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Combination Products Regulatory Convergence

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BRINGING INNOVATION TO PATIENT CARE WORLDWIDE

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- Background
- “Guiding Principles” for regulation of combination products
- GHTF Combination Products working definition
- GHTF regulatory principles
- Areas for convergence

- Evolution of medical technology
- Lengthy review process when combination products involved
- Difficulty in making jurisdictional decisions
- Need for flexible regulatory scheme applicable to combination products
- Need for appropriate regulatory principles

- Concise combination products definition
- Prompt assignment to appropriate review team
- Understanding primary mode of action
- Use and application of historical jurisdictional decisions
- Timely and effective premarket review process
- Consistent and appropriate postmarket system
- Timely and effective resolution of scientific disputes

GHTF Combination Products Working Definition



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“Products that meet the GHTF harmonized definition of a medical device and that are assisted in achieving their intended function by an incorporated medicinal substance or material of biological origin”

GHTF Combination Products Regulatory Principles



- Predictable, transparent, efficient, and least burdensome harmonized regulatory framework
- Flexible guidance documents easily adaptable to existing regulatory systems
- Consideration of appropriate elements of medical device, medicines and biologics regulatory models
- Appropriate essential principles, conformity assessment procedures, and classification rules

GHTF Combination Products Regulatory Principles

- Determination of regulatory requirements
 - Based on principal intended mode of action of product
 - Consider any secondary modes of action
 - Based on one of traditional regulatory frameworks—not adding 2 together
 - Consider entire product life cycle
 - Include documented risk assessment
 - Application of appropriate international standards

- Definition of a combination product
 - Harmonized and concise
- Factors to consider when determining primary mode of action
 - How product achieves its overall intended use
 - Informed by jurisdictional precedents
- Mechanism for designation of primary lead in premarket review process
 - Timely decisions
 - Utilize previous designations

- Consistent application of GMP/QS requirements
 - Requirements applicable to constituent part
- Adverse event/vigilance reporting
 - Avoid duplicative reporting
 - Based on type of marketing application
 - Reasonable time frames for reporting
- Registration and listing
 - Avoid redundant registration and listing
 - Based on type of marketing application

Working toward regulatory convergence

- Ensure appropriate experts are involved
- Build on the initial work of GHTF on regulation of combination products
- Identify primary areas of convergence
- Consider guiding principles
- Maintain appropriate level of flexibility in any regulatory scheme



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