

4.01.01. Items - General tab

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What are those lock icons? To minimise the chance of accidental amendment, some critical fields have a lock icon to the left of it. To change any of these fields, you must click on the lock icon first, and then enter the new value in the field.



Item name

This is the name by which mSupply will refer to the item.

- You should avoid changing the name of an item to that of another item. If you have accidentally created two copies of the same item, these should be merged - refer [Merging two items](#).
- Historical records will still record the original name, but future invoices and invoices in process will pick up the new name when you add or edit an invoice line.
- Any non-printable characters entered before or after the name will be removed. Any entered in the name will be replaced with an underscore (_).

Item code

This is the code assigned to the item. This should be a unique code, and ideally, should not be a part of another code. For example, 1034 is unique, but is a part of 1034a, and so these two codes should ideally not coexist in an mSupply system. Any non-printable characters entered before or after the code will be removed. Any entered in the code (including spaces) will be replaced with an underscore (_).

Store

The store which you are using is displayed here. For mSupply systems that are only using a single store, this field is not relevant.

Store-specific Item data

Most item data is universal- the same for all sites and all stores. However, certain fields are store-

specific. When you are logged in to a store, then you have seeing/editing the value for that particular store. This also means it is editable on a remote mSupply site. The fields are:

Field Name
default location
location bulk
include on price list
indic price
report quantity
minimum stock
pack to one
default price
hold for issue
margin
inactive
pack to one allow
restricted location type
non stock
non stock name
forecast method
estimated AMC
AMC modification factor
projection for calcs
hold for receive
ignore for orders
maximum stock
custom data
pickface pack size
pickface replenish at packs
pickface replenish up to packs
pickface location
bulk replenish at packs

General



Units

Choose the unit you use for this item. It is useful to distinguish items you issue by pack (eg eye drops) from items you issue by volume (eg oral liquids)

Department

You can assign each item to a department by choosing from the list of departments here. To set up departments, refer [Managing Item Access...](#)

Category

Provided that you have defined item categories, the appropriate category should be selected using the drop down list which displays your defined categories - refer [Item categories](#).

Interaction group

Here you can choose the interaction group for the item - refer [Manage drug interaction groups](#).

Item Flag

The item flag field is designed for bulk editing, where you use the list view to update many items at once. You can enter or edit an individual item's flag(s) here, though it can be easier to do so using [The list view](#).

Universal Code

mSupply has the ability to look up and store a Universal Code for each item. Click on the select button  to look up a universal code. This window will open:



The search is automatically made on the first 3 characters of the item's name and the results shown in the list. If you see the matching item, double-click on it to select that universal code. If you don't see the correct item in the list, change the search term in the *Quick search* field and click on the  button to search again.

When you select a universal code the ATC category, item strength, DDD value, interactions with other medicines and other item properties will also be populated from the universal code server (only those that have been set for the item on the universal code server will be populated of course!). You can see them on the *Reporting* tab where they are added as **properties** of the item - see the [4.01.15. Items - Reporting tab](#) page for details. The interactions can be seen on the *Interactions* tab - see the [4.01.22. Items - Interactions tab](#) page for details.

Make sure you carefully select the correct item from the list when using this feature.

If you want new universal codes added to the system send an email to support@msupply.org.nz

You can also search for universal codes manually from a web browser at <https://universalcodes.msupply.org.nz/> (old version) or <https://codes.msupply.foundation> (new version)

Doses

Enter the number of doses a single unit of this item provides. Used for vaccines and is only enterable if the **Is a vaccine** checkbox is checked.

Is a vaccine

Check this if this item is a vaccine and you want mSupply to include it in the vaccine functionality (including in mSupply mobile; see the [mobile vaccine dispensing](#) page for details). When checked, a default value of 1 is entered in the **Doses** field.

Hold: do not issue

If this box is checked, the item will not be available to be issued on invoices. It will still appear in lists, but you will get a warning if you choose it when issuing stock, and will be required to choose a different item.

