

# Device Classification

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**General and Plastic Surgery Devices  
Panel Meeting**

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# What Is the Purpose of This Panel Meeting?

For ten pre-amendments, unclassified device types, you will be asked to provide input to FDA on the classification for each one: Class III, Class II, or Class I.



## What Are the Device Classes?

- Classified based on controls necessary:
  - Class I (general controls)
  - Class II (special controls)
  - Class III (premarket approval)

**A device should be placed in the lowest class whose level of control provides reasonable assurance of safety and effectiveness.**

# Class I Devices

- Devices for which general controls are sufficient to provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness
- General controls include:
  - Registration and listing
  - Good manufacturing practices
  - Records and reports
  - Prohibitions against misbranding and adulteration
- Class I devices typically do not require FDA premarket review prior to being marketed



# Class I Devices

- Devices which cannot be classified into Class III:
  - Because they are not life-sustaining, life-supporting, of substantial importance in preventing impairment of human health, and
  - Because they do not present a potential unreasonable risk of illness or injury
- Devices which cannot be classified into Class II:
  - Because insufficient information exists to establish special controls to provide a reasonable assurance of safety and effectiveness

# Class II Devices

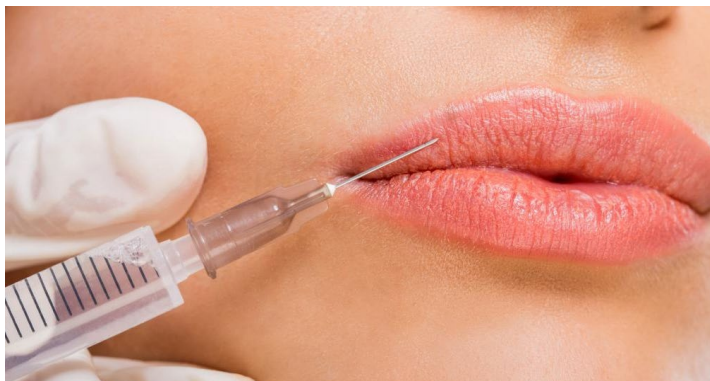
- Cannot be classified into Class I:
  - because general controls are insufficient to provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness, and
  - for which there is sufficient information to establish special controls to provide such assurance
- Special controls can include:
  - Performance testing
  - Sterilization validation
  - Device-specific labeling requirements
- These special controls, in combination with the general controls, provide reasonable assurance of safety and effectiveness



# Class II Devices

- Class II devices typically require premarket notification to FDA (i.e., a 510(k)) prior to being marketed
- Companies must provide evidence in their 510(k) submissions of how the special controls were addressed

