

10.03. Patients

Updated version 5.01

In mSupply, patients are a type of name. They are a special form of customer that can have first names, last names, genders and dates of birth. You dispense stock to a patient on a prescription, rather than distributing it to a customer on a customer invoice.

Entering a new patient

You can enter a new patient by clicking on the **Patient > New patient...** menu item or by clicking on the New patient icon on the Patient tab of the navigator.

If you are already creating a prescription and discover the patient is missing you can click on the New patient button on the prescription (Shortcut: Ctl-Shift-P):



The screenshot shows the 'Prescription Entry' window. The 'Patient details' section is active, and the 'New Patient' button is highlighted with a red box. The form includes the following fields and buttons:

- Name:** A text input field with a dropdown arrow.
- Code:** A text input field.
- Date of birth:** A date input field showing '00/00/00'.
- Address:** A text input field.
- Prescriber:** A text input field with a dropdown arrow.
- Confirm date:** A date input field showing '00/00/00'.
- Prescription date:** A date input field showing '28/04/2020'.
- Period:** A text input field showing '30'.
- Buttons:** New line, Delete line(s), Backorders, History, Repeats.

Below the form is a table with the following columns: Line, Location, Item Name, Quan, Pa..., and Batch.

Either way, the same window will open:

- **Code** and **Last** are the only required fields but all applicable fields should be completed so that it is easier to recognise the patient next time. Please note that if there are non-printable characters before or after the **First**, **Last** or **Code** they will be removed. Any non-printable characters in the **First**, **Last** or **Code** (and spaces in the **Code**) will be replaced with an underscore (_).
- The patient code will be filled in automatically for you if the *Auto-generated patient code* preference is turned on (see [Setting dispensary mode preferences](#) for details).



If the new patient's date of birth is known, it should be entered, otherwise an entry should be made in the **Age** field; for a patient aged 18 months, valid entries in the **Age** field may be in one of 3 formats, namely 18m, 1.5, or 18/12.

- When a patient's code is known, that patient's record can be rapidly displayed. Note also that the **Male** radio button is checked; if you are entering details of a female patient, remember to check the **Female** radio button!
- Custom fields are available for storing extra information relevant to your situation.

Viewing and editing patient details

You can view a patient's details from a prescription; just click on the patient details button next to their name when they have been selected on a prescription (Note that this button is not enabled until a patient has been selected on the prescription):

If you are not entering a prescription then you can select the **Show patients** icon on the *Patients* tab of the navigator or click on the **Patients > Show patients** menu item:

Enter the details you want to search for the right patient (or leave everything empty to show a list of all patients) and click the *Find* button.

You will be shown a list of matching entries (double-click on the one you want to view or edit), or taken directly to the detail view if only one patient matches the values you entered:

Names20/60

New Patient

Find

Print

Order by

Merge

Modify

Patient Code	Last name	Forename(s)	DOB	Phone	Address
00102/19/00	Moemoe	Alex	29/7/98		Bikenibeu
00107/06/00	Healey	Nora	30/6/39		Teaoraereke
0024/05/00	Malfoy	Draco	17/6/93		Teaoraereke
0027/06/00	Korlander	Basil	30/6/77		Bikenibeu
0027/09/00	Buatia	Ron	30/6/55		Betio
0029/04/00	Potter	Harry	18/2/00		Antebuka
0029/08/00	Weasley	Ginny	30/4/72		Antenon
0046/06/00	Granger	Hermione	12/12/68		
0053/02/00	Erene	John	25/8/99		Teaoraereke
0057/07/00	Iareta	Ted	20/1/99		Bikenibeu
0101/34/00	Barenaba	Lucas	29/8/83		Ambo
0102/10/00	Kirata	Quentin	30/6/34		Bikenibeu
0104/05/00	Ioteba	Emily	30/6/95		Buota
0121/37/00	Nicole	Banteuea	30/6/96		Bikenibeu
0140/37/00	Matiota	Chris	30/6/96		Taborio
0152/20/00	Bountarawa	Andrei	30/6/83		Bikenibeu
0152/27/00	Kaongotao	Ignotus	30/6/88		Nawerewere
0152/39/00	Marshall	Suying	14/4/00		Bonriki
0160/47/00	Auatabu	Rozanna	28/8/85		Buota
0162/33/00	Kaitau	Malala	30/6/98		Buota

Whichever way you access the patient's details, the same window opens:

Edit patient

Home store: Test dispensary

Current store: Test dispensary

General

Prescriptions

Notes

History

PMR

Backorders

Store Visibility

Name

Code

test01

Last

Patient

First

Test

Date of birth

15/10/1963

Age

56.54

Female

Male

Price Category

A

Restriction

Hold- do not issue

☐

Credit limit

0 USD

Contact

email

web site

Phone

Fax

Other

Client

None

Activity

None

Activity Code

None

Flag

Category 4

None

Category 5

None

Category 6

None

Comment

Age estimated

Start Date

End Date

KCA Date

Main/Billing Address

Address 1

Address 2

Country

Lat

0

Long

0

View on Map

Delete Patient

OK & Next

Cancel

OK

Print

Home store

<https://docs.msupply.org.nz/>

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Updated version 4.10 Updated version 4.12

As of version 4.10, you'll notice that at the top of the details window is the **Home store**. For new patients, the home store is the store the patient was created in; for previously existing patients the version upgrade will assign the home store to be the store where the patient was most recently issued a prescription.

