DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

21 CFR Part 872

[Docket No. 00P–1209]

Medical Devices; Laser Fluorescence Caries Detection Device

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is classifying the laser fluorescence caries detection device into class II (special controls). The special controls that will apply to this device are set forth below. The agency is taking this action in response to a petition submitted under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the act) as amended by the Medical Device Amendments of 1976 (the amendments), the Safe Medical Devices Act of 1990, and the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997. The agency is classifying this device into class II (special controls) in order to provide a reasonable assurance of safety and effectiveness of the device.

DATES: This rule is effective [insert date 30 days after date of publication in the Federal Register].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert S. Betz, Center for Devices and Radiological Health (HFZ–480), Food and Drug Administration, 9200 Corporate Blvd., Rockville, MD 20850, 301–827–5283.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In accordance with section 513(f)(1) of the act (21 U.S.C. 360c(f)(1)), devices that were not in commercial distribution before May 28, 1976, the date of enactment of the amendments,
generally referred to as postamendments devices, are classified automatically by statute into class III without any FDA rulemaking process. These devices remain in class III and require premarket approval, unless and until the device is classified or reclassified into class I or II or FDA issues an order finding the device to be substantially equivalent, in accordance with section 513(i) of the act, to a predicate device that does not require premarket approval. The agency determines whether new devices are substantially equivalent to previously marketed devices by means of premarket notification procedures in section 510(k) of the act (21 U.S.C. 360(k)) and part 807 (21 CFR part 807) of the FDA regulations.

Section 513(f)(2) of the act provides that any person who submits a premarket notification under section 510(k) of the act for a device that has not previously been classified may, within 30 days after receiving an order classifying the device in class III under section 513(f)(1) of the act, request FDA to classify the device under the criteria set forth in section 513(a)(1) of the act. FDA shall classify the device by written order within 60 days of receiving such a request. This classification shall be the initial classification of the device. Within 30 days after the issuance of an order classifying the device, FDA must publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing such classification.

On December 23, 1999, after review of KaVo America Corp.'s appeal, FDA reopened their petition under section 513(f)(2) of the act requesting classification of its DIAGNOdent Laser Fluorescence Caries Detection Device intended for aiding in the diagnosis of dental caries. After review of the information submitted in the petition, its amendments, and the original 510(k) notification (K983658), FDA issued an order on February 22, 2000, classifying the DIAGNOdent Laser Fluorescence Caries Detection Device and substantially equivalent devices of this generic type into class II under the generic name “laser fluorescence caries detection device.” FDA has determined that the laser fluorescence caries detection device can be classified in class II with the establishment of the following special controls:
1. That sale, distribution, and use of this device are restricted to prescription use in accordance with 21 CFR 801.109;

2. That premarket notifications include clinical studies, or other relevant information, that demonstrates that the device aids in the detection of tooth decay by measuring increased laser induced fluorescence; and

3. That the labeling must include detailed use instructions with precautions that urge users to: (a) Read and understand all directions before using the device, (b) store probe tips under proper conditions, (c) properly sterilize the emitter-detector handpiece before each use, and (d) properly maintain and handle the instrument in the specified manner and condition.

FDA believes that these class II special controls, in addition to the general controls, provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness of the device.

II. Environmental Impact

The agency has determined under 21 CFR 25.34(b) that this action is of a type that does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is required.

III. Analysis of Impacts

FDA has examined the impacts of the final rule under Executive Order 12866 and the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601–612) (as amended by subtitle D of the Small Business Regulatory Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–121)), and the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–4). Executive Order 12866 directs agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, when regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety, and other advantages; distributive impacts; and equity). The agency believes that this final rule is consistent with the regulatory philosophy and principles identified in the Executive Order.
Order. In addition, the final rule is not a significant regulatory action as defined by the Executive Order and so it is not subject to review under the Executive Order.

The Regulatory Flexibility Act requires agencies to analyze regulatory options that would minimize any significant impact of a rule on small entities. Classification of these devices into class II will relieve manufacturers of the device of the cost of complying with the premarket approval requirements of section 515 of the act (21 U.S.C. 360e), and may permit small potential competitors to enter the marketplace by lowering their costs. FDA knows of only one manufacturer of this type of device. Therefore, the agency certifies that this final rule will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. In addition, this final rule will not impose costs of $100 million or more on either the private sector or State, local, and tribal governments in the aggregate, and, therefore, a summary statement of analysis under section 202(a) of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act is not required.

IV. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This final rule contains no collections of information. Therefore, clearance by the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 is not required.

List of Subjects in 21 CFR Part 872

Dental devices.

Therefore, under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and under authority delegated to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, 21 CFR part 872 is amended as follows:

PART 872—MEDICAL DEVICES

1. The authority citation for 21 CFR part 872 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 21 U.S.C. 351, 360, 360e, 360e, 360j, 371.

2. Section 872.1745 is added to subpart B to read as follows:
§ 872.1745 Laser fluorescence caries detection device.

(a) Identification. A laser fluorescence caries detection device is a laser, a fluorescence detector housed in a dental handpiece, and a control console that performs device calibration, as well as variable tone emitting and fluorescence measurement functions. The intended use of the device is to aid in the detection of tooth decay by measuring increased laser induced fluorescence.

(b) Classification. Class II, subject to the following special controls:

(1) Sale, distribution, and use of this device are restricted to prescription use in accordance with § 801.109 of this chapter;

(2) Premarket notifications must include clinical studies, or other relevant information, that demonstrates that the device aids in the detection of tooth decay by measuring increased laser induced fluorescence; and

(3) The labeling must include detailed use instructions with precautions that urge users to:

(i) Read and understand all directions before using the device,

(ii) Store probe tips under proper conditions,
(iii) Properly sterilize the emitter-detector handpick before each use, and
(iv) Properly maintain and handle the instrument in the specified manner and condition.

Dated: $3/24/00$
March 29, 2000

Linda S. Kahan
Deputy Director for Regulations Policy
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