



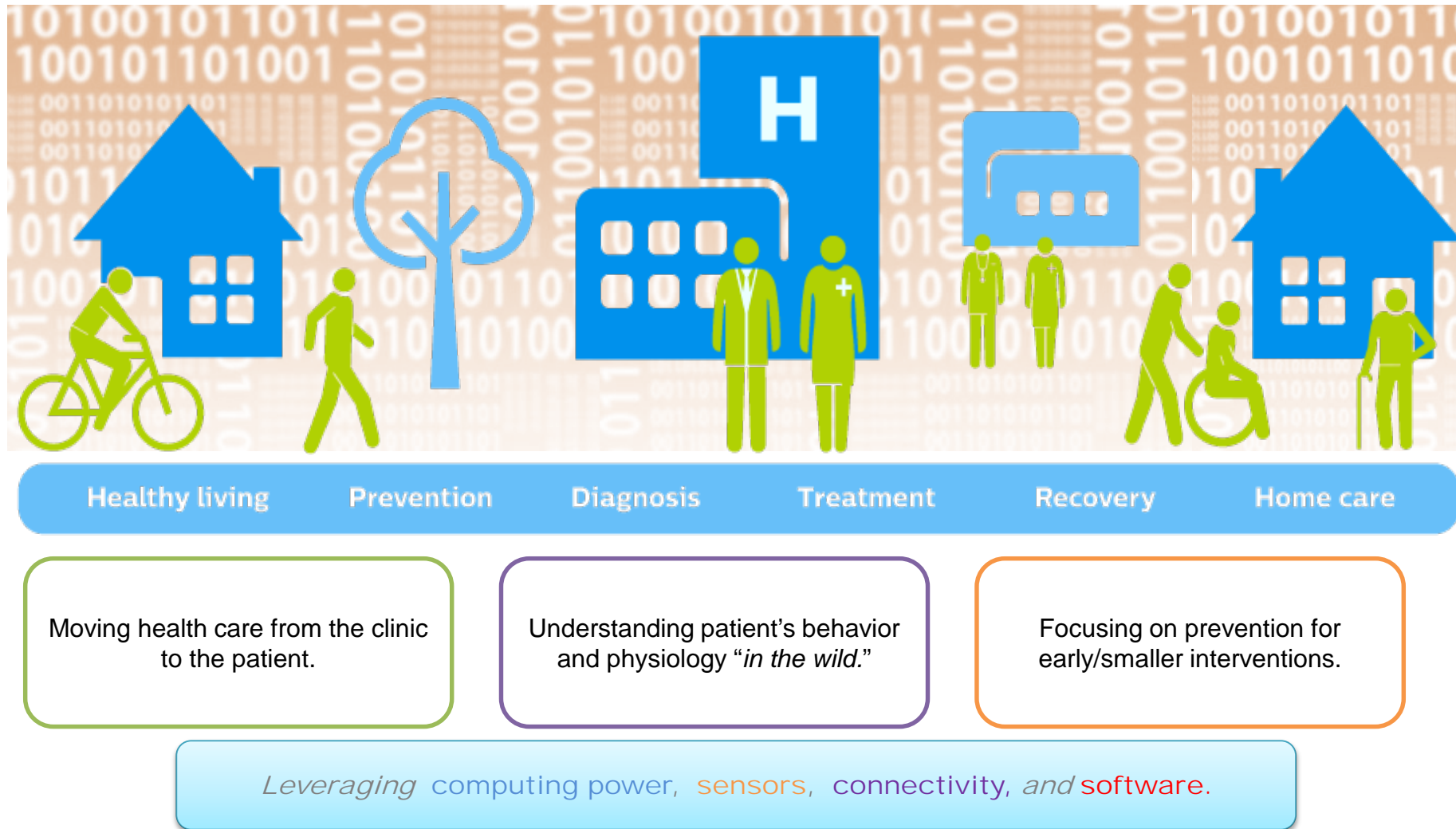
**FDA** **U.S. FOOD & DRUG**  
**ADMINISTRATION**  
CENTER FOR DEVICES & RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH  
DIGITAL HEALTH PROGRAM