Putting the Item on hold applies to *all* stock lines of the item in the **store you are currently logged into**. If you wish to hold selected stock lines only, you should do that by editing the individual stock lines using [Show items with stock](#) or by using the stock tab of the item's details window (see the [4.01.05. Items - Stock tab](#) page for details).

Issue in builds only

Checking this box will mean that the item cannot be issued on customer invoices. This is useful in situations like where an item which by law can not be sold in an unprocessed state, but is used to 'build' (refer [Building \(Manufacturing\) Items](#)) another item which is legal for distribution.

Allow pack to one conversion

Checking this box allows stock of the item to be repacked to **1** for *this* item in *this* store.

For example: say you receive 50 x 100 boxes of paracetamol tablets, but you issue variable amounts of paracetamol tablets on invoices. If this option is checked, as you receive the stock on a supplier invoice, it will be converted to 5000 (quantity) x 1 (pack size). You will now be able to issue any quantity you like. The cost and sell price are automatically adjusted for the new pack size.

This preference, and it's companion [Convert pack to one](#)

when receiving, below, can be set and cleared by the **Set pack to one for all visible items in this store** preference on the [store Preferences tab](#). The store preference will set or clear these preferences for **ALL** items visible in the store. Whereas clearing and setting the preference here allows you to control it individually for each item and each store.

Convert pack to one when receiving

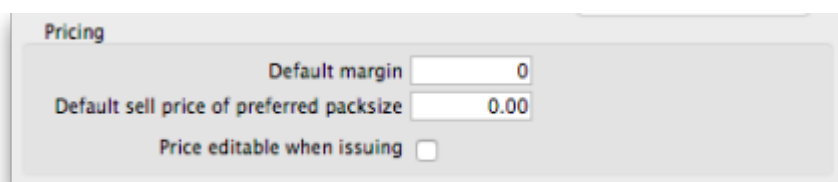
If this box is checked, when you receive stock of the item on a supplier invoice, the pack size will automatically be converted to **1** for *this* item in *this* store. This preference does **NOT** affect any existing stock; existing stock will remain in the pack size it was received in, regardless of the setting of this preference.

This preference, and it's companion [Allow pack to one conversion](#), above, can be set and cleared by the **Set pack to one for all visible items in this store** preference on the [store Preferences tab](#). The store preference will set or clear these preferences for **ALL** items visible in the store. Whereas clearing and setting the preference here allows you to control it individually for each item and each store.

Include in DHIS2 data push

If checked then data from this item will be included in information pushed to DHIS2 via the DHIS2 interface.

Pricing

A screenshot of a 'Pricing' dialog box. It has a title bar 'Pricing'. Inside, there are three fields: 'Default margin' with a value of '0', 'Default sell price of preferred packsize' with a value of '0.00', and 'Price editable when issuing' with an unchecked checkbox.

Pricing	
Default margin	0
Default sell price of preferred packsize	0.00
Price editable when issuing	☐

Default margin

This is the margin that will be applied to this item on supplier invoices to calculate the selling price. It can be set to a different value in different stores if required (which also means that you must set it to a value in every store you want it to have a value in - setting it in one will not set it in any others). Note that if a supplier margin is also set, there is a setting in the **Preferences > Invoices 1** that determines which margin will be used. Note also that if a default selling price is set, this price will take priority and be used rather than the margin.

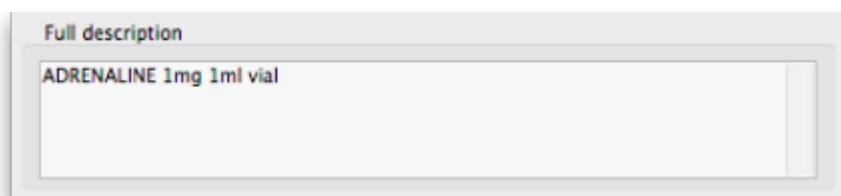
Default sell price of preferred pack size

Only enter a price here if you want a fixed selling price for this item. Enter the price for one preferred pack. A price entered here will override any margins you have specified for either the supplier or the item.

