

# MDR by the Numbers

**Michelle Lott, RAC**

Principal & Founder, leanRAQA

# MEDICAL DEVICE QUALITY IS ALL WE DO, AND WE'RE ALWAYS AHEAD OF THE GAME.

100+

years industry  
experience

522k

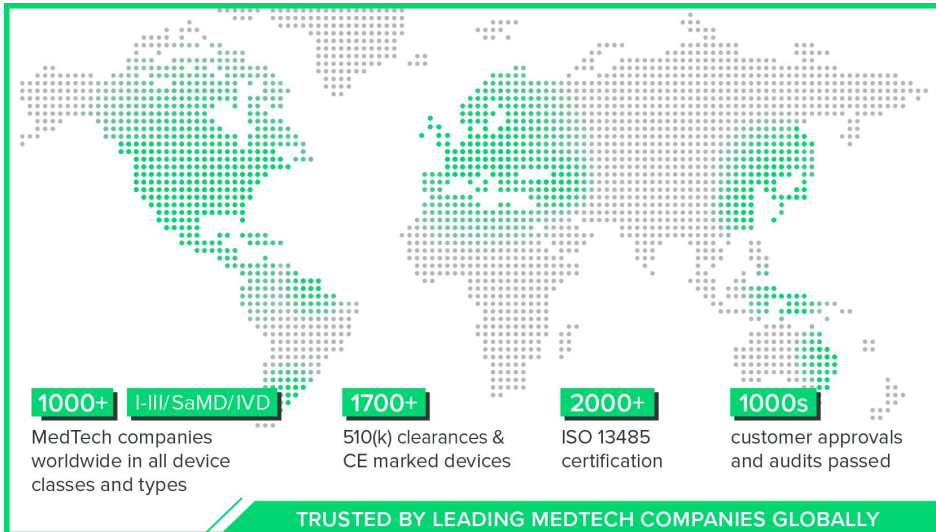
podcast listeners

200k+

look to us for the  
latest in quality

#1

blog and podcast  
in the industry



“Best eQMS I have ever  
used...”

This is the easiest eQMS I have used in  
the 20 years I have been in the Medical  
Device Industry. **It is simple, intuitive  
and easy to use...** We are successfully  
implementing a Quality Culture.

- Director of Regulatory Affairs  
& Quality Assurance

“Modern QMS Software and Outstanding Customer Service.”

★★★★★

“Demystifying QMS and Regulatory Requirements”

★★★★★

“Makes your QMS Simple and Effective”

★★★★★

# About leanRAQA



Expert in RAQA for >20 years  
Advisor on FDA GMP Advisory  
Committee  
Master Grief Counselor

**Michelle Lott**  
Principal and Founder



**Morty**  
Chief Entertainment Officer



**Chopper**  
Chief Fun Officer



**Lucy**  
Chief Therapy Officer



**Lilly King**  
Chief Chewing Officer

# Agenda

*Where We Stand*

*Theory of Constraints*

*What Happened to Harmonization?*

*Second Verse, Same as the First*

*MDCG Guidance*

*TeamNB Position Papers*

*Final Thoughts on MDR*

# To prepare this presentation\*

## ► People interviewed **n = 20 NBs**

- From industry: **15**
- From Notified Bodies: **5**

## ► Hours interviewing people and collecting experiences: **80+**

**n = 47 responses**

Notified Bodies Survey on certifications and applications (MDR/IVDR)

MDCG & Stakeholders

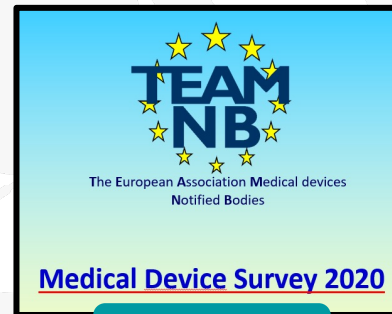
24 Oct 2022

[Notified Body Survey on Certificates and Applications, October 2022](#)

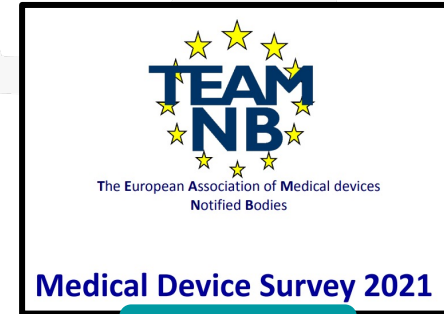
[MedTech Europe Survey Report, July 2022](#)

MedTech Europe Survey Report analysing the availability of Medical Devices in 2022 in connection to the Medical Device Regulation (MDR) implementation

