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REGULATORY ISSUES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF WEARABLE DEVICES

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Remote Patient Monitoring

Fitness and Activity Tracking

Cardiac Health Monitoring

Diabetes Management

Sleep Apnea Diagnosis

Pain Management

Medication Adherence

Fall Detection and Elderly Care

Mental Health Monitoring

Clinical Research and Trials

Pregnancy Monitoring







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GROWING MARKET







LIMITING FACTORS IN EU





- 1. Regulatory Hurdles
- 2. Reimbursement Challenges
- 3. Data Privacy Concerns
- 4. Healthcare Fragmentation
- 5. Limited Interoperability
- 6. Patient Acceptance
- 7. Cost Constraints
- 8. Limited Clinical Evidence



REGULATORY HURDLES



Significant, especially for academy and start-ups for lack of staff with expertise in dealing with Competent Authorities







FIRS STEP: INSIGHT

Business model

Technological provider?

Business partner?

Manufacturer? (i.e. CE mark holder)

Device

Wellness app?

Medical Device?







[...] any instrument, apparatus, appliance, software, implant, reagent, material or other article intended bv the manufacturer [...] for one or more of the following specific medical purposes: — diagnosis, prevention, monitoring, prediction, prognosis, treatment or alleviation of disease,[...]and which does not achieve its principal intended action by pharmacological, immunological or metabolic means, in or on the human body [...]



Figure 1. Regulatory Approval Considerations in Wearable Medical Devices (WMDs). (A) Design and manufacture, (B) evidence collection, and (C) conformity assessment in (I) the FDA, (II) the European Medicines Agency (EMA), and (III) the China National Medical Product Administration (NMPA). Abbreviations: EPRC, Bectronic product radiation control; GSPR, general safety and performance requirements; MD, medical device; PMA, premarket approval; QMS, quality management system.





MEDICAL DEVICE











CLASS OF RISK

CONFORMITY PROCEDURE









Example I

Apple Watch Series 4, identified as a Class II WMD, has been launched for monitoring the electrocardiogram and the detection and notification of an irregular heart rhythm. Around 600 subjects were tested in clinical trials, where 99.6% specificity for sinus rhythm and 98.3% sensitivity for atrial fibrillation were demonstrated.

Example II

HeartGuide[™] is a noninvasive Class II WMD that monitors human blood pressure in the form of a wristwatch, which has been innovated by Omron Healthcare. It features tracking and management of the user's blood pressure up to 100 times as well as real-time monitoring of activity for up to 7 days to prevent stroke, heart failure, and sudden cardiac death.







INTENDED PURPOSE VS MEDICAL INDICATION

Intended purpose is basically what the device does, e.g., record cardiac activity.

Medical indication is the medical condition in which the device is to be used, e.g., detecting episodes of paroxysmal atrial fibrillation





CONFORMITY: A MULTIFACETED CONCEPT







CONFORMITY: A MULTIFACETED CONCEPT









Biological evaluation primarily pertains to the assessment of the biocompatibility of all materials that come into contact with the end user, but also possibly with operators. The assessment of biocompatibility is governed by the ISO 10993 set of guidelines

BIOCOMPATIBILITY

the ability of a material to perform with an appropriate host response in a specific application



BIOLOGICAL CONFORMITY





ISO 10993-1 2009 (withdrawn) the guideline in force is ISO 10993-1 2018







CLINICAL INVESTIGATION REGULATED BY ISO 14155: 2020

Assessment of the **performance** and **safety** of the device through a series of tests that range from simple **accuracy tests** to a reference device to **full-fledged clinical investigations**

CLINICAL EVALUATION ACCORDING MEDDEV 2/7.1 r4







POST MARKET SURVEILLANCE





CONCLUSION

DEFINITON OF THE BUSINESS MODEL AND COMPANY AIMS

DEFINITION OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

DEFINITION OG THE REGULATORY PATHWAY





GRAZIE !

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