# EMERGING DIGITAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES

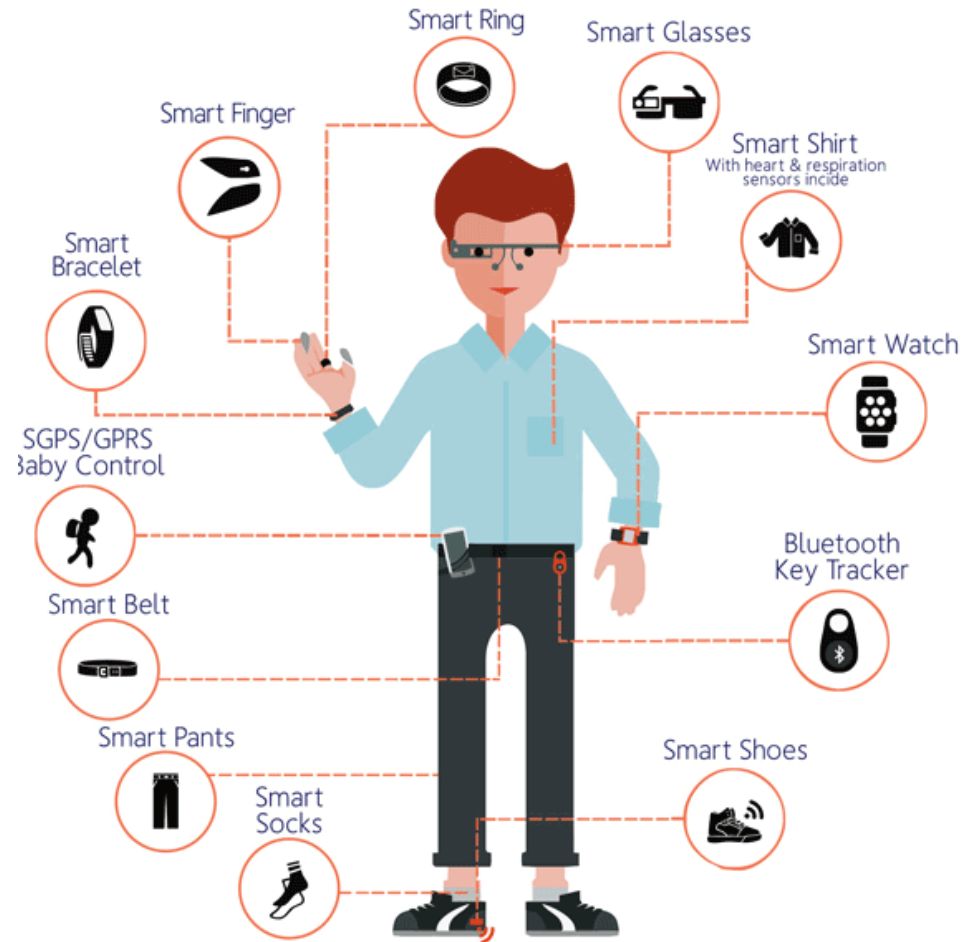
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[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)

# Increasing digitization across the healthcare continuum



# Wide range of products under the broad label of digital health technologies



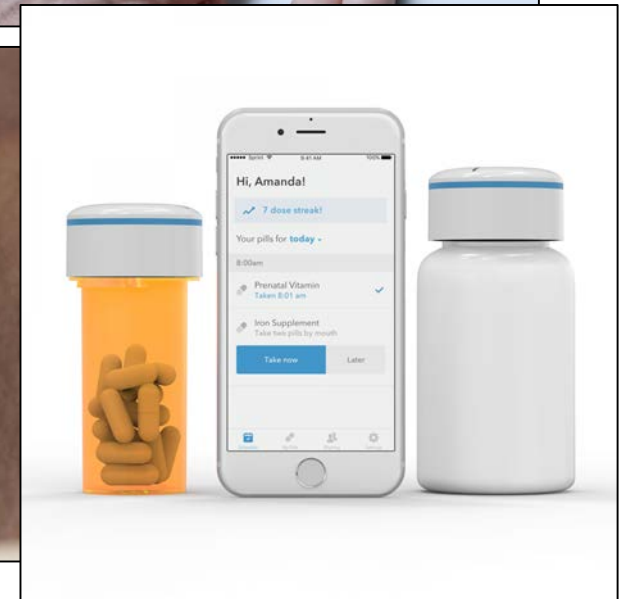


# FDA regulation of digital health products



- Tailored, risk-informed regulatory oversight
- FDA oversight limited to digital health products that meet the definition of a medical device
  - Recent legislation excluded medical device data systems and general wellness apps from definition of a medical device
- Focus on digital health products that may pose a risk to patient safety if the product does not function as intended
  - Enforcement discretion for lower-risk mobile medical applications and decision support tools

