



---

# Biological Evaluation for MDR



# AGENDA

**Comparison of relevant GSPRs of the MDR with the ERs of the MDD**

**Comparison of relevant GSPRs of the MDR with ISO 10993 & 14971**

**Impact of changes in ISO 10993-1:2018 and other ISO standards**

# Overview



MDR  
2017/745

**Question:** What is the impact of the MDR on the biological evaluation of medical devices?

**Answer: None!**

(assuming you were doing it right!)

(and if you exclude the CMR requirements)



**Spoiler Alert!!!**

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 14971

## MDD ERs 1, 2 & 6

**Three** of the **general ERs** are relevant to biological safety

General ERs relevant to **risk management** were poorly drafted and resulted in **content deviations** in Annexes Z in EN/ISO 14971:2012

## MDR GSPRs 1, 2, 4 & 8

**Four** of the **general GSPRs** are relevant to biological safety

General GSPRs relevant to **risk management** were aligned with ISO 14971 and thus with **generally accepted risk management principles**

GSPR 2 is new: **risk reduction as far as possible without affecting the benefit-risk ratio**

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## MDD ER 7.1

Devices must be designed and manufactured... to guarantee the characteristics and performances referred to in Section I

Particular attention must be paid to:

## MDR GSPR 10.1

Devices shall be designed and manufactured ... to ensure that the characteristics and performance requirements referred to in Chapter I

Particular attention shall be paid to:

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## MDD ER 7.1

- the choice of materials used, particularly as regards toxicity and, where appropriate flammability;
- the compatibility between the materials used and biological tissues, cells and body fluids, taking account of the intended purpose of the device;

ISO 10993-16 addresses ADME

## MDR GSPR 10.1

- (a) the choice of materials and substances used, particularly as regards toxicity and, where relevant, flammability;
- (b) the compatibility between the materials and substances used and biological tissues, cells and body fluids, taking account of the intended purpose of the device **and, where relevant, absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion;**

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## ISO 10993-1

Not included in MDD or ISO 10993-1:2018

- Not within scope of biological evaluation

ISO 10993-1: **final product**, subjected to all manufacturing processes, must be evaluated. (Includes all constituents, processing aids, packaging, sterilization, etc.)

## MDR GSPR 10.1

(c) the compatibility between the different parts of a device which consists of more than one implantable part;

(d) the impact of processes on material properties;

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## ISO 10993-1

Not included in MDD or ISO 10993-1:2018

- Not within scope of biological evaluation, except as part of material characterization

ISO 10993-1 & 19: evaluation of physical characteristics required

ISO 10993-1: physical and chemical characterization shall precede any biological testing

## MDR GSPR 10.1

(f) the **mechanical properties** of the materials used, reflecting, where appropriate, matters such as strength, ductility, fracture resistance, wear resistance and fatigue resistance;

(g) **surface properties**; and

(h) the confirmation that the device meets any **defined chemical and/or physical specifications**.



# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## MDD ER 7.2

The devices must be designed, manufactured and packed in such a way as to **minimize the risk posed by contaminants and residues** to the persons involved in the transport, storage and use of the devices and to the patients, taking account of the intended purpose of the product. **Particular attention must be paid to the tissues exposed and the duration and frequency of the exposure.**

## MDR GSPR 10.2

Devices shall be designed, manufactured and packaged in such a way as to **minimise the risk posed by contaminants and residues** to patients, taking account of the intended purpose of the device, and to the persons involved in the transport, storage and use of the devices. **Particular attention shall be paid to tissues exposed** to those contaminants and residues **and to the duration and frequency of exposure.**

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## MDD ER 7.5

The devices must be designed and manufactured in such a way as to **reduce to a minimum the risks posed by substances leaking from the device.**

ISO 10993-1: evaluation of wear particles, degradation products and process residues is required

## MDR GSPR 10.4.1

Devices shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to **reduce as far as possible the risks posed by substances or particles, including wear debris, degradation products and processing residues, that may be released from the device.**

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## MDD ER 7.5

If parts of a device (or a device itself) intended to administer and/or remove medicines, body liquids or other substances to or from the body, or devices intended for transport and storage of such body fluids or substances, **contain phthalates which are classified as [CMR]...these devices must be labelled as a device containing phthalates...**

## MDR GSPR 10.4.1

Devices / parts / materials that:

- are invasive and come into direct contact with the human body,
- (re)administer medicines, body liquids or other substances, or
- transport or store medicines, body fluids or substances:

**shall only contain [CMR substances] in a concentration above 0.1% ...**

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## MDD ER 7.5

Special attention shall be given to substances which are carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction

