

Global Product Classification (GPC) Browser Guide for healthcare products



What is Global Product Classification (GPC)?

The GS1 Global Product Classification (GPC) coding standard helps trading partners to group products in the same way, everywhere in the world. The coding schema was developed by industry, for industry.

The GPC code is a very important part of a product's data set. It enables trading partners to find a product easily in the GS1 Cloud and/or GS1 National Product Catalogue for Healthcare.

Benefits of using GPC within the Healthcare industry:

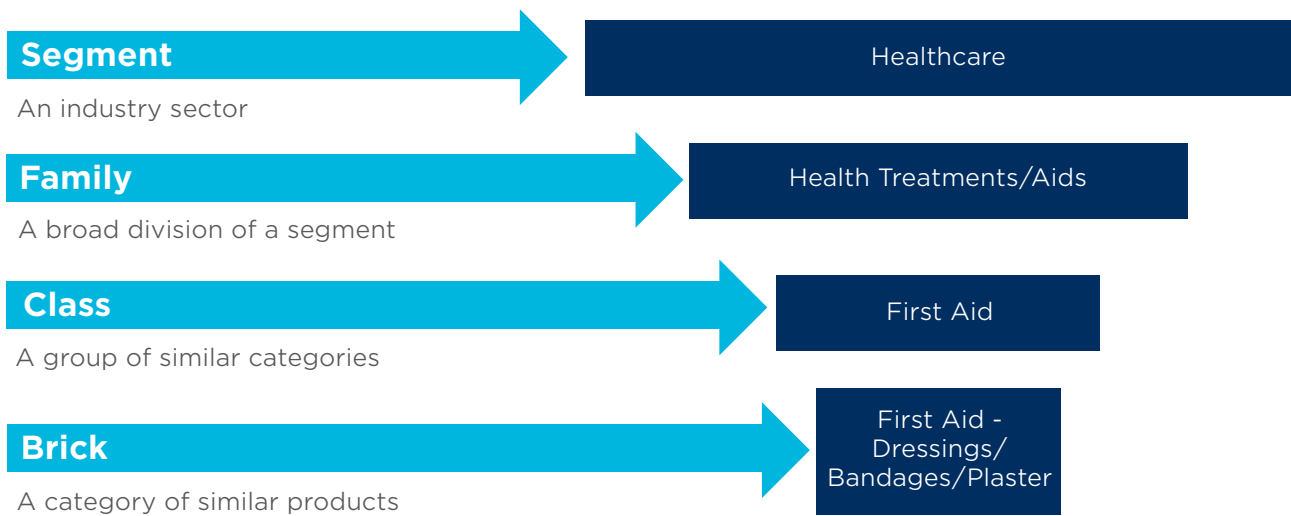
- Gives buyers and sellers a **common language** for talking about products – within countries and regions as well as across the world.
- **Improves data accuracy and integrity** for use across a broad range of business areas including: Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), eCommerce and Business Intelligence (BI) systems.
- **Speeds up the supply chain's responsiveness** to consumer needs by accurately identifying each product type.
- **Improves centralised procurement functions** within healthcare, by providing a uniform classification code which can be used to automate the gathering and analysing of spend data to leverage volume for better pricing.
- **Simplifies reporting** across product categories and reduces inventory through product standardisation.

GPC classifies products by grouping them into categories based on their essential properties as well as their relationships to other products. There are currently two primary GPC Bricks used in healthcare; Medical Devices and Pharmaceutical Drugs.

The GPC Hierarchy

Product classification is built on a hierarchy of levels that go from a general industry group at the top (called a Segment) to a very specific item description at the bottom (called a Brick).

- The highest level of the classification is a **Segment**, which is defined as a particular industry. For example, a bandage belongs to the “Healthcare” Segment.
- The next level is the **Family**. This is a broad division of the Segment. For example, “Health Treatments/Aids” within the Healthcare Sector.
- The **Class** describes a group of similar categories. For example “First Aid”.
- The **Brick** Code drills down to a category of similar products. For example “First Aid - Dressings/Bandages/Plaster”.



Note: The most basic building block of GPC is an eight-digit numeric code, known as a Brick Code. There are Bricks for everything from a medical device to a bottle of milk.

The GPC Browser

The GPC Browser provides an easy way of navigating through the Global Product Classification (GPC) codes so you can find the right code for your products. The browser displays the hierarchy of the Segment, Family, Class and Brick Codes in an easy to understand format.

You will find the GPC browser through the following link: <https://www.gs1.org/gpc/browser>

The screenshot shows the GS1 GPC Browser interface. At the top, there is a logo for GS1 and the text "Welcome to GS1 The Global Language of Business". Below this, there are navigation tabs: "About", "Standards", "Industries", and "News". The "Standards" tab is selected. The main content area shows the breadcrumb "Home > Standards > GPC > Browser" and the title "GPC Browser". Below the title, there is a description: "The GPC browser allows you to browse all components current GPC schemas." There are several dropdown menus for "Language", "Publication", "Segment", "Family", and "Class". A search box is present with a "Brick" dropdown and a "Search" button. There is also a checkbox for "Exact wording".

