



# CDRH Update

NE MA Diagnostic Imaging and Therapy  
Systems  
24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

---

David W. Feigl, Jr., M.D., M.P.H.

Director

Center for Devices and Radiological Health

*Rosslyn, VA, Sept 27, 1999*

# CDRH and the Imaging Industry

Registration and Listing section of the  
Office of Compliance:

250 manufacturers of Medical Imaging  
equipment

# Applications in Fiscal Year 1999

Approximately 400 applications submitted for imaging equipment.

? 6 of these were for digital radiographic equipment.

? 2 of these were for digital mammography.

? 4 PMAs for digital imaging have been approved this year.

# Standards

## Long history of collaboration with NEMA

- ? The original diagnostic x-ray standard was largely based upon NCRP (National Council on Radiation Protection) report and industry standards.
- ? Reclassification of magnetic resonance imaging devices derived from collaborative work on NEMA standards.
- ? The precursor to the abbreviated 510(k) was developed through NEMA/FDA negotiation (1993).

# Standards

## Current Issues:

- ? For most standards, it is not feasible for testing to be conducted on a prototype – rather, testing is done on production units against the standard at the time that the declaration is submitted to FDA.
- ? An abbreviated 510(k) allows a declaration of conformity to the standard with no need for actual review of underlying data.
- ? During development of the FDA Modernization Act, the idea of “prospective” standard certification was introduced, an approach now under consideration by FDA.

# Standards

Long history of collaboration with NEMA

- ? NEMA perceives the FDAMA use of standards as a direct conflict with its traditional methods but the policy paper being developed will seek to provide a role for standards in multiple regulatory pathways.

# Why aren't declarations of conformity to standards (under FDAMA) being used?

Several barriers have been identified:

- ? Test data is needed before premarket submission ?
- ? Too few recognized standards exist ?
- ? Fear of inspections by the Agency ?
- ? There is no clear incentive to balance risk ?
- ? The perception remains that reviewers will still request data and not rely on standards ?

# Standards: The Issue of Test Data

- ? FDA will give it further consideration.
- ? This should be implemented with a minimum of disruption
  - For our reviewers
  - For industry.
  - E.g., “skinny” 510(k)s for imaging devices would be unchanged.
- ? It is desired that existing policy and procedures be used to accomplish the goal.

# Standards

## What you can do!

- ? Get involved to save time, money, effort.
- ? Tell us what standards need to be recognized.
- ? Tell standards development organizations what standards need to be developed and participate.
- ? Tell us how to make the process smoother and more efficient.

# Guidance

In 1999, four FDA imaging equipment guidance documents have been issued:

Guidance for Submission of 510(k)s:

- for Solid State X-ray Imaging Devices.
- for Emission Computed Tomography Devices and Accessories (SPECT and PET) and Nuclear Tomography Systems.
- for Magnetic Resonance Diagnostic Devices.
- for Radionuclide Dose Calibrators.

# Digital Mammography

Mammography is a preamendment (Safe Medical Devices Act of 1976) technology which continues to undergo tremendous improvement.

25 million mammograms are performed nationwide annually with significant health consequences for this large population.

# Digital Mammography

Therefore, it is imperative to assure that digital mammography is at least equal to analog, which has demonstrated clinical benefit.

A false positive may result in unnecessary biopsy while a false negative may result in delayed cancer diagnosis.

# Digital Mammography

## Clinical data: How much is needed?

- ? At the issuance of 1996 guidance on mammography, “agreement studies” were thought feasible
- ? However, the results of the studies leave open the question of whether digital images will result in more false positive biopsies
- ? Clinical Screening studies could require as many as 30,000 or more patients.

# Digital Mammography

Would a PMA be a more flexible approach than a 510(k)?

- ? The PMA approach offers an alternative since a small study can be conducted preapproval followed by a large, definitive study postapproval.
- ? The recently issued letter to manufacturers of digital mammography technology refers to this balance of pre- and postmarket data as mandated by FDAMA.

# Digital Mammography

## Are there other alternatives ?

- ? A strategy whereby a joint screening study (ie., multiple manufacturers) could be conducted under the auspices of a third party such as NEMA ?
- ? Are there opportunities to combine the data collection from the MQSA program to assess the impact of new imaging technology?
- ? Comments from NEMA are welcomed as the FDA policy on digital mammography is developed.

# Fetal Ultrasound Monitors

"Keepsake" videos of the fetus.

- ? Ultrasound is a Class II prescription medical device.
- ? A letter to manufacturers in 1994 explained that fetal ultrasound for souvenir purposes is not approved and is an unnecessary exposure to radiation.
- ? FDA is aware of about 10 locations per year where keepsake ultrasound videotaping occurs.
- ? One seizure occurred in 1997.
- ? This is a cottage industry involving registered sonographers and becomes a practice of medicine issue.

# People Scanners

People scanners are not medical devices but are handled strictly as radiological products.

- ? These products screen people for contraband and weapons and are used primarily in prisons and some international airports.
- ? The issue of exposure to ionizing radiation for nonmedical purposes is monitored by CDRH.
- ? At the annual meeting of the Technical Electronic Product Radiation Safety Standards Committee (TEPRSSC) recently, recommendations made there in 1998 were further discussed.

# People Scanners

## TEPRSSC Recommendations:

- registration of the scanners with the state;
  - operator training in radiation safety; and
  - labeling of scanners as x-ray emitting.
- ? A letter will be issued by CDRH to manufacturers encouraging implementation of these recommendations.
- ? Instead of a federal mandatory standard, we convened an ANSI consensus standard work group to include FDA, industry, states, and users.

# People Scanners

- ? CRCPD (the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors) has passed a resolution that scanners only be used if alternative does not exist.
- ? The newly formed CDRH Radiological Health Council will have people scanners on its agenda as a crosscutting issue.

# HCFA

CDRH will work proactively with the Health Care Financing Administration in meetings with industry.

- ? More transparent processes
- ? Attempt to shorten unnecessary delays from a 'serial' instead of 'parallel' evaluation process
- ? Attempt to avoid redundant requirements

# Our Website:

[www.fda.gov/cdrh](http://www.fda.gov/cdrh)