



SMARTER DEVICE MANAGEMENT THROUGH STANDARDISED NOMENCLATURE

A GLOBALLY TRUSTED DEVICE NOMENCLATURE SUPPORTING PROCUREMENT, TRACEABILITY
AND CLINICAL OUTCOMES.



The Problem

Hospitals and health systems manage thousands of devices, but without a shared naming standard, procurement, traceability and clinical data are built on inconsistent foundations.

**5 million+ medical device types
registered globally**

**Millions of manufacturer
descriptions**

**Procurement teams must manually
match equivalent products**

70%

of all medical technologies
are purchased through
procurement
– MedTech Europe

1 device

can have dozens of
different names
across suppliers,
systems and sites

WITHOUT STANDARDISED NOMENCLATURE



No common language means the same device is catalogued differently across suppliers, systems and sites



Procurement inefficiency when equivalent products cannot be identified, compared or substituted reliably



Recall blind spots when affected devices are listed under different names in different systems



Poor clinical data quality when devices recorded inconsistently cannot support outcomes research or benchmarking

Without standardised nomenclature, hospitals cannot reliably identify, compare or track equivalent devices across systems.

The Solution: One Term. One Device Type.

GMDN is a flat listing of 25,000+ mutually exclusive generic device descriptors. One GMDN Term per device type, regardless of manufacturer, brand name or country of origin.

25,000+ medical device Terms — one per device type

Each Term has a unique 5-digit GMDN Code and a name and a definition

Terms sit within a multi-level category hierarchy of 2,600+ categories

153
countries with
GMDN members

1 GMDN Term
covers all equivalent devices
from all manufacturers globally

GMDN AT A GLANCE

- ↓ **5M+** medical device identifier records registered within UDI databases.
- ↓ **13,000+ GMDN** members across 153 countries
- ↓ **107** countries with regulators registered or using GMDN in some regulatory capacity
- ↓ **Updated in real-time** to keep pace with device innovation. Terms added as new device types emerge

GMDN is a shared language that enables hospitals, healthcare providers, regulators, manufacturers and other stakeholders to communicate clearly and consistently about medical devices.

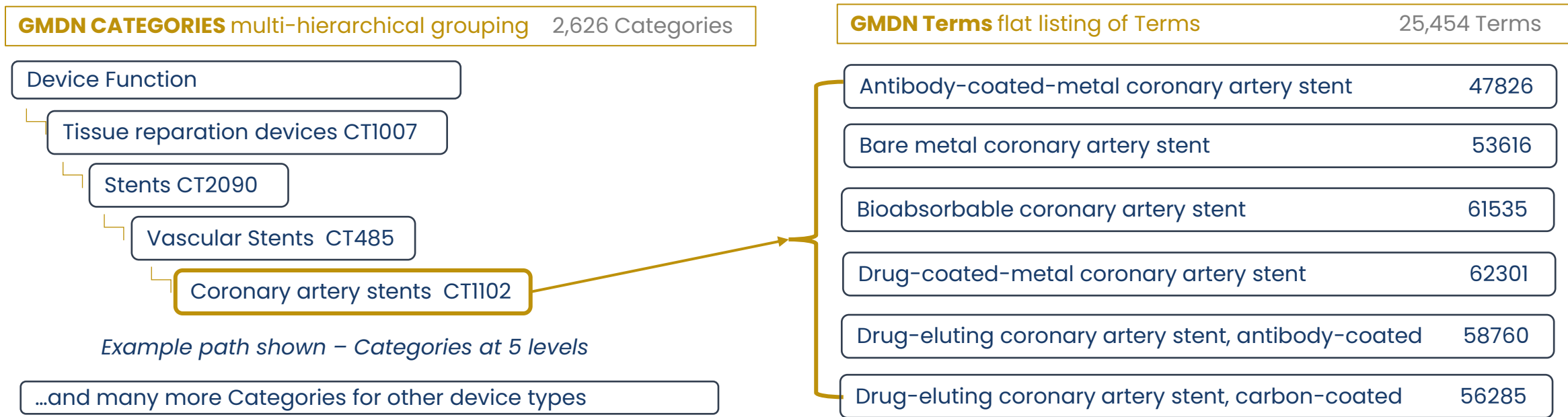


The Same Code. Used Across the Entire Ecosystem.

Once a GMDN Code enters a registration system, it doesn't stay there. The same GMDN Term travels through procurement, clinical use, post-market surveillance and registries, connecting data that was previously siloed.

GMDN Data Structure

Traditional device catalogues rely on supplier-defined names, which are inconsistent, hard to compare, and impossible to search across systems. GMDN takes a different approach: functional definitions that travel with the device, not the supplier.