- A patient's details can only be edited in any dispensary store which is active on the same site as the home store (i.e. on their **Home site**). This ensures that a patient can only be edited in one location at a time.
- In version 4.10 and 4.11, a patient's *home store* cannot be changed. However, from version 4.12 it will be possible to edit the home store (if you're logged into the primary server). Doing this will make the patient's records (repeats, patient medication records and insurance policies) available to the new home site. If the patient has previous prescriptions from stores which are visible in the new home store, these will also be made available to the new home site, but will only show up in the patient's history if the *Share patient prescriptions over stores* preference is turned on (see [setting_dispensary_mode_preferences](#)). Note that you will not be able to edit a patient's details if their record is currently waiting in the sync queue to be transferred to another home store. A "Not editable pending transfer to XX" (where XX is the new home store) message will show at the bottom of the screen and all fields will be disabled if this is the case.
- You can create prescriptions for a patient in any store they are visible in, not just their home store, but repeats can only be processed in any dispensary store on the home site.
- If you're on the primary server, you can make a patient visible in other stores (just like any other type of name) - doing this will make the patient's records (repeats, patient medication records and insurance policies, but not their prescription history) available to the store.

The patient detail window tabs

General tab

The date of birth field for a patient uses the same date format as your computer's operating system. If you enter an age, the date of birth is guessed and a patient comment is added to mention that the date was guessed so you know it's not accurate.

Hold do not issue: If this is checked then no stock can be dispensed to the patient

Credit limit: This is the maximum debt that a patient's account can have when the payments module is activated. Enter as a number greater than zero. They will not be able to be dispensed a prescription without paying for it when they reach this limit.'

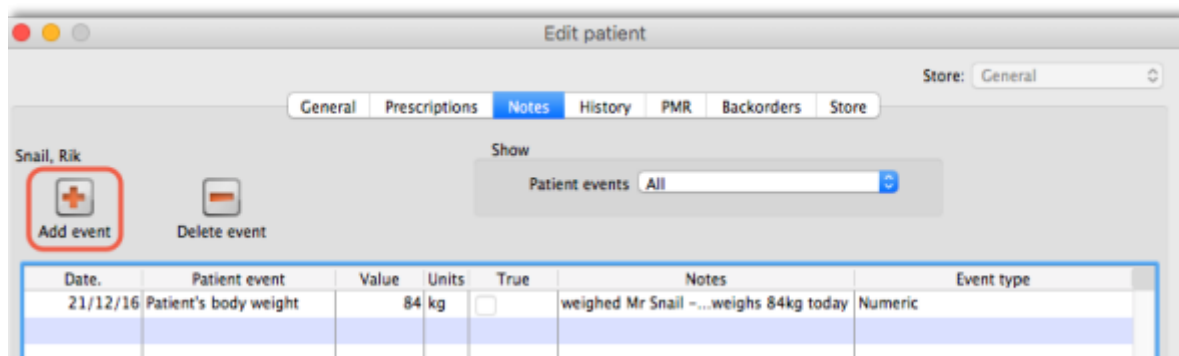
If the payments module is not activated, the value in this field has no effect.

Prescriptions tab

Here each prescription created for the patient in this store is shown. Double-clicking a row in the list will open that prescription.

Notes tab

Any notes/events you enter in the notes tab will display each time you enter the patient name in the *Prescription entry* window. These notes can be used to remind you of patient Preferences for certain dosage forms, or drug sensitivities.



Before you add an event for a patient, you need to make sure that *patient events* have been set up.

Patient events

This is the term mSupply uses to denote any item of information relating to a particular patient; for example, you may want to record the patient's weight, the patient's blood pressure, any allergies from which the patient suffers, vaccination records, etc. - a wide range of information relating to a particular patient may be recorded here.

First, some definitions of patient events need to be made; choose *Patient > Show Patient events*, then click the **New** button.

Add patient event...

Code:

Description:

Event type:

Units:

One patient event is already defined, the code is `NT`, the description is `Note`, and the type is *Text*; you can also have events of type *Numeric* or *Boolean*. For example, to create a patient event recording a patient's weight, the completed *Add patient event* window would look like this:



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Add patient event...". It contains four input fields: "Code" with the text "Weight", "Description" with the text "Patient's body weight", "Event type" with a dropdown menu showing "Numeric", and "Units" with the text "kg". At the bottom right, there are two buttons: "Cancel" and "OK".