**n = 475 responses**



**n = 26 NBs**



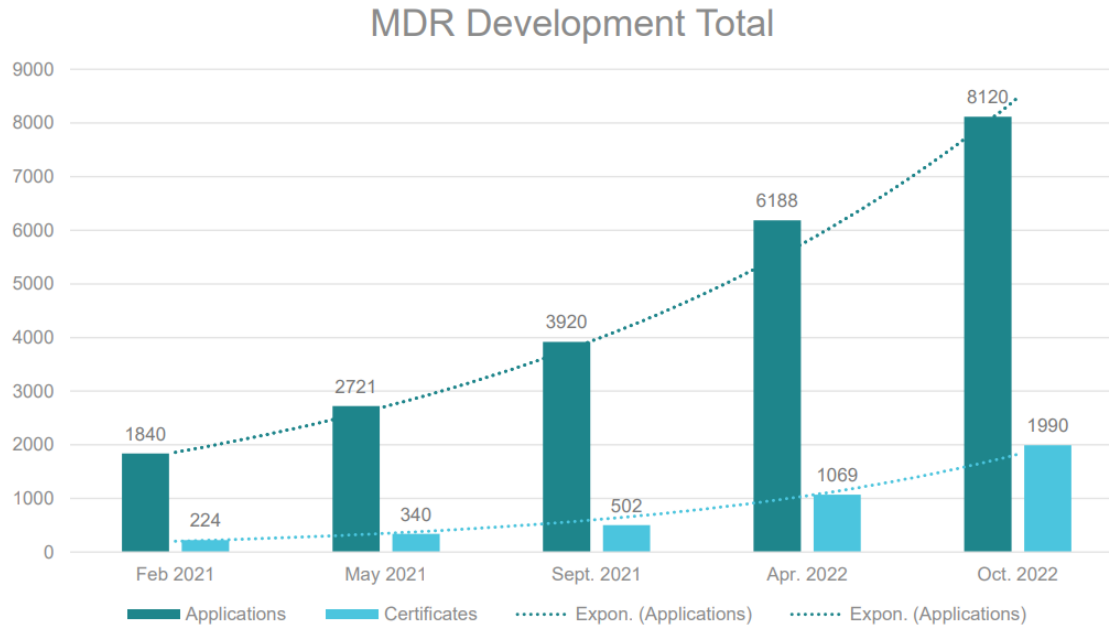
**n = 30 NBs**

[TeamNB surveys 2020 and 2021](#)

**Where We Stand**

# A Growing Problem

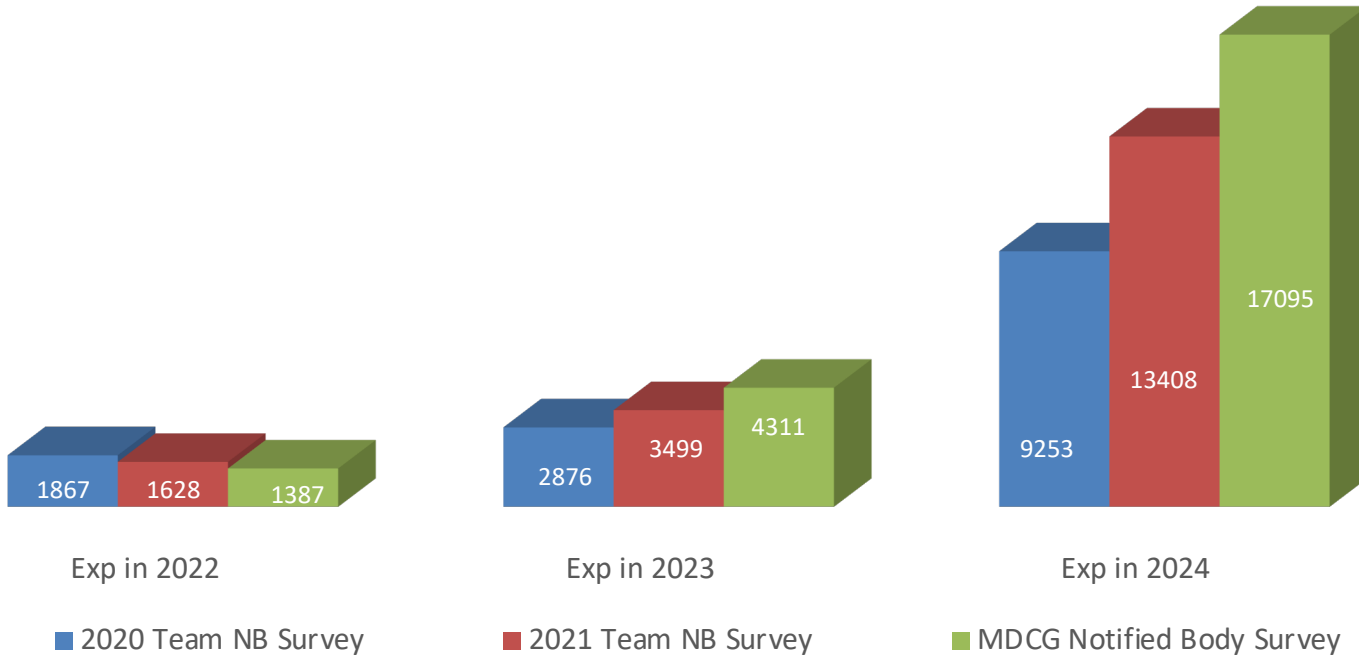
## MDR Applications filed and Certificates issued



[Notified Body Survey on Certificates and Applications, October 2022](#)

# A Tale of Three Surveys

Expiring MDD and AIMDD certificates (by year)



[TeamNB surveys 2020 and 2021](#)

[MDCG Notified Body Survey, October 2022](#)



# MDR by the Numbers

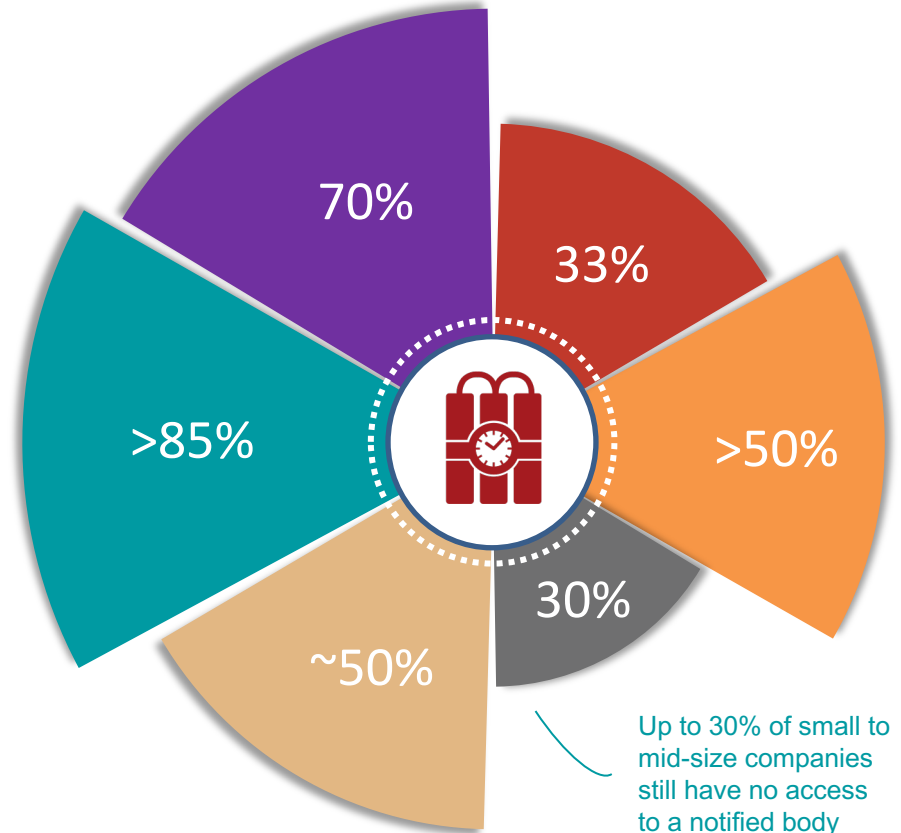
>85% of MDR certificates pending for the >500,000 devices previously certified under MDD or AIMDD