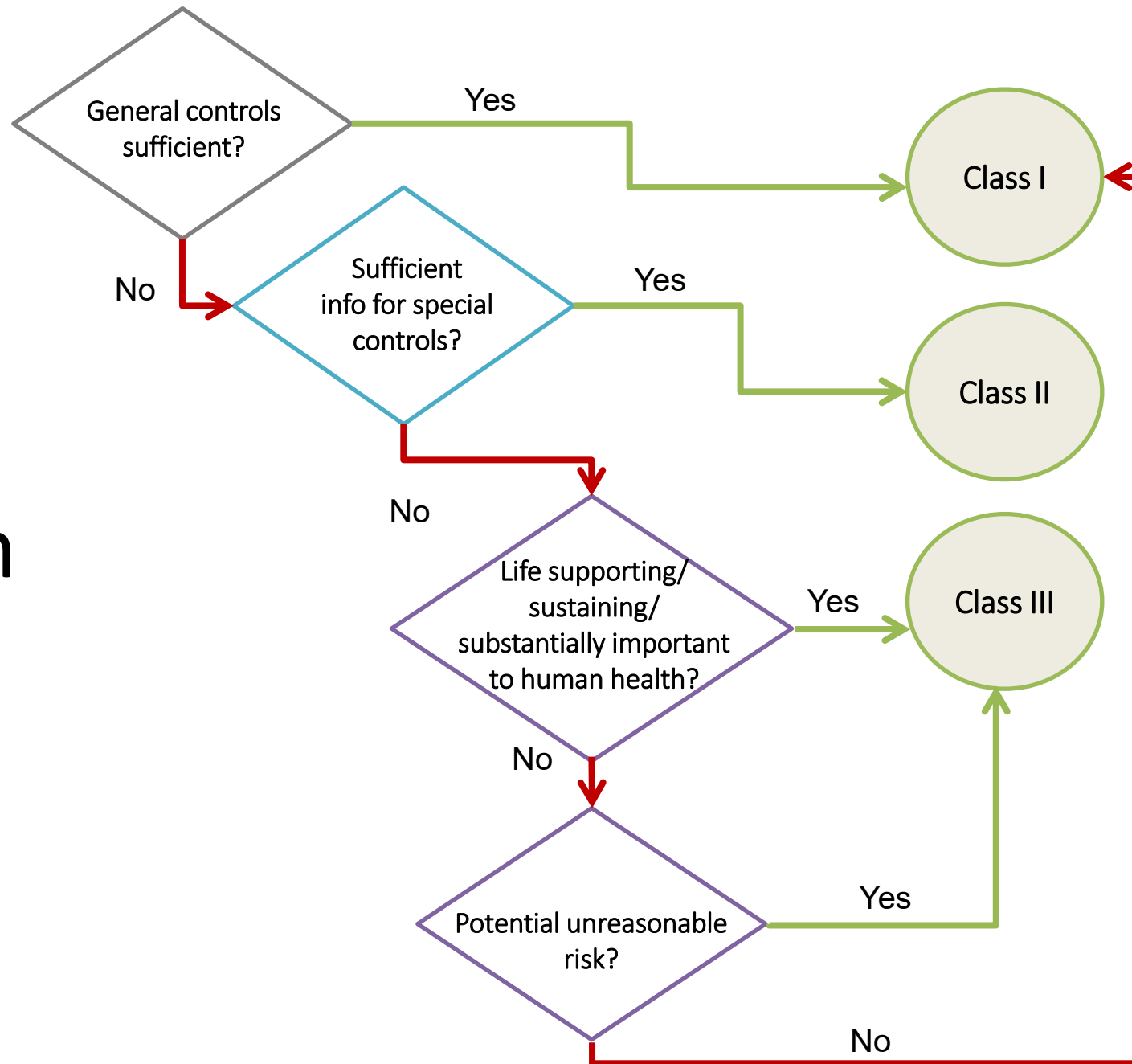
# Class III Devices



- Cannot be classified into Class II because:
  - insufficient information exists to determine that general and special controls are sufficient to provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness, and
  - The devices:
    - are life-sustaining or life-supporting, or
    - are of substantial importance in preventing impairment of human health; or
    - present a potential unreasonable risk of illness or injury
- Class III devices typically require premarket approval (PMA) prior to being marketed



# Device Classification Flowchart



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For ten preamendments, unclassified device types, you will be asked to provide input to FDA on the classification for each one: Class III, Class II, or Class I.

# What Is a Preamendments Device?

A type of a device that was introduced into interstate commerce prior to May 28, 1976 (the enactment date of the Medical Device Amendments).

# What Is an Unclassified Device?

A preamendments device that was not classified by the original classification panels; therefore, no classification regulation currently exists for this device type.



## What Is the Classification Process for Preamendments, Unclassified Devices?

- Preamendments devices are classified after FDA has:
  - Received a recommendation from a device classification panel
  - Published the Panel’s recommendation for comment, along with a proposed rule which proposes classification of the device; and
  - Published a final rule classifying the device

# What We Need from the Panel

## Input on classification of the device types

- Class III, Class II, or Class I

## Input should include:

- Identification of the risks to health presented by each device type
- Whether the device is life-supporting/life-sustaining, of substantial importance in preventing impairment of human health, or presents a potential unreasonable risk of illness or injury
- Whether general controls alone are sufficient
- Whether sufficient information exists to develop special controls
- Identification of special controls

# What Will Happen After This Panel Meeting?



Evidence	Proposed Rule	Final Rule
<p>FDA will consider the available evidence, including the input of this panel and the public comments</p>	<p>FDA will issue a proposed rule, proposing classification of the device and seeking public comment on the proposal</p>	<p>FDA will issue a final rule identifying the appropriate class</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If Class I or Class II, devices may continue to be marketed</li><li>• If Class III, FDA will issue a separate call for PMAs<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Existing devices may remain on the market until submission of a PMA by specified date to continue marketing</li><li>○ If PMA is not approved, devices would be considered misbranded and must be removed from distribution</li></ul></li></ul>



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