Basic search settings of the GPC Browser

To use the GPC Browser you will first have to select your Language and the Publication you would like to use:

1. **Language** - Select English
2. **Publication** - Always select the Latest Publication of the Standard
3. **Search Criteria** - Always search for Brick (this is the lowest level of GPC required for GS1 Barcode Manager)

1 → Language English ▼
2 → Publication GPC as of Jun 2017 (Lastest Publication) ▼
Segment ▼
Family ▼
Class ▼
Search Brick ▼
 Exact wording Search

3 →

Identifying your GPC Brick Code using the GPC Browser

Once you have selected your Language and GPC publication, you will have two options for how you can search for your GPC Brick Code, or you can use a combination of both:

1. Search using a keyword (e.g. Bandage, Syringe etc)
2. Search through the GPC hierarchies from Segment down to Brick Code level

Note: The GS1 Healthcare GPC Bricks are currently under development. The most common GPC Bricks used in healthcare are:

- Medical Devices
- Pharmaceutical Drugs

However, your product may also fall under one of the following families:



Language English ▼
Publication GPC as of Jun 2017 (Latest P) ▼
Segment Healthcare ▼
Family ▼
Class ▼
Search

Expand A

- Family Planning
- Health Enhancement
- Health Treatments/Aids
- Healthcare Variety Packs
- Home Diagnostics
- Medical Devices
- Pharmaceutical Drugs
- Veterinary Healthcare

Please note: You as the Manufacturer/Brand Owner are responsible for deciding which of the Brick Codes is the best fit for your product and should ensure that the Brick definition aligns with your product.

Example 1: Searching for a Syringe using the GPC Browser

Scenario:

You are the manufacturer of syringe, intended for drug administration, for use in the Healthcare industry.

1. In the search box, enter the word that best describes your product e.g. Syringe
2. Click on the search button
3. You will be given a list of potential Bricks Codes containing your chosen word. (These codes can be taken from all industry segments; therefore some may not be relevant.)
4. By selecting the Segment "Healthcare" from the Segment dropdown menu and searching using "syringe", the list of Brick Codes gets shorter. (You can also select the relevant Family to make the list of Bricks even shorter and more manageable)
5. Always check that the Brick description matches the product that you are offering, you can do this by clicking on the Brick short description.
6. In this case the relevant Brick Code for your syringe, intended for the administration of drugs is: **10000456**.

Language English
Publication GPC as of Jun 2017 (Latest Pt
Segment
Family
Class
Search Syringe Brick
 Exact wording
Search

Brick: 10000456 - Drug Administration
Brick: 10000457 - Drug Administration - Accessories
Brick: 10000909 - Poison Removal/Treatment Products
Brick: 10005844 - Medical Devices
Brick: 10000327 - Anti-spot Aids (Non Powered)
Brick: 10005434 - Cookie Guns/Food Decorating Syringes (Non Powered)

Language English
Publication GPC as of Jun 2017 (Latest Publication)
Segment Healthcare
Family
Class
Search syringe Brick
 Exact wording
Search

Expand All | Brick | Class | Family | Collapse All
Search Result

Brick: 10000456 - Drug Administration
Brick: 10000457 - Drug Administration - Accessories
Brick: 10000909 - Poison Removal/Treatment Products
Brick: 10005844 - Medical Devices

Search syringe Brick
 Exact wording
Search

Expand All | Brick | Class | Family | Collapse All
Search Result

Brick: 10000456 - Drug Administration
Definition: Includes any products that can be described/observed as a medical device designed to inject fluids or powders into the body or used for the Inhalation or Irrigation of various body organs.
Includes products such as Syringes and Needles.
Excludes products such as drug administration items obtained only by prescription Val or from a healthcare professional, Prefilled Syringes and Needle Covers, Enemas Val and Enema Tips, and Stop Corks.

Further examples of common products searched for on the GPC Browser

You may find that searches for certain products do not result in an accurate hit, within the GPC Browser. If this is the case and your products fall under the umbrella of either “Medical Devices” or “Pharmaceutical Drugs”, the following are the relevant examples of Brick Codes to be used:

Example 2: Searching for Medical Devices using the GPC Browser

Scenario:

You are the manufacturer of a Medical Device.

Please note: there is currently only one brick available to cover all Medical Devices within the Healthcare industry.

1. Select “Segment” = “Healthcare”
2. Select “Family” = “Medical Devices”
3. Select “Class” = “Medical Devices”
4. Click on the Search button

5. You will be given one option for “Medical Devices”, Brick Code **10005844**.

The screenshot shows the search interface with the following settings: Language: English; Publication: GPC as of Jun 2017 (Latest Publication); Segment: Healthcare; Family: Medical Devices; Class: Medical Devices; Search: Brick. There is an 'Exact wording' checkbox and a 'Search' button.