70% of submitted industry applications are still under review

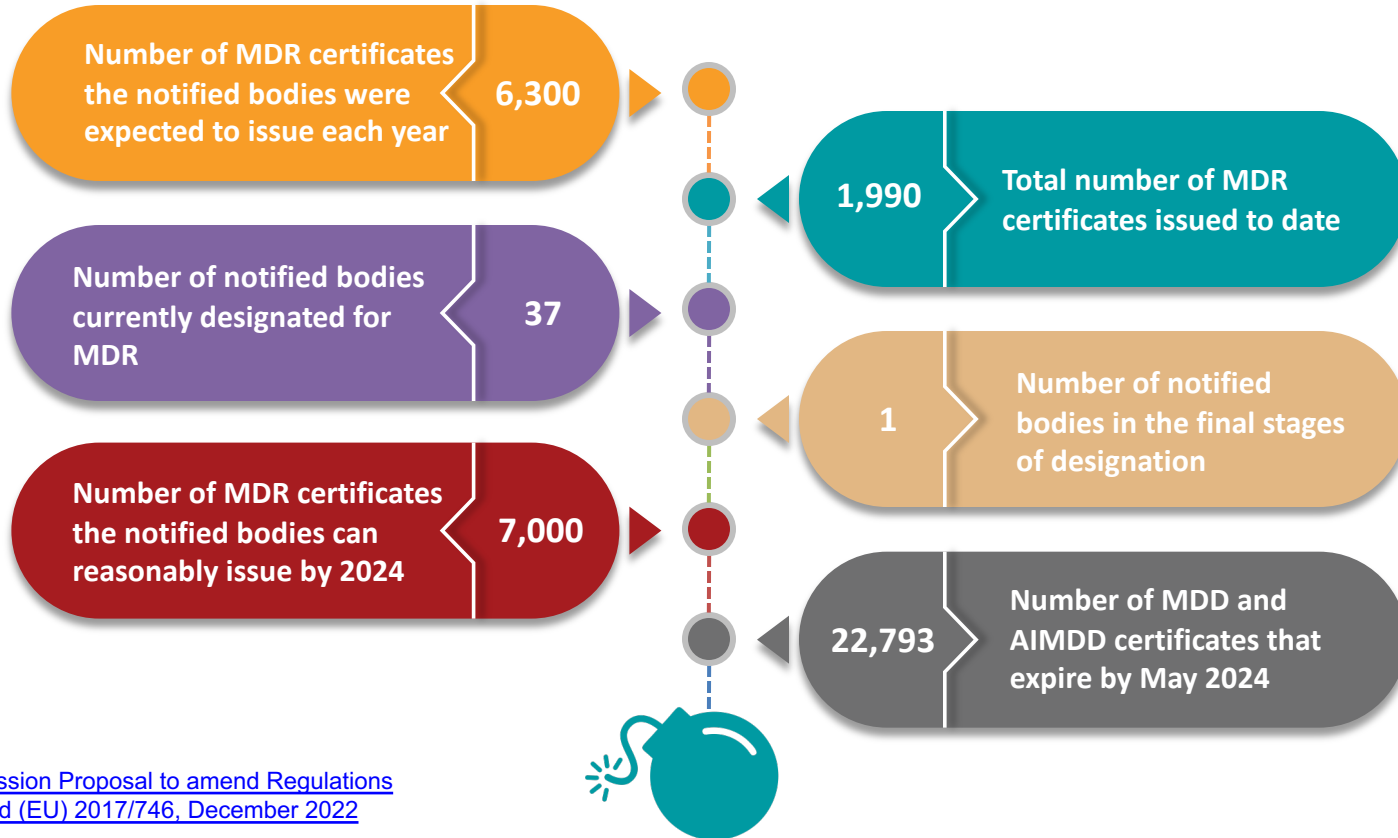
>50% of companies surveyed are planning portfolio reductions