A further example, this time using the Boolean type - i.e. where the options are limited to two, 'Yes' or 'No' - could be to identify patients who have insurance cover to meet the cost of their prescriptions; for this event, the *Add patient event* window, once completed, would appear like this:



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Add patient event...". It contains four input fields: "Code" with the text "Ins", "Description" with the text "Patient has Insurance for cost of medicine", "Event type" with a dropdown menu showing "Boolean", and "Units" which is empty. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: "Cancel" and "OK".

Once a number of patient events have been defined, choosing *Patient > Show Patient events*, will produce a window like this:

Patient event list...

New

Delete

Code.	Description	Event type	Unit
Ins	Patient has Insurance for cost of medicine	BO	
NT	Note	DS	
Weight	Patient's body weight	NU	kg

3/3

OK

Now it is possible , using the *Notes* tab of the patient details window, to add individual items of information to the profile of any patient.

Add Patient events...

Event

Entered by : user 1 (pass=)

Date

Modified by:

Note

Display when

never

Pick Color

Beep times

Cancel

OK

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View the record of the patient in the normal way (from *Patient > Show Patients*, enter the patient's name & double click the appropriate patient from the 'names output'), and select the *Notes* tab. Click on the *Add event* button to bring up the window shown above.

In the *Event* field, *Search event type* appears by default. To display all the events you have defined so that you may choose the one you require, enter the character "@" (without the quote marks), press the TAB key, and make your required selection from the list.

Alternatively, you may enter a word from the description of the event - e.g. if you have defined *Patient's body weight* as an event, you may enter the start of the event name or code (e.g. *pat*), and that event will appear in the *Event* field. If more than one event matches what you have entered, a list will be displayed for you to choose the event you want to enter.

Should you wish to add any note or comment, you may do so by moving the cursor into the *Note* area, clicking, then typing your entry. You can customise the note in terms of when it will be displayed on screen etc. as described in the *Items* chapter of this guide. Here's the link - [The Notes tab](#).

After a period of time, a patient's notes may look like this:

Date	Patient event	Value	True	Notes	Event type
18/09/2007	Blood Pressure	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	125/98 Job promotion 6 weeks ago - mo	Text
01/02/2008	Insurance cover	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Effective date - 1 Feb 2008	Boolean
22/01/2007	Body weight	69.4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good improvement	Numeric
13/05/2007	Allergies	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	? allergic to penicillin - rash after 48 hrs tre	Text
13/10/2006	Body weight	65	<input type="checkbox"/>	On discharge from 2 months in hospital	Numeric

The default view shows all patient events, but you have the ability to view single events by selecting the event code from the drop down menu *Patient events* under *Show*

A new event may be added by clicking on the *Add event* button, and an event which is no longer of any relevance may be deleted by clicking on the *Delete event* button.

Events may be edited by selecting the specific event, double clicking on it, when the *Edit patient event* window appears.

History tab

This tab shows a list of all the items dispensed ot this patient. Double-clicking an item will open the

prescription it was dispensed on.

PMR (Patient Medication Record) tab

See the separate section on this here [Patient Medication Records](#)

Backorders tab

If you are using a backorder system and you have any backorders for this patient, they will show here.

Store Visibility tab

The tab shows which stores the patient is visible in. Only when the visibility checkbox is checked will the patient be visible to that store. The patient must be visible in a store to be able to create prescriptions for them in that store.



Stores	Visibility
Drug Registration	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Warehouse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gryffindor District Store	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hogwarts Dispensary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hufflepuff Health Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slytherin Health Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>

Visibility for patients created on a synced system



Remember that in a synced system, patients can be created in any dispensary on any sync site. This is unlike 'normal' [Names](#) (customers, suppliers, etc.) that can only be created on the primary server.

When a patient is created on any site, it will be made visible in:

- Its **home store** (i.e. the current store), and
- All other stores of type "Dispensary" which have their store preference *Patients created in other stores not visible in this store* switched **OFF**.