25,000+

GMDN Terms

5M+

Devices with GMDN in UDI Databases

107

Countries using GMDN in a regulatory capacity

One device type = One GMDN Term

Regardless of manufacturer, brand name or country of origin giving hospitals a single source of truth

Value For Hospitals & Healthcare Systems

Whether managing procurement across a hospital group, benchmarking device spend or improving clinical traceability, GMDN provides a single, internationally recognised device language. One that suppliers already use and regulators already mandate.

HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS USING GMDN

 **United Kingdom**
GMDN is an NHS Supply Chain recognised standard for procurement across the NHS **Active**

 **United States**
STRATA, USA uses GMDN for market analysis and procurement intelligence across health systems **Active**

 **South Africa**
Discovery Health uses GMDN for device traceability and safety monitoring **Active**

 **Gulf Health Council**
GHC Joint Procurement Portal uses GMDN for tendering, inventory optimisation **Active**

RECOGNITION AND STANDARDS

Global adoption

Regulatory requirement

GMDN is mandated by the world's major regulators — FDA, MHRA, TGA and ANVISA — meaning the manufacturers supplying your hospital are already required to assign GMDN codes to their devices. This is not a new data collection exercise. The data already exists in the supply chain. Connecting your procurement and inventory systems to GMDN gives you immediate access to a standardised, internationally recognised device catalogue — without asking suppliers to do anything new.

NHS Supply Chain data standard

NHS

GMDN is a recognised within the NHS Supply Chain framework — and will be embedded in the Product Information Management (PIM) system for use across NHS trusts. Hospitals operating within the NHS already have a direct pathway to GMDN-coded device data through existing supply chain infrastructure.

Procurement efficiency

Compare equivalent devices across suppliers using a common device language, enabling better tendering, benchmarking and cost control.

Device traceability

Link every device in your inventory to a single GMDN code, regardless of brand name or supplier — supporting recall response and patient safety.

Clinical data quality

Devices recorded with GMDN codes connect procurement data to clinical outcomes, enabling meaningful analysis and post-market surveillance.

Market intelligence

Understand what equivalent devices cost and how they perform across health systems — supporting value-based procurement decisions.

GMDN is not a new system to implement. Your suppliers already assign GMDN Codes to comply with regulatory requirements. The data exists — GMDN gives your systems the ability to use it.

A Standard In Motion

GMDN adoption is not a future aspiration, but an accelerating reality. The world’s major healthcare systems, supply chain systems and device registries have independently converged on the same device language.

107

Countries with regulators registered and using GMDN

153

countries with GMDN members

25,000+

mutually exclusive terms – updated daily to keep up with innovation

5M+

UDI database entries with a GMDN code assigned

RECOGNISED BY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES

WHO MeDeViS

WHO

One of only two nomenclature systems selected for WHO's first global open-access medical device platform – covering 2,301 device types. Used by governments and health systems worldwide to identify and compare devices.

UK NHS recognised standard

NHS

The GMDN is recognised as a data standard by the UK’s NHS Supply Chain – the largest single public health procurement group.

SNOMED CT

SNOMED

GMDN forms the foundation of the medical device component of SNOMED CT – the world’s leading clinical terminology – directly linking device procurement data to clinical records across global health systems.

ADOPTION TRAJECTORY

2014

FDA GUDID launched with GMDN as mandatory field
First major national UDI database – set a global template

2021

Brazil RDC 591/2021 enacted
GMDN mandated as core field in ANVISA's national UDI framework

2024

WHO MeDeViS publicly launched
GMDN embedded in WHO's first global device information platform

2025

TGA AusUDID goes live
Australia's UDI framework active; GMDN mandated nomenclature

2025

Brazil SIUD launches – Class IV mandatory
First enforcement deadline; all remaining classes follow by 2028

2026 onwards

Australia, UK – further mandates activating
AusUDID Class III/IIb compliance Jul 2026; MHRA framework expanding

Next Steps

Three straightforward actions to start using GMDN in your hospital or healthcare system

1

Request a GMDN Demo

See how GMDN integrates with procurement and inventory systems. Our team will walk you through the database, search tools and how other hospitals are using GMDN today.

→ gmdnagency.org/register

2

Integrate GMDN into Your Systems

Work with our team to map GMDN codes into your procurement platform, inventory management system. We provide data exports, API access and technical guidance at no additional cost.

→ admin@gmdnagency.org

3

Connect with the GMDN Team

Whether you're at the start of your GMDN journey or looking to deepen an existing integration, our team works directly with hospitals and health systems. Get in touch to discuss your specific use case.

→ communications@gmdnagency.org