33% of the devices sold by some companies surveyed will be discontinued

~50% of companies are deprioritizing the EU as their market entry point



# MDR by the Numbers



# Theory of Constraints

# Three Stake Holders



**Industry**



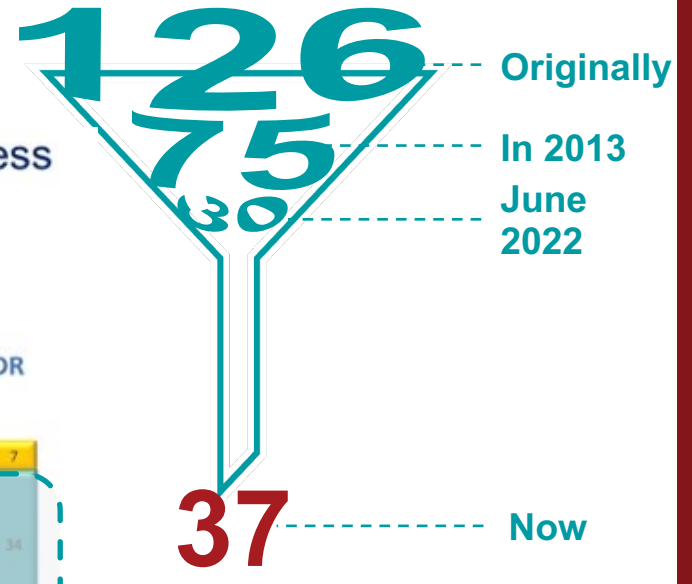
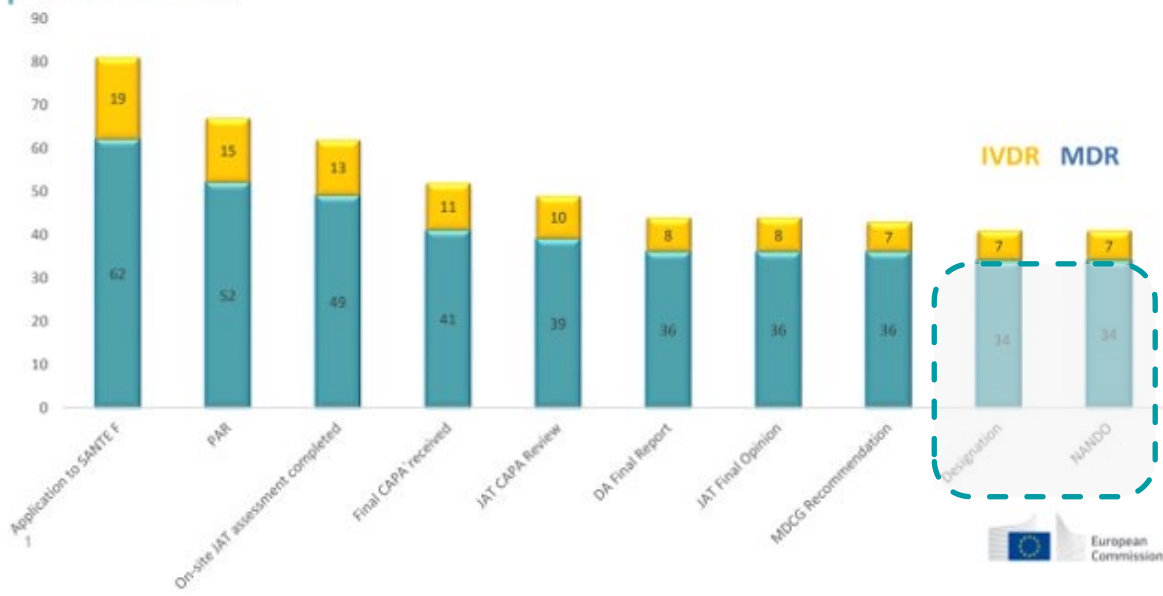
**Competent Authorities**



**Notified Bodies**

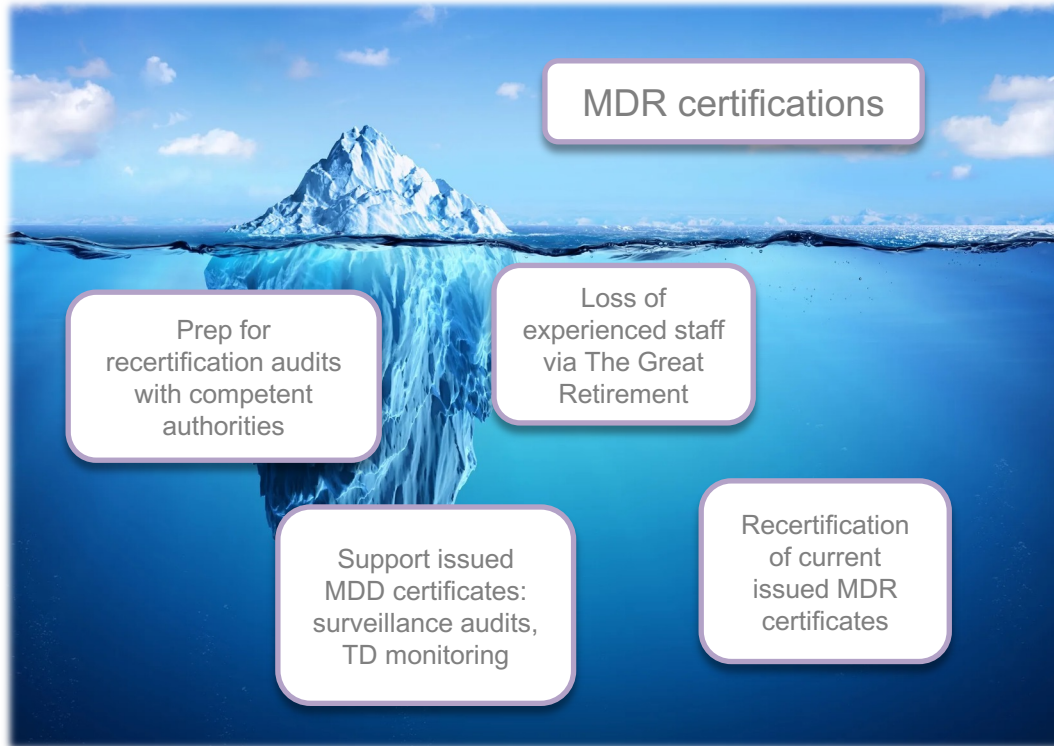
# Reduction of NBs designated under MDD to MDR

Overview of NBs at each stage of the designation process  
(25 October 2022)



Source: [European Commission update, October 2022](#)

