DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

21 CFR Part 884

[Docket No. 95N–0084]

Medical Devices; Effective Date of Requirement for Premarket Approval for a Class III Preamendments Obstetrical and Gynecological Device

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is issuing a final rule to require the filing of a premarket approval application (PMA) or a notice of completion of product development protocol (PDP) for a Group 1 preamendments class III device, the obstetric data analyzer intended to analyze data from fetal and maternal monitors during labor and to warn of possible fetal distress. The agency has summarized its findings regarding the degree of risk of illness or injury designed to be eliminated or reduced by requiring the device to meet the statute's approval requirements and the benefits to the public from the use of the devices.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colin M. Pollard, Center for Devices and Radiological Health (HFA–470), Food and Drug Administration, 9200 Corporate Blvd., Rockville, MD 20850, 301–594–1180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In the Federal Register of May 6, 1994 (59 FR 23731), FDA issued a notice of availability of a preamendments class III devices strategy document. The strategy document set forth FDA's
plans for implementing the provisions of section 515(i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the act) (21 U.S.C. 360e(i)) for preamendments class III devices for which FDA had not yet required premarket approval. FDA divided this universe of devices into three groups as referenced in the May 6, 1994, notice.

In the Federal Register of September 7, 1995 (60 FR 46718), FDA published a proposed rule to require the filing under section 515(b) of the act of a PMA or a notice of completion of a PDP for 43 preamendment class III devices, including the obstetric data analyzer. In accordance with section 515(b)(A)(2) of the act, FDA included in the preamble to the proposal the agency’s tentative findings with respect to the degree of risk of illness or injury designed to be eliminated or reduced by requiring the device to meet the premarket approval requirements of the act, and the benefits to the public from use of the device. The September 7, 1995, proposed rule also provided an opportunity for interested persons to submit comments on the proposed rule and the agency’s findings. Under section 515(b)(2)(B) of the act, FDA provided an opportunity for interested persons to request a change in the classification of the device based on new information relevant to its classification. Any petition requesting a change in the classification of the devices was required to be submitted by September 22, 1995. The comment period closed January 5, 1996.

FDA received one citizen petition requesting a change in the classification of the obstetrical data analyzer. FDA reviewed the petition, identified a deficiency in the petition, and issued a deficiency letter on March 7, 1996, to the petitioner. From the petitioner’s response to the deficiency letter, it was apparent that the petitioner had misinterpreted the September 7, 1995, proposed rule because he believed that it was about another device and not the obstetrical data analyzer. In light of this petition, FDA has amended the identification of the device in § 884.2050(a) by changing the first two sentences to read as follows: "An obstetric data analyzer (fetal status data analyzer) is a device used during labor to analyze electronic signal data obtained from fetal and maternal monitors. The obstetric data analyzer provides clinical diagnosis of fetal status and recommendations for labor management and clinical interventions." With this clarifying
change, FDA is proceeding to issue a final rule to require the filing of a PMA or a PDP for the obstetric data analyzer.

II. Findings With Respect to Risks and Benefits

Under section 515(b)(3) of the act, FDA is adopting the findings as published in the proposed rule of September 7, 1995. As required by section by section 515(b) of the act, FDA published its findings regarding: (1) The degree of risk of illness or injury designed to be eliminated or reduced by requiring that these devices have an approved PMA or a declared completed PDP; and (2) the benefits to the public from the use of the device.

These findings are based on the reports and recommendations of the Obstetrical and Gynecological Devices Panel, an FDA advisory committee for the classification of the devices, along with any additional information FDA discovered. Additional information can be found in the proposed and final rules classifying the devices in the Federal Register of April 3, 1979 (44 FR 19894) and February 26, 1980 (45 FR 12682), respectively.

III. The Final Rule

Under section 515(b)(3) of the act, FDA is adopting the findings as published in the preamble to the proposed rule and issuing this final rule to require premarket approval of the generic type of device, the obstetric data analyzer, by revising 21 CFR part 884.

Under the final rule, a PMA or a notice of completion of a PDP is required to be filed on or before (insert date 90 days after date of publication in the Federal Register) for any obstetric data analyzer that was in commercial distribution before May 28, 1976, or that has been found by FDA to be substantially equivalent to such a device on or before (insert date 90 days after date of publication in the Federal Register). An approved PMA or a declared completed PDP is required to be in effect for any such devices on or before 180 days after FDA files the application. Any other obstetric data analyzer that was not in commercial distribution before May 28, 1976,
is required to have an approved PMA or a declared completed PDP in effect before it may be marketed.