**No requirements for justification or labelling of toxic substances other than phthalates**

## MDR GSPR 10.4.1

Devices / parts / materials that:

- are invasive and come into direct contact with the human body,
- (re)administer medicines, body liquids or other substances, or
- transport or store medicines, body fluids or substances:

**shall only contain [CMR substances] in a concentration above 0.1% ...**

**(labelling and justification requirements apply)**

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## MDD ER 7.5

If parts of a device... [that are invasive or administer substances] contain **phthalates** classified as **[CMR]**, these devices **must be labelled... as a device containing phthalates**

## MDR GSPR 10.4.5

Where devices, parts thereof or materials used therein [that are invasive or administer substances] contain **[CMR substances above 0.1%]** the presence of those substances **shall be labelled... with the list of such substances**

(repeat of 10.4.1)

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## MDD ER 7.5

If intended use of devices containing [**phthalates**] includes [**vulnerable populations**]:

- a **specific justification** for the use of [**phthalates**] with regard to compliance with the ERs
- **information on residual risks** for vulnerable populations and appropriate **precautionary measures** in the IFU

## MDR GSPR 10.4.5

If intended use of devices containing **CMR substances** includes [**vulnerable populations**]:

- **Justification** for **CMR substances** covered by 10.4.2
- **information on residual risks** and **precautionary measures** shall be given in the IFU

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 14971

## ISO 14971

Risk-based justification is consistent with the risk management principles set out in ISO 14971:2020, e.g. benefit-risk assessment

Exposure estimate – ISO 10993-18

Analysis of alternatives – ISO 10993-17

Acceptability criteria – ISO 14971

Committee guidelines – ISO 14971

## MDR GSPR 10.4.2

**Justification** shall be based upon:

- (a) an estimate of exposure;
- (b) an analysis of alternatives (including available research)
- (c) justification in relation to functionality, performance and benefit-risk ratio (including use in vulnerable populations)
- (d) scientific committee guidelines

# Comparison: GSPRs vs ERs or ISO 10993

## MDD

N/A

## MDR GSPR 10.4.3 & 10.4.4

**Guidance** on phthalates, CMR substances and endocrine disruptors to be developed by the relevant scientific committee



# Rationale for CMR provisions

- The potential harm is severe, with the possibility of irreversible effects
  - Applies to substances that are **carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic to reproduction** (including **endocrine disruptors**)
    - category 1A or 1B (Part 3, Annex VI, Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation (1272/2008))
    - endocrine disruptors for which there is scientific evidence of probable serious effects to human health (e.g. endocrine disruptors that are toxic to reproduction, such as DEHP)
  - Some CMR substances do not have a widely accepted safety threshold
  - Concern is for susceptible or vulnerable populations
  - The objective is transparency

**But:** Requirements for labelling and justification of certain toxic substances, irrespective of exposure, are not in line with risk management principles

**Regulation based on hazard instead of risk is a political decision**

# Implications of CMR provisions

- A risk-based justification remains acceptable
  - The risk estimate is based on the level of exposure to the hazard
  - A hazardous situation occurs when someone is exposed to a hazard
  - If exposure from the device is below a recognised threshold there is no hazardous situation
  - If there is no hazardous situation, there is no risk
  - However, if no threshold can be identified, exposure should be reduced as much as possible, while maintaining the benefit-risk balance
- The risk needs to be outweighed by a specific benefit arising from the use of a CMR substance, that cannot feasibly be met by other design solutions, e.g.
  - Extreme flexibility needed for specific procedures; extension of the lifespan of erythrocytes
  - Physical damage to device materials by alternative methods of sterilization
    - Note that this means that EtO should not be used if alternatives are acceptable

# The implications of a risk management process

- “This risk management process involves identification of biological hazards, estimation of the associated biological risks, and determination of their acceptability”  
(ISO 10993-1:2018 Clause 4.1)
- ISO 14971 is a normative reference of ISO 10993-1 and therefore specifies the required risk management process
- A biological evaluation must therefore only be conducted in line with a clearly specified risk management process
  - A box-checking process based on biological testing is no longer acceptable (it never was!)
  - The process starts with hazard identification (i.e. the presence of constituents of toxicological concern)
  - If there are no toxicological hazards, there can be no toxicological risks!

# MedPass International S.A.S

- Full service European medical device CRO
- Strategic, regulatory & reimbursement consultancy

*Thank you*

**95bis, Boulevard Péreire  
75017 Paris  
France**

Tel: +33 (0)1 42 12 83 30  
Fax: +33 (0)1 40 53 81 11

**medpass@medpass.org**  
[www.medpass.org](http://www.medpass.org)

MedPass International Regulatory Affairs Department