Data that syncs with a patient:



- Their insurance policies
- Their repeats (Note, other sites won't be able to see and use them)
- Their PMR records

Data that does NOT sync:

- Transactional/prescription history
- Patient events

While it can be used to make all patients visible across all dispensary stores across all sync sites, use caution with the store pref *Patients created in other stores not visible in this store*. Doing so does not scale well on large systems if it is turned **OFF** for many stores as it causes exponential data growth and sync traffic:



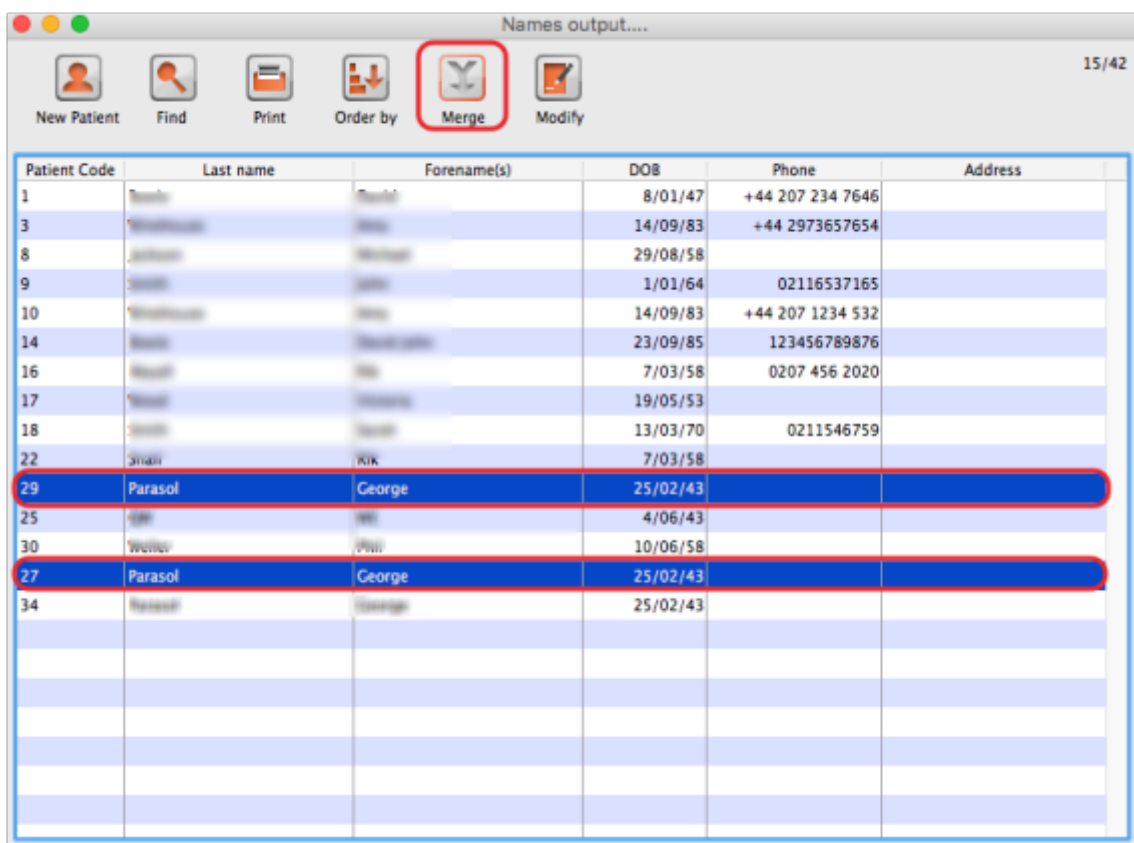
- (50 stores) x (100,000 patients) = 5 million visibility records
- Initialising a site with 3 dispensaries with the pref off will require syncing 100k patients, and 300k visibility records.
- It does not include prescription data. If it did it'd only add to the above.

Once a patient has been created in a dispensary, its store visibility can then be amended in this tab.

Merging patients while dispensing

Updated version 4.12

While dispensing, you may observe that a patient has been inadvertently entered twice. For example:



Patient Code	Last name	Forename(s)	DOB	Phone	Address
1			8/01/47	+44 207 234 7646	
3			14/09/83	+44 2973657654	
8			29/08/58		
9			1/01/64	02116537165	
10			14/09/83	+44 207 1234 532	
14			23/09/85	123456789876	
16			7/03/58	0207 456 2020	
17			19/05/53		
18			13/03/70	0211546759	
22	Shan	KIK	7/03/58		
29	Parasol	George	25/02/43		
25			4/06/43		
30	Weller	Phil	10/06/58		
27	Parasol	George	25/02/43		
34	Parasol	George	25/02/43		

When the *Choose patient* window appears, you can highlight the two patients to be merged, then clicking on the *Merge* button displays this window:



Keep		Merge	
Code	27	Code	34
Charge to	27	Charge to	34
Name	Parasol, George	Name	Parasol, George
Address 1		Address 1	
Address 2		Address 2	
DOB	25/02/43	DOB	25/02/43
Gender	Male	Gender	Male
no. of trans	0	no. of trans	0
last trans	00/00/00	last trans	00/00/00

Cancel OK

Here you need to decide which record should be kept, and which one should be merged, and check the appropriate radio buttons. This combines the information in the record to be merged with the information in the record to be kept.

Note that, from version 4.12, merging patients will be restricted to only those having the same *home site* - see [home_store](#).

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