# Sensor-based digital health medical devices



# Considerations for Sensor Design

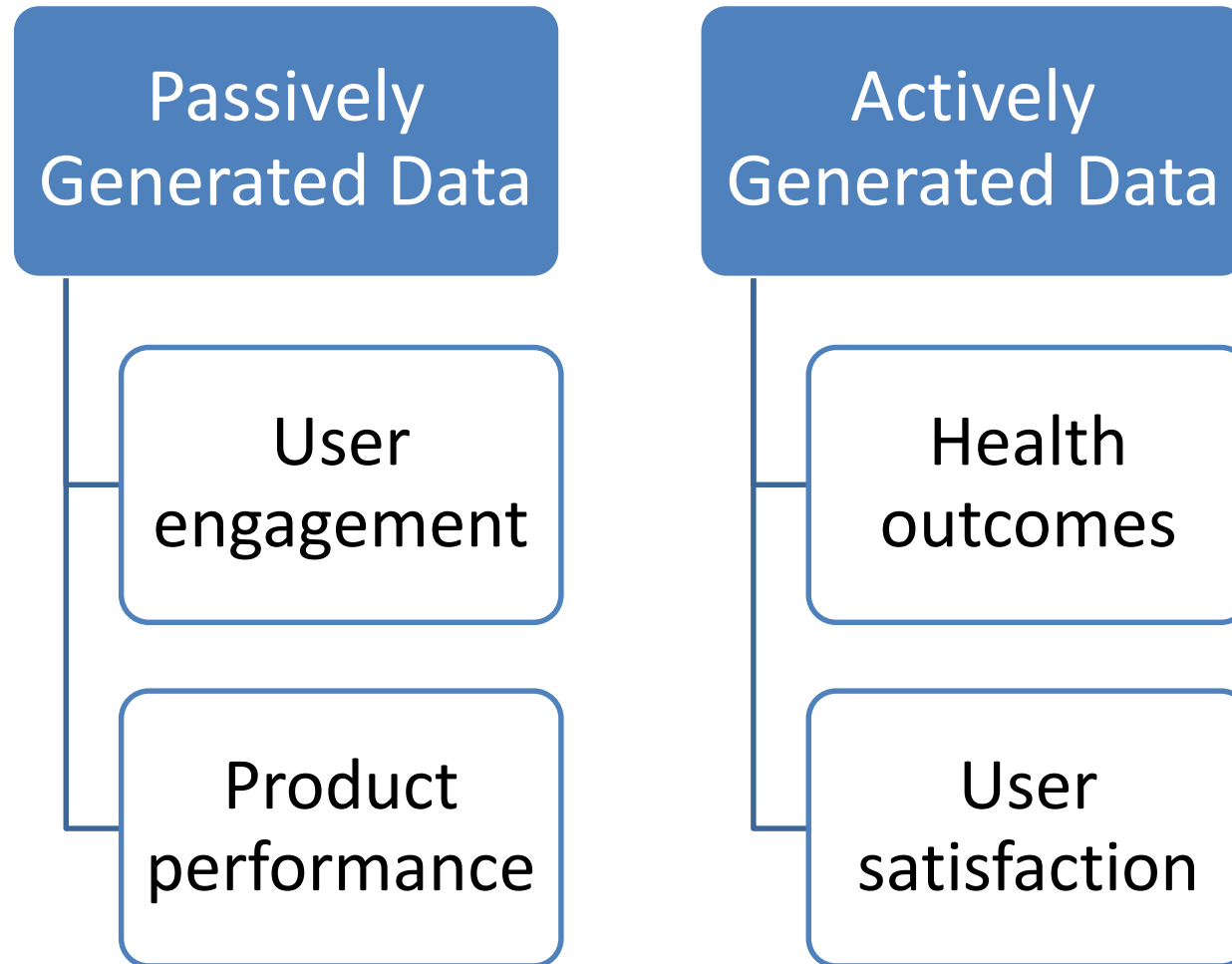
Location of use  
and intended  
duration of use

Device storage  
capacity and  
connectivity

Frequency of  
updates – OS,  
sensor, algorithm

Feedback to the  
device user

# Types of data generated by sensor-based digital health products



# Sensor Data Considerations

## Analytic Validity

- Are the data reproducible?
- Are the data accurate?
- Are the data precise?

## Clinical Validity

- Is the sensor capturing a clinically meaningful outcome?
- Does the sensor output have a reliable relationship to a “gold standard” measurement?



# The digital health paradigm shift

## Current Regulatory Paradigm

Lengthy premarket development of a final product

Passive postmarket surveillance (522, PAS, MDRs, MedSun)

Stable program volume: ~3,500 510(k) submissions / 2200 pre-submissions

## Digital Health Paradigm Shift

Rapid premarket development, frequent iterations

Software capable of actively tracking and analyzing data from all users

Potential for exponential increase in volume of submissions



# Goals of harnessing digital health sensor data

**Develop benchmarks and standards** for emerging technologies

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**Generate clinical evidence** to support public health interventions through the development of patient-driven registries

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**Provide insight** into real-world digital health product performance

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**Foster continuous improvement** of digital health medical devices by incentivizing manufacturers to collect a range of real-world data types

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# Challenges to harnessing digital health sensor data



## Privacy

Do patients get to control how and when their data are used?



## Security

Is there a process to ensure that patient privacy is protected? Can data be accessed or manipulated by third parties without consent?



## Interoperability

Can data from one device be understood by another, so that data from multiple sources can be pooled?



## Data Integrity

Are the data generated by sensors reliable? Accurate? Is any data missing?



## Generalizability

Does the data reflect the full population of patients with a disease state? Is it skewed by socioeconomic status or other factors?



## Governance

Who owns the data generated from digital health sensors? Who determines the best practices for gathering, analyzing, and sharing data?



# The Path Forward

- Collaborative development of governance standards with input from patients, governments, academia, and industry
- Regulatory pilot programs to incentivize adoption of best practices by digital health product manufacturers



<https://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/DigitalHealth/DigitalHealthPreCertProgram/default.htm>

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