# Notified bodies are trying not to drown...



# Main Challenges for Manufacturers



Clinical Evaluation, Testing and Verification Requirements



Requirements for Legacy Devices



Establishing a Quantitative Benefit-Risk Ratio

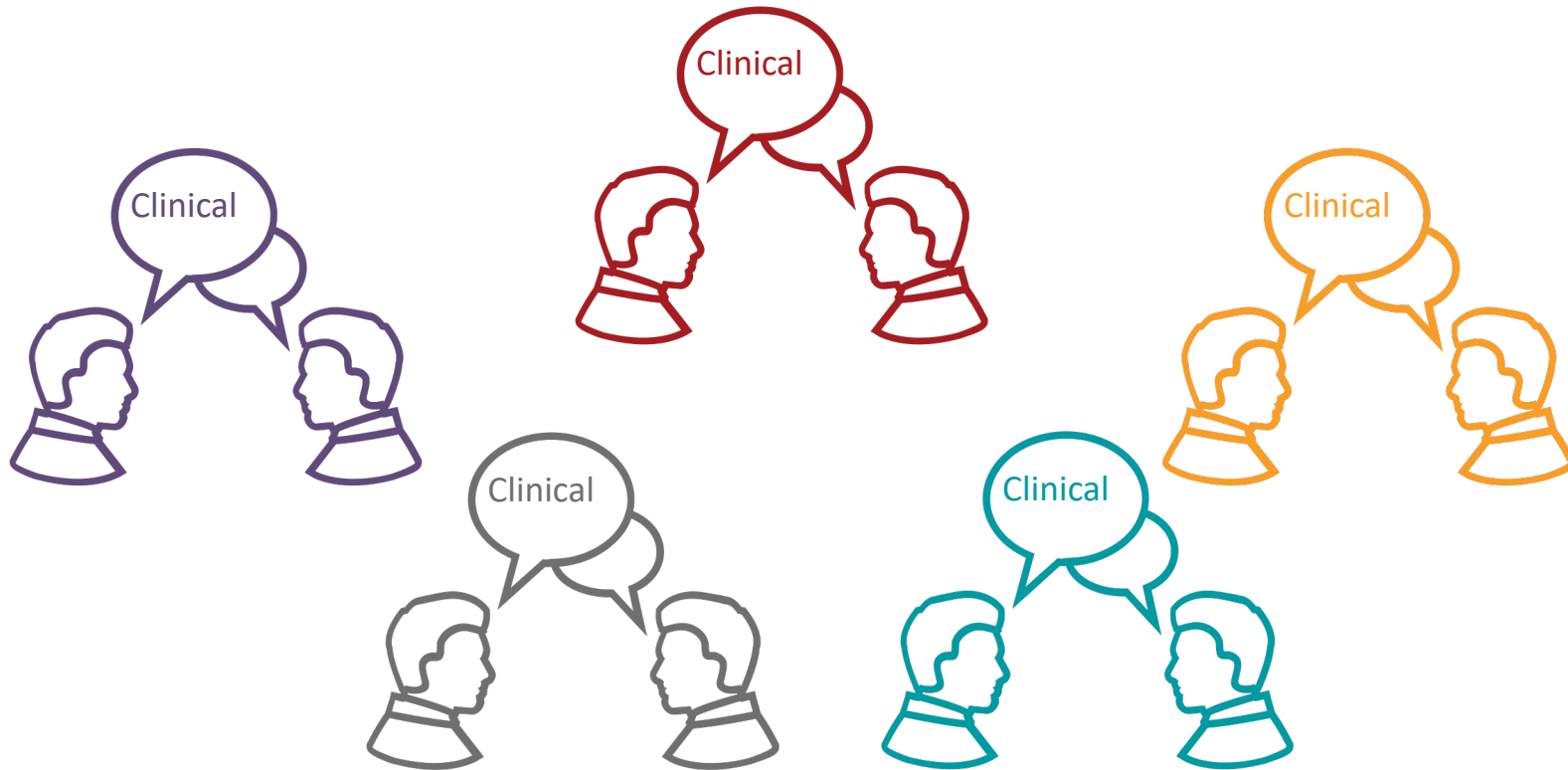


EUDAMED



Volume of Guidance Documents/Duplication of Effort

# The Number One Problem





# Why it's so challenging?



## Causing:

*New Biases in Review*

*Out of Practice Clinicians Reviewing Newest Technology*

*Clinicians Stuck Behind Desk Instead of Treating Patients*

# The Reviews Are In



## NOW PLAYING: MDR!

“It’s chaos everywhere” *Captain Obvious*

“The ones that will do okay will be those with deep pockets” *some guy on LI*

“It’s a seller’s market” *said someone somewhere*

“The review will take you longer than it took to assemble the TD”  
*said every notified body interviewed*

# The Reviews Are In

## NOW PLAYING: MDR!

“The EU is headed for a problem that most people don’t know they have” *a concerned citizen*

“This is going to be a six-figure problem”  
*someone who knows what he’s talking about*

“The MDR has this hare-brained, stupid rule in it” *every regulatory consultant ever*

