

# Welcome To Today's Webinar

Thanks for joining us!  
We'll get started in a few minutes

**Today's Topic:**

**Draft Guidance on Computer Software Assurance for Production  
and Quality System Software**

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# **Computer Software Assurance for Production and Quality System Software**

## **Draft Guidance**

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# Draft Guidance

- **Computer Software Assurance for Production and Quality System Software**
  - [www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/computer-software-assurance-production-and-quality-system-software](https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/computer-software-assurance-production-and-quality-system-software)

# Learning Objectives

- Identify and describe scope and purpose of draft guidance
- Describe computer software assurance (CSA) as a risk-based approach to establish confidence in automation used for medical device production or quality systems
- Describe risk-based assurance activities that may be applied to establish CSA

# Background

- FDA recognizes advances in manufacturing technologies have the potential to allow manufacturers to:
  - reduce sources of error
  - optimize resources, and
  - reduce patient risk

# Background

- FDA recognizes these technologies have the potential to provide significant benefits for enhancing medical device quality, availability, and safety
- Medical device manufacturers have expressed a desire for greater clarity regarding software validation for computers and automated data processing systems used as part of production or quality system

# **Draft Guidance Purpose and Scope**

# Purpose of Draft Guidance

- Provide recommendations on computer software assurance (CSA) for computers and automated data processing systems used as part of medical device production or the quality system
- Describe CSA as a risk-based approach to establish confidence in automation used for production or quality systems
- Describe various methods and testing activities that may be applied to establish CSA and provide objective evidence to fulfill regulatory requirements



# Scope of Draft Guidance

- **Computers or automated data processing systems used as part of production or the quality system where 21 CFR 820.70(i) applies**
- **Includes, but not limited to:**
  - **Design**
  - **Development**
  - **Manufacturing**
  - **Quality System**

## Not in Scope:

- **Software as a Medical Device (SaMD)**
- **Software in a Medical Device (SiMD)**

# Computer Software Assurance (CSA)

# What is CSA?

- Risk-based approach for establishing and maintaining confidence that software is fit for its intended use
- Establishes and maintains that software used in production or quality system is in a state of control throughout its lifecycle (“validated state”)
- Effort and record should be “right-sized” to the risk



# CSA Approach

## Identify Intended Use

Determine whether software is intended for use as part of production/quality system.

## Determine Risk-Based Approach

Determine level of risk if software were to fail to perform as intended.

## Determine Appropriate Assurance Activities

Identify assurance activities commensurate with risk.

## Establish Appropriate Record

Capture sufficient evidence to demonstrate that software was assessed and performs as intended.

# Intended Use

## Identify Intended Use

Determine whether software is intended for use as part of production/quality system (QS).

Is it:

- Used **directly** as part of production/QS?
- Used to **support** production/QS?
- **Not used** as part of production/QS?

### 21 CFR 820.70(i) Applies

- Software intended to be used **directly** as part of production or QS
  - Production processes, inspection, testing, or collection and processing of production data
  - Quality system processes, collecting or processing quality system data, or maintaining a quality record established under the Quality System regulation
- Software intended to be used to **support** production or QS
  - Development tools that test or monitor software systems, or automate testing activities
  - General record-keeping that is not part of the quality record

Lower  
Risk

# Risk-Based Approach

## Determine Risk-Based Approach

Determine level of risk if software were to fail to perform as intended:

- **High Process Risk**
- **Not High Process Risk**

*FDA is primarily concerned with review and assurance for software that is **high process risk** because a failure also poses a **medical device risk**.*

### High Process Risk

- Failure to perform as intended may result in a quality problem that foreseeably compromises safety (that is, increased **medical device risk**)
- *Example:*  
*Software that maintains process parameters that affect physical properties that are essential to device safety or quality*

### Not High Process Risk

- Failure to perform as intended either:
  - would not result in a quality problem OR
  - may result in a quality problem that does not foreseeably lead to compromised safety
- *Example:*  
*Software that collects and records data for monitoring and review purposes that don't directly impact production/process performance*

# Assurance Activities

## Determine Appropriate Assurance Activities

Identify assurance activities commensurate with risk.

- **High Process Risk** → level of assurance commensurate with **medical device risk**
- **Not High Process Risk** → level of assurance commensurate with **process risk**

### Leverage

- Activities, people, and established processes that provide control in production
- Purchasing controls
- Process controls
- Data collected by the software for monitoring or detecting issues/anomalies
- Computer system validation tools
- Iterative/continuous testing throughout the software lifecycle

### Testing methods

- **Unscripted Testing**
  - Ad-hoc testing
  - Error-guessing
  - Exploratory testing
- **Scripted testing**
  - Limited scripted testing
  - Robust scripted testing

# Records



## Establish the Appropriate Record

Capture sufficient evidence to demonstrate that software was assessed and performs as intended.

