

2.4.4 Expiration Date [Data Structure 004]

Purpose: Data Structure 004 shall indicate the date at the end of which the item expires. This is intended to be used for medical devices with a human tissue component or for supplies such as filters or solutions. While in the past this data structure has been used for blood, tissue, or cellular therapy products, it is now recommended that Data Structure 005 be used for these products.

Structure: =>cyyj

Element	Length	Type
=	1	data identifier, first character
>	1	data identifier, second character
c	1	numeric {0–9}
yy	2	numeric {0–9}
jjj	3	numeric {0–9}

The six (6)-character data content string, **cyyj**, is encoded and interpreted as follows:

- c** shall specify the century of the year in which the item expires
- yy** shall specify the year within the century in which the item expires
- jjj** shall specify the ordinal number within the calendar year (Julian date) on which the item expires