“Seek not to be understood but to understand” *St. Francis*

# Still a Major Cluster







**What Happened to Harmonization?**

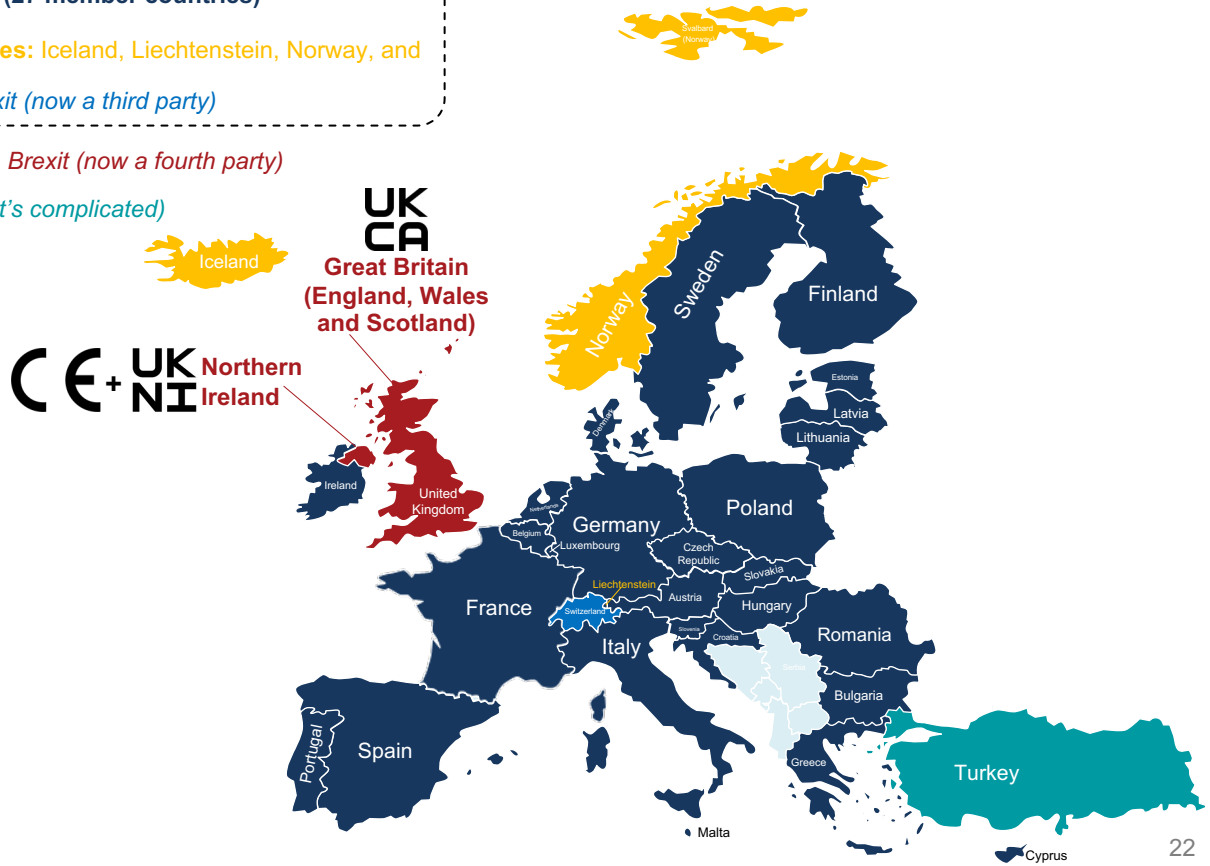
# EU diversity: A complicated picture

CE

EEA

-  **EU Member States (27 member countries)**
-  **EFTA Member States: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and**
-  **Switzerland → Swixit (now a third party)**

-  **United Kingdom → Brexit (now a fourth party)**
-  **Turkey → Turkxit? (it's complicated)**



# UKCA update

## Extended deadlines:

- ▶ If continuing to place CE marked products on the GB market **until the 31 December 2024**:
  - UK product regulations are amended, you will have the **flexibility to choose between the UKCA and CE markings**
  - EU regulations are amended, you will need to follow the EU regulation **as it applied on 31 December 2020** to supply those goods to the GB market using the CE marking or meet the UK regulation and place a UKCA mark on the product
  - GB will also allow conformity assessment activities for CE marking undertaken by 31 December 2024 to be used by manufacturers as **the basis for the UKCA marking, until 31 December 2027**.



# UKCA update

- ▶ July 2024 is for the start of UKCA as mandatory for UK.
  - In a non-official response made by the UK government, they said that they will try to have a transition period of 3-5 years for products that are already registered in the UK under CE marking or UKCA.
  - Any **significant changes of your product after July 2024** will require UKCA immediately
    - Need an Approved Body to get this marking and there are only 4 approved bodies
- ▶ To reduce labelling costs, GB will allow businesses to **affix the UKCA marking** and include importer information for products from EEA countries on an accompanying document or label **until 31 December 2027**.





