity of mapping updates				
Mapping with the following nomenclature	Once a year	Twice a year	Quarterly	Other	Comments
EMDN					
GMDN					
UMDNS					
UNSPSC					

5. If you answered "yes" to the question 3 of section II, please indicate if you fully or partially mapped nomenclature(s). If it is a partial mapping, please be so kind to indicate which section(s) were mapped.

	Extent of mapping		
Mapping with the following nomenclature	Full mapping	Partial mapping	Sections mapped (if partial mapping)
EMDN			
GMDN			
UMDNS			
UNSPSC			

6. Please describe the challenges you face for mapping

There was no request from the community to do any mapping. The last mapping, we did was adding ICD-10 into the codeset. The cost for adding them was between \$4-\$5 per code. The resources required to do any data mapping must be context matter experts which are usually expensive. There is no money in the budget to fund any mapping activities.

7. Has your agency calculated the costs of mapping to other existing nomenclatures? Please present your estimates.

Nomenclature to be mapped against your nomenclature	Estimate cost of mapping (in dollars)
EMDN	
GMDN	
UMDNS	
UNSPSC	

## III. Translations to other the official Languages of the UN

1. In which languages is your nomenclature available?

The UNSPSC Codeset is published in English only. We do have translated versions which are contributed for free from the community. However, we do not have translations for all versions in all languages.

2. Is your agency willing to work on translations?

No, we looked into it and it would be too costly.

3. Has your agency calculated the cost of translating your nomenclature into the six UN official languages (English, Spanish, French, Russian, Chinese, and Arabic)? If yes, please provide the estimates in the table below.

#### No, we have not.

Six UN official languages	Estimate cost of nomenclature translation (in dollars)
English	
Spanish	
French	
Russian	
Chinese	
Arabic	

4. Is your Agency willing to work on mapping to other existing nomenclatures? (Please select the adequate option(s), when applicable).

Nomenclature	Yes	No	N.A.
EMDN	if funded		
GMDN	if funded		
UMDNS	if funded		
UNSPSC			Х

#### IV. Unique Device Identification

1. Have your nomenclature terms been assigned UDI-DIs (device identifiers of UDIs)?		
(Please select below the applicable answer)		
Yes		
No	X, unique internal ID is available	

2. If yes, please indicate if the following sentences are true or false (Yes or No) and provide the solicited elements, if applicable:

#### 3.3 How often do you update the data?

The UNSPSC Codeset is at least updated once a year in third quarter.

# VI. Nomenclature use to promote public health/patient safety/device evaluation

1. Has your agency developed initiatives with governments/regulatory agencies to promote public health/patient safety/device evaluation

No

## VII. Nomenclature to be used in WHO document and electronic platforms

2. Are you willing to provide access to code, name, definition or hierarchy to WHO so that it can be used in:

WHO publications?

WHO electronic platforms?

- a. MEDEVIS https://medevis.test.evidenceprime.com/
- b. EDL https://edl.medevis.test.evidenceprime.com/
- c. UHCC <a href="https://www.who.int/universal-health-coverage/compendium#:~:text=The%20UHC%20Compendium%20is%20a,health%20services%20and%20health%20interventions">https://www.who.int/universal-health-coverage/compendium#:~:text=The%20UHC%20Compendium%20is%20a,health%20services%20and%20health%20interventions</a>.
- d. ICD 11 https://icd.who.int/en

WHO supports open access to the published output of its activities as a fundamental part of its mission and a public benefit to be encouraged wherever possible.

More info: Copyright (who.int)

Please comment:

The UNSPSC Codeset is owned by UNDP which is part of the UN. I do not see any issues if the UN decides to share the codeset with anybody they like.

## **VIII.** Final comments, if any

The current version of the UNSPSC Codeset has more than 3800 codes for Medical Equipment, over 9200 codes for Drugs and Pharmaceutical Products and over 76,400 codes for Healthcare Services mostly ICD-10 codes. The codeset can be obtained for free and can be used for free by anybody. GS1 US is very experienced in creating and maintaining standards like the UNSPSC Codeset over long period of times (almost 50 years) and capable of being a standard managing agency of the UNSPSC for almost 20 years.

We would be more than happy to work with the WHO to make the UNSPSC Codeset the preferred codeset for medical devices.