	PRODUCT SPECIFICATION SHEET (for local and regional procurement) Adult MUAC Tape	Version no: 4 Material no: S0145630 Author: AF, PB Date: 12.05.2020
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General Description:

Adults' Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measuring tape with a range of up to 56cm. Pack of 50 tapes with pictorial and text instructions for use printed on underside.

Technical Specifications:

MUAC measuring tape

Suitable for measuring adult's Middle Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC, range to 56 cm).

Graduated with 1 mm precision

Accuracy: ± 1 mm of the maximum measurement (50 cm)

Material:

Non-tear stretch-resistant material eg plasticized / synthetic paper using polypropylene, or polyethylene. (supplier must specify which of these materials is offered). Minimum thickness 0.3mm.

Front side:

Black print on white tape. Optionally includes UNICEF logo in black.

Reverse side:

Includes instructions and diagrammatic drawings. The written instructions may be requested to be in Arabic, Spanish, French or English. The drawings represent 5 steps in taking the MUAC measurement, using the 'string method' or the 'tape method' for finding the midpoint:

String method for finding the midpoint:

Drawing 3: *Bend the arm so it is at a right angle and place the string on the tip of the shoulder, to the elbow.*

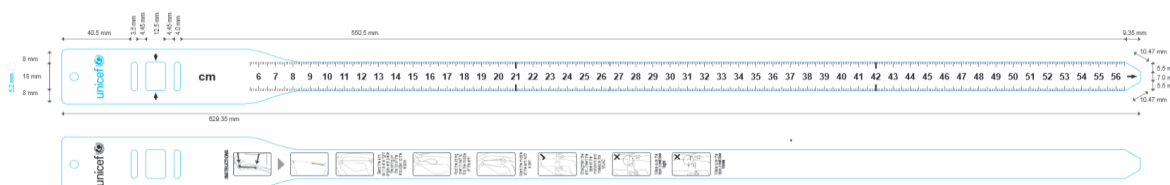
Drawing 4: *Fold the string over in half to find the middle of the arm*

Drawing 5: *Mark the middle of the arm with a pen*

Drawing 6: *Straighten the arm, insert the tape at the mid-point and measure the MUAC*

Drawing 7: *Make sure the tape is not too tight*

Drawing 8: *Make sure the tape is not too loose*



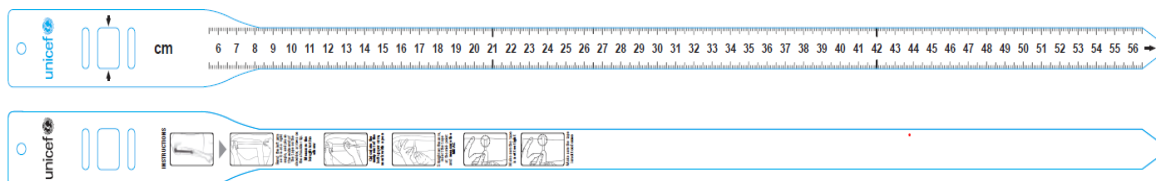
Drawing 2: Bend the left arm to a right angle, put wide end of the tape to shoulder, measure the length to the elbow

Drawing 3: Calculate the midpoint of the left upper arm, mark with a pen

Drawing 4: Straighten the arm, insert the tape at the mid-point and measure the MUAC

Drawing 5: Make sure the tape is not too tight

Drawing 6: Make sure the tape is not too loose



NB: Printing design files are available on the UNICEF website:

<https://www.unicef.org/supply/technical-resources-suppliers-nutrition-products>

Ink is permanent, resistant to solvents; easily readable in low light working situations.

Working temperature range 0 - 50 °C

Text and pictorial user instructions printed in the underside in *English/ French/ Spanish/ Arabic*

Storage conditions:

Minimum acceptable range 0 – 50 °C

Context in which item is mainly used:

Recommended for rapid screening of pregnant/lactating women.

Good for nutrition emergencies when illiterate field workers are used for screening.

Target population:

Pregnant/lactating women.

Emergency scenarios where the item should not be used:

Not recommended for nutrition surveys.

Quality Checking locally and regionally sourced MUAC tapes

This is guidance note for UNICEF country and regional offices procuring MUAC tapes that are printed locally. The steps below can be used as a guide to select a printer and check samples. It is recommended that team members from supply, program and communications team work together to facilitate the quality checks on samples before a big print run is ordered.

Printing: Things to keep in mind

- Select a printer that can print high quality synthetic paper with excellent precision.
- The printer will need to purchase the plate, cutting knives and paper to the UNICEF MUAC specifications.
- LTA holders should be able to reduce their prices offered once they have produced the tapes in large enough quantities to recover the cost of the plate, cutting knives and are able to get discounts on the synthetic paper used for the MUAC due to higher volumes.
- Cost efficiencies are gained with large printers using efficient machines with very high precision.
- Check a soft proof and a physical proof sample first before committing to a big print run.

Checking the MUAC sample:

- The MUAC tape should be made from synthetic paper/ paper coated in plastic (see UNICEF spec) that is resistant to tearing, stretching and cleaning with alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Check measurements with a calibrated ruler, starting at the arrows and continuing to the end of the tape. All the mm and cm markings must be precise, accurate and clearly legible.
- The tape must not be able to be stretched, this is tested by pulling the tape firmly and seeing if the tape matches the ruler used to check the mm and cm after you have attempted to stretch it.
- The tape must not tear or rip. This is tested by attempting to tear the tape with your hands.
- To test that the ink does not rub off with cleaning, use hand sanitizer on the tape to check if there are any changes to the print.

For queries and support for evaluation of MUAC tapes, please email our Quality assurance inspection unit here: sturner@unicef.org