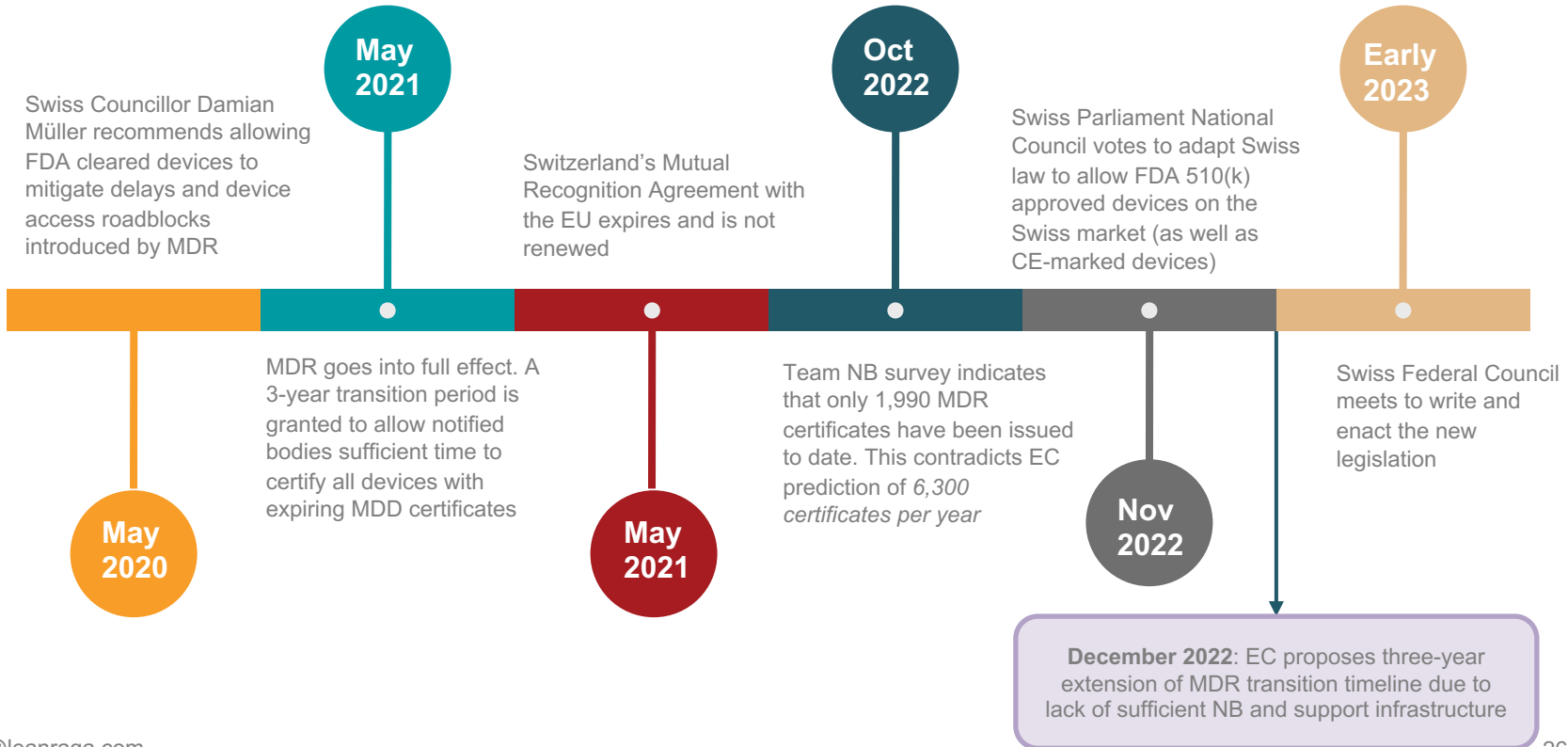
# The Switzerland Story

*“(The) Parliament’s instructions to the Federal Council...enable Switzerland to accept medical devices with FDA approval for the welfare of its own population. Until now, healthcare providers and patients in Switzerland have only had access to medical devices with an EU certificate. It is essential that the order be implemented swiftly and pragmatically. Waiting cannot be an option if patient safety is at risk”*

[Swiss-MedTech, November 28, 2022](#)



# The Switzerland Story



# What Union?

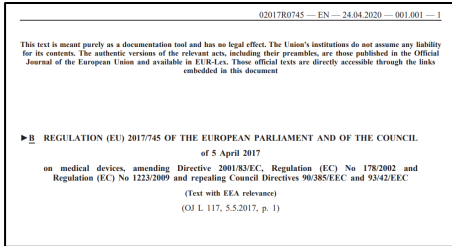
- ▶ **France, Germany and Ireland proposed postponing the MDR deadline beyond May 2024**
  - Manufacturers, trade groups and regulators have raised concerns about the capacity of the notified bodies to handle the workload



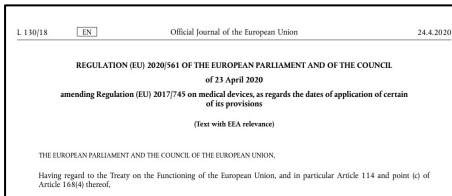
- ▶ This is NOT the harmonized regulatory landscape the EC envisioned, especially among EU member states

**Second Verse, Same as the First**

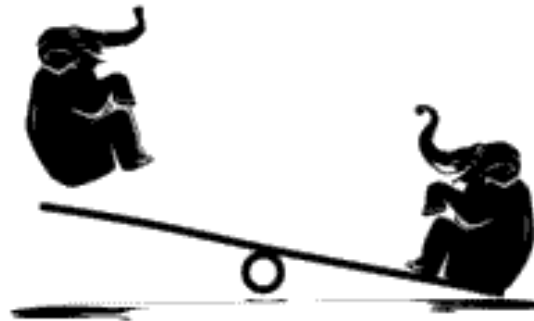
# The See-Saw of Indecision



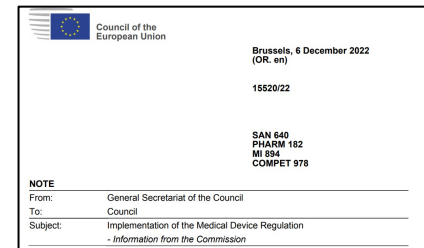
*“The necessary common specifications shall be adopted by 26 May 2021.” (April 2017)*



*“...it is appropriate to defer the application of those provisions of Regulation (EU) 2017/745 by one year” (April 2020)*



*“From 27 May 2024, the MDR will be fully applicable to all medical devices...From that date, medical devices not certified under the MDR will have no access to the EU market.” (June 2022)*



*“Hold that thought....” (December 2022)*

# MDR is coming... or is it?

*“Despite considerable progress over the past years, the overall capacity of conformity assessment (‘notified’) bodies remains insufficient to carry out the tasks required of them. In addition, many manufacturers are not sufficiently prepared to meet the strengthened requirements of the MDR by the end of the transition period. This is threatening the availability of medical devices on the EU market”*

*“After the expiry of the certificates issued under the Directives and without a valid MDR certificate, manufacturers are no longer allowed to place these medical devices on the EU market. This may cause shortages of medical devices, putting patient safety at risk. It is also likely to have a significant negative impact on innovation and business activity in the medical technology sector within the EU”*

# Who, What, When and How Long?

- ▶ It applies to those manufacturers who have a signed written agreement by [September 26, 2024](#)
- ▶ It also applies to those manufacturers whose [application has been impacted by a lack of notified body resources](#)



The extension ONLY applies to **legacy devices with valid MDD certificates meeting specified criteria**