If a PMA or a notice of completion of a PDP for an obstetric data analyzer is not filed on or before the 90th day past the effective date of this regulation, that device will be deemed adulterated under section 501(f)(1)(A) of the act (21 U.S.C. 351(f)(1)(A)), and commercial distribution of the device will be required to cease immediately. The device may, however, be distributed for investigational use, if the requirements of the investigational device exemption (IDE) regulations (21 CFR part 812) are met.

Under § 812.2(d) of the IDE regulations, FDA hereby stipulates that the exemptions from the IDE requirements in § 812.2(c)(1) and (c)(2) will no longer apply to clinical investigations of the obstetric data analyzer. Further, FDA concludes that investigational obstetric data analyzers are significant risk devices as defined in § 812.3(m) and advises that, as of the effective date of § 878.3530(c), the requirements of the IDE regulations regarding significant risk devices will apply to any clinical investigation of an obstetric data analyzer. For any obstetric data analyzer that is not subject to a timely filed PMA or PDP, an IDE must be in effect under § 812.20 on or before 90 days after the effective date of this regulation or distribution of the device must cease. FDA advises all persons presently sponsoring a clinical investigation involving the obstetric data analyzer to submit an IDE application to FDA no later than 60 days after the effective date of this final rule to avoid the interruption of ongoing investigations.

IV. Environmental Impact

The agency has determined under 21 CFR 25.30(h) 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.
V. Analysis of Impacts

FDA has examined the impacts of the final rule under Executive Order 12866 and the Regulatory Flexibility Act (Public Law 96–354), 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. In addition, the final rule is not a significant regulatory action as defined by the Executive Order and so is not subject to review under the Executive Order.

If a rule has a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities, the Regulatory Flexibility Act requires agencies to analyze regulatory options that would minimize any significant impact of a rule on small entities. Because FDA believes that there is little or no interest in marketing these devices, the agency certifies that the final rule, if issued, will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. Therefore, under the Regulatory Flexibility Act, no further analysis is required.

Section 202(a) of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–4) requires that agencies prepare a written statement of anticipated costs and benefits before proposing any rule that may result in an expenditure by State, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of $100 million in any one year (adjusted annually for inflation). The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act does not require FDA to prepare a statement of costs and benefits for the final rule, because the proposed rule is not expected to result in any 1-year expenditure that would exceed $100 million adjusted for inflation.
VI. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

FDA concludes that this final rule contains no new collections of information. The premarket approval program information collection is approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB Control No. 0910–0231. Therefore, clearance by under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 is not required.

VII. Federalism

FDA has analyzed this final rule in accordance with the principles set forth in Executive Order 13132. FDA has determined that the rule does not contain policies that have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the National Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Accordingly, the agency has concluded that the rule does not contain policies that have federalism implications as defined in the order and, consequently, a federalism summary impact statement is not required.

List of Subjects in 21 CFR Part 884

Medical devices.

Therefore, under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and under authority delegated to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, 21 CFR part 884 is amended as follows:

PART: 884—OBSTETRICAL AND GYNECOLOGICAL DEVICES

1. The authority citation for 21 CFR part 884 continues to read as follows:


2. Section 884.2050 is revised to read as follows:

§ 884.2050 Obstetric data analyzer.

(a) Identification. An obstetric data analyzer (fetal status data analyzer) is a device used during labor to analyze electronic signal data obtained from fetal and maternal monitors. The obstetric
data analyzer provides clinical diagnosis of fetal status and recommendations for labor management and clinical interventions. This generic type of device may include signal analysis and display equipment, electronic interfaces for other equipment, and power supplies and component parts.

(b) Classification: Class III (premarket approval).

(c) Date PMA or notice of completion of PDP is required. A PMA or a notice of completion of a PDP is required to be filed with the Food and Drug Administration on or before (insert date 90 days after date of publication of the final rule) for any obstetric data analyzer described in paragraph (a) of this section that was in commercial distribution before May 28, 1976, or that has been found, on or before (insert date 90 days after date of publication of the final rule), to be substantially equivalent to an obstetric data analyzer described in paragraph (a) of this section.
that was in commercial distribution before May 28, 1976. Any other obstetric data analyzer
described in paragraph (a) of this section shall have an approved PMA or declared completed
PDP in effect before being placed in commercial distribution.

Dated: 6/22/00
June 22, 2000

Linda S. Kahan
Deputy Director for
Regulations Policy
Center for Devices and
Radiological Health

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