### Record should include:

- intended use of software feature, function, or operation;
- determination of risk of software feature, function, or operation;
- documentation of assurance activities conducted, including:
  - description of testing conducted based on assurance activity;
  - issues found (examples: deviations, failures) and disposition;
  - conclusion statement declaring acceptability of results;
  - date of testing/assessment and name of person who conducted testing/assessment;
  - established review and approval when appropriate (examples: when necessary, a signature and date of an individual with signatory authority)



# Electronic Records Requirements

# Electronic Records Requirements

- FDA's Guidance, "[Guidance for Industry, Part 11, Electronic Records; Electronic Signatures – Scope and Application](#)," describes narrow interpretation of scope of 21 CFR Part 11
- Agency intends to exercise enforcement discretion regarding specific Part 11 requirements for validation of computerized systems\*
- We invite comments or questions regarding the application of Part 11 requirements to systems in scope of 21 CFR 820.70(i)

\*21 CFR 11.10(a) and corresponding requirements in 21 CFR 11.30.



# Summary

- Computer software assurance (CSA) is a risk-based approach to establish confidence in the automation used for production or quality systems
- The CSA approach features four steps:
  1. Identify intended use
  2. Determine risk-based approach
  3. Determine appropriate assurance activities
  4. Establish appropriate record
- We invite you to provide comments and ask questions about this draft guidance

# **Providing Comment on Draft Guidances**

# A Note about Draft Guidances

- You may comment on any guidance at any time
  - see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)
- Please submit comments on draft guidance before closure date
  - to ensure that FDA considers your comment on a draft guidance before we work on final guidance

# Submit Comments to Dockets by: November 14, 2022

- **Draft Guidance: Computer Software Assurance for Production and Quality System Software**
  - Docket: [FDA-2022-D-0795](https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FDA-2022-D-0795)  
([www.regulations.gov/docket/FDA-2022-D-0795](https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FDA-2022-D-0795))
  - [Draft Guidance](#)

# Resources

Slide Number	Cited Resource	URL
3	CSA Draft Guidance	<a href="https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/computer-software-assurance-production-and-quality-system-software">www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/computer-software-assurance-production-and-quality-system-software</a>
18	Part 11, Electronic Records; Electronic Signatures – Scope and Application	<a href="https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/part-11-electronic-records-electronic-signatures-scope-and-application">www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/part-11-electronic-records-electronic-signatures-scope-and-application</a>
22	Comment Docket	<a href="https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FDA-2022-D-0795">www.regulations.gov/docket/FDA-2022-D-0795</a>







# Additional Panelists

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# Let's Take Your Questions

- **To Ask a Question:**



1. Raise your hand in Zoom
2. Moderator will announce your name and invite you to ask your question
3. Unmute yourself when prompted in Zoom to ask your question

- **When Asking a Question:**

- Ask one question only
- Keep question short
- No questions about specific submissions

- **After Question is Answered:**

- Mute yourself and lower your hand
- If you have more questions - raise your hand again

# Thanks for Joining Today!

- Presentation and Transcript will be available at CDRH Learn

- [www.fda.gov/Training/CDRHLearn](http://www.fda.gov/Training/CDRHLearn)

- Additional questions about today's webinar

- Email: [DICE@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:DICE@fda.hhs.gov)

- Upcoming Webinars

- [www.fda.gov/CDRHWebinar](http://www.fda.gov/CDRHWebinar)



Start Here/The Basics! - <i>(Updated module 5/13/22)</i> MDUFA Small Business Program, Registration and Listing	▼
How to Study and Market Your Device - <i>(New module 12/23/21)</i> 510k, De Novo, IDE, PMA, HUD/HDE, Q-Submissions, Standards, Classification	▼
Postmarket Activities - <i>(New modules 9/22/21)</i> Quality System, Exporting, Device Recalls, MDR, Inspection - Global Harmonization	▼
Unique Device Identification (UDI) System	▼
Specialty Technical Topics - <i>(Updated module 6/24/22)</i>	▼
Radiation-Emitting Products - <i>(Updated module 7/27/22)</i>	▼
510(k) Third Party Review Program (for Third Party Review Organizations)	▼
Industry Basics Workshop Series	▼