Price editable when issuing

If the **Allow editing selling price on customer invoice lines** store preference is turned on (see [Virtual store preferences](#)) and this checkbox is checked, when adding a line of this item to a customer invoice, an additional **Sell price** field will be available for the user to enter the sell price for that line of the customer invoice (see [Issuing goods \(customer invoices\)](#) for details).

Full description

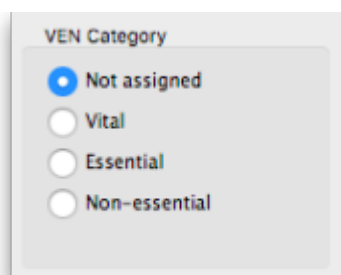
A screenshot of a software interface showing a text input field. The field has a title 'Full description' in red text at the top left. Inside the field, the text 'ADRENALINE 1mg 1ml vial' is entered in red text.

This field may be used for entering a fuller description of the item should the item name alone be insufficient.

Product specifications

Enter any specifications for the item that would be important in a tender. Anything entered in here will be included in a tender and automatically uploaded to the Health Supply Hub.

VEN category

A screenshot of a software interface showing a selection form titled 'VEN Category'. It contains four radio button options: 'Not assigned' (which is selected with a blue dot), 'Vital', 'Essential', and 'Non-essential'. All text in the form is red.

Like all categorisations, this one can be very helpful for reporting and ordering. VEN category options available are:

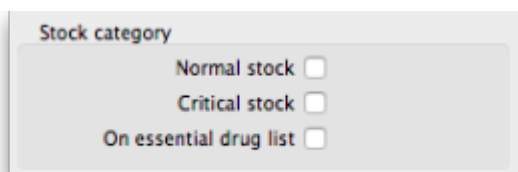
- **Not assigned**

- **Vital**
- **Essential**
- **Not essential** (or **Necessary** - see below)

Each item can be assigned only one of these VEN categories. Items will be **Not assigned** by default.

- Authorities, including the WHO, have been inconsistent on whether **N** should stand for **Necessary** or **Not essential**.
- In the past, there was a greater tendency towards **N** = **Necessary**. Therefore, mSupply 'hard wired' **N** = **Necessary**.
- There is an increasing trend towards **N** = **Not essential**.
- As of mSupply v5.04, you can choose which is used in your data in the preferences - see [General preferences - Title for "N" classification](#).
 - For all pre-existing installations, **N** = **Necessary** unless you change it.
 - For all new implementations after v5.04, **N** = **Not essential**.

Stock category



Stock category

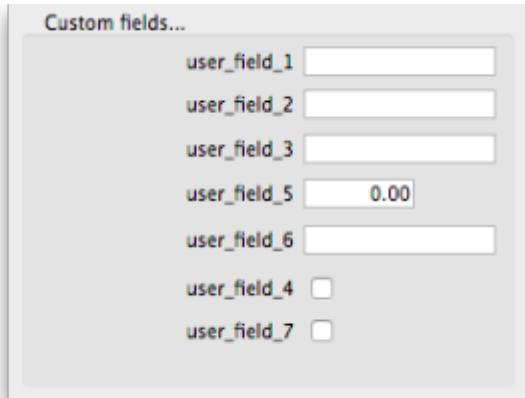
Normal stock ☐

Critical stock ☐

On essential drug list ☐

These categorisations are used for reporting and you can check as many as are appropriate. You don't have to check any, they are entirely optional.

Custom fields



Custom fields...

user_field_1

user_field_2

user_field_3

user_field_5

user_field_6

user_field_4 ☐

user_field_7 ☐

These are 7 fields available for users to store information appropriate to their operation. These fields may be queried when performing a search or producing a custom report. Their default names are **user_field_1**, **user_field_2**, etc., but these labels may easily be edited to more descriptive ones as required..

Field types:

- Fields 1,2,3 & 6 are text fields
- Field 5 is a numerical field
- Fields 4 & 7 are boolean - True/False (Yes /No) entry.

To set the names of the user fields, refer [General Preferences, Miscellaneous tab](#).

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