- Segment: 51000000 - Healthcare
 - Family: 51110000 - Family Planning
 - Family: 51120000 - Health Enhancement
 - Family: 51100000 - Health Treatments/Aids
 - Family: 51140000 - Healthcare Variety Packs
 - Family: 51130000 - Home Diagnostics
 - Family: 51150000 - Medical Devices
 - Class: 51150100 - Medical Devices
 - Brick: 10005844 - Medical Devices

Example 3: Searching for Pharmaceutical Drugs using the GPC Browser

Scenario:

You are the manufacturer of Pharmaceutical Drugs.

1. Select “Segment” = “Healthcare”
2. Select “Family” = “Pharmaceutical Drugs”
3. Select “Class” = “Pharmaceutical Drugs”
4. Click on the Search button

5. You will be given one option for “Pharmaceutical Drugs”, Brick Code **10005845**

The screenshot shows the search interface with the following settings: Language: English; Publication: GPC as of Jun 2017 (Latest Publication); Segment: Healthcare; Family: Pharmaceutical Drugs; Class: Pharmaceutical Drugs; Search: Brick. There is an 'Exact wording' checkbox and a 'Search' button.

- Segment: 51000000 - Healthcare
 - Family: 51110000 - Family Planning
 - Family: 51120000 - Health Enhancement
 - Family: 51100000 - Health Treatments/Aids
 - Family: 51140000 - Healthcare Variety Packs
 - Family: 51130000 - Home Diagnostics
 - Family: 51150000 - Medical Devices
 - Family: 51160000 - Pharmaceutical Drugs
 - Class: 51160100 - Pharmaceutical Drugs
 - Brick: 10005845 - Pharmaceutical Drugs

For FMCG Goods supplied to the Healthcare Sector

For details on how to find the GPC Brick Codes for FMCG goods supplied to hospitals (e.g. food, beverages & cleaning supplies) please refer to the general “GPC Browser Guide” which can be found on the GS1 Ireland website at www.gs1ie.org/standards/gpc

Example 4: Searching for Jam using the GPC Browser

Scenario:

You are the manufacturer of Strawberry Jam that does not require refrigeration and are supplying to a hospital.

1. In the search box, enter the word that best describes your product e.g. Jam
2. Click on the search button
3. You will be given a list of potential Bricks Codes containing your chosen word. (These codes can be taken from all industry segments; therefore some may not be relevant.)
4. By selecting the Segment “Food/Beverages/Tobacco” from the dropdown menu and searching using Jam, the list of Brick Codes gets shorter. (You can also select the relevant Family to make the list of Bricks even shorter and more manageable.)

5. Always check that the Brick description matches the product that you are offering, you can do this by clicking on the Brick short description.

6. In this case the relevant Brick Code for your Shelf Stable Strawberry jam is: **10000217**

Language: English
Publication: GPC as of Jun 2017 (Lastest Publication)
Segment: [Dropdown]
Family: [Dropdown]
Class: [Dropdown]
Search: Jam Brick
 Exact wording
Search

-
- Brick: 10000217 - Jams/Marmalades (Shelf Stable)
 - Brick: 10000187 - Confectionery Based Spreads (Shelf Stable)
 - Brick: 10000213 - Honey (Shelf Stable)
 - Brick: 10000621 - Sweet Spreads Variety Packs
 - Brick: 10006837 - Jams/Marmalades/Fruit Spreads (Perishable)
 - Brick: 10006848 - Honey Substitutes
 - Brick: 10000613 - Prepared/Preserved Foods Variety Packs
 - Brick: 10006434 - Jambolan
 - Brick: 10001983 - Breadmakers
 - Brick: 10005428 - Jams (Mouldings/Millwork)
 - Brick: 10006549 - Physalis Alkekengi – Cut Greens
 - Brick: 10006635 - Ficus Benjamina – Live Plants

Language: English
Publication: GPC as of Jun 2017 (Lastest Publication)
Segment: Food/Beverage/Tobacco
Family: [Dropdown]
Class: [Dropdown]
Search: Jam Brick
 Exact wording
Search

Expand All | Brick | Class | Family | Collapse All
Search Result

- Brick: 10000217 - Jams/Marmalades (Shelf Stable)
- Brick: 10000187 - Confectionery Based Spreads (Shelf Stable)
- Brick: 10000213 - Honey (Shelf Stable)
- Brick: 10000621 - Sweet Spreads Variety Packs
- Brick: 10006837 - Jams/Marmalades/Fruit Spreads (Perishable)

Expand All | Brick | Class | Family | Collapse All
Search Result

Brick: 10000217 - Jams/Marmalades (Shelf Stable)

Definition: Includes any products that can be described/observed as a sweet semi firm liquid, usually used as a spread, made by cooking and preserving crushed fruit in sugar, and allowing the mixture to set, often with the addition of setting agents. Includes jams, jellies, and marmalades. Excludes products such as Confectionery Based Spreads and Honey and Jams/Marmalades/Fruit Spreads (Perishable).