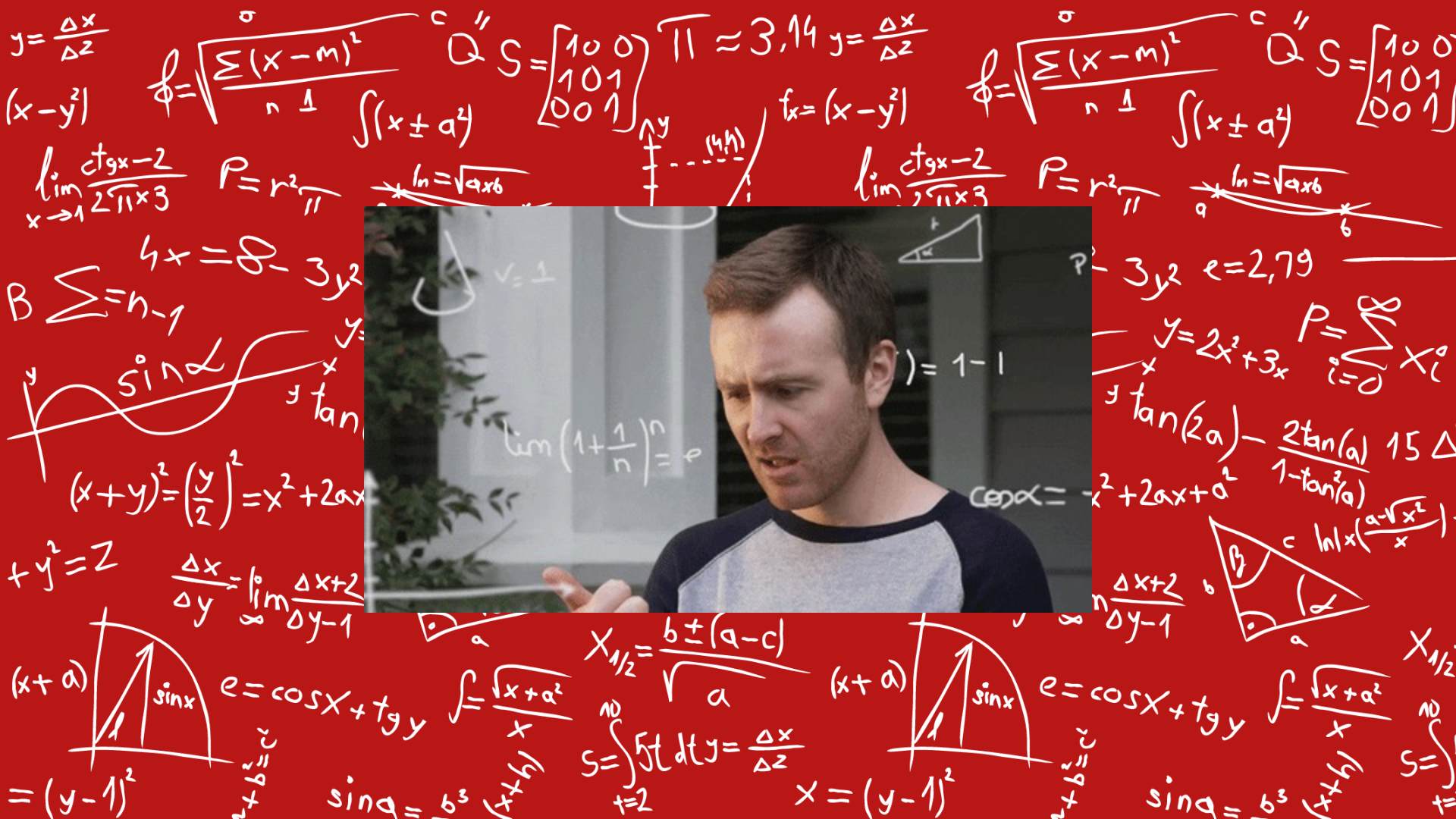
The transition period is extended from 26 May 2024 until **31 December 2027 for certain higher risk devices** (class III and class IIb implantable devices unless subject to other exemptions)

The transition period is extended until **31 December 2028 for medium and lower risk devices** (other class IIb devices and class IIa, class Im, Is and Ir devices)

## For legacy devices (still under MDD)

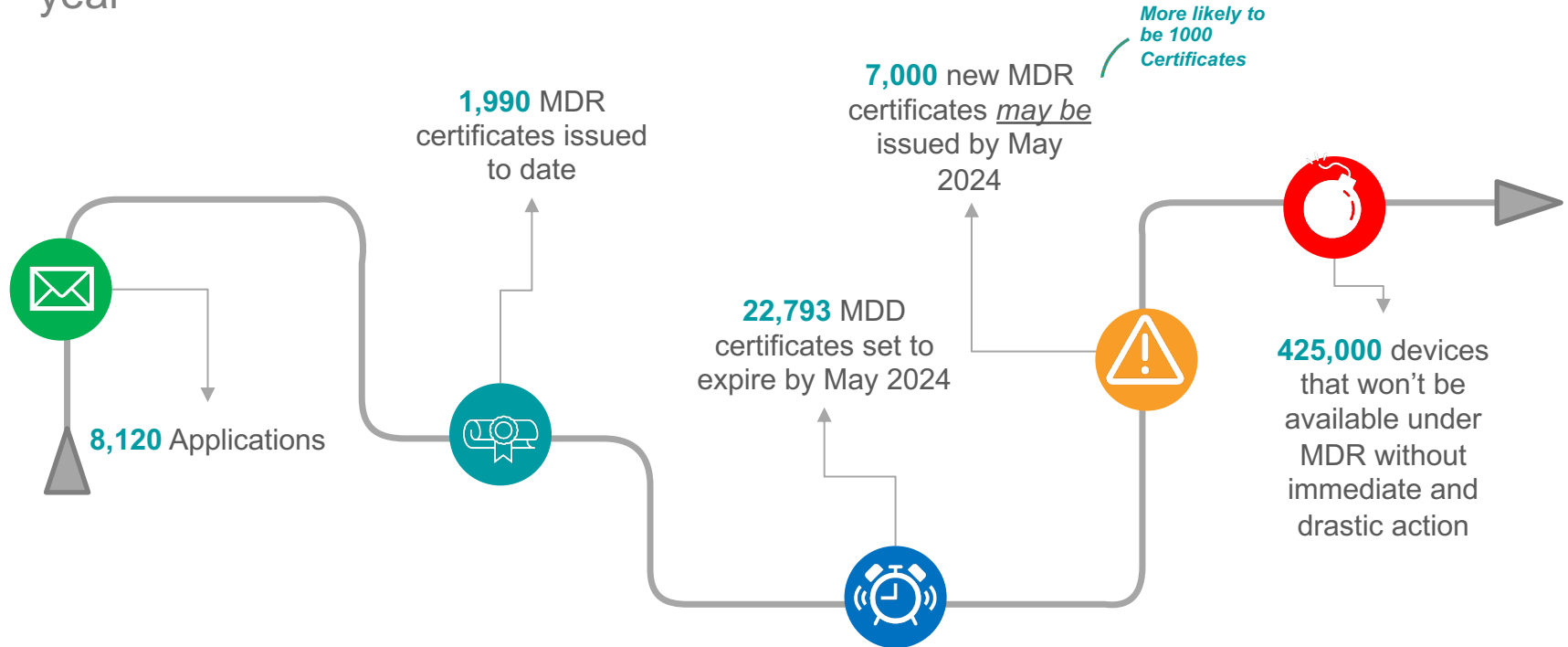
- ✓ MDD products with active certificates must have MDR application submitted and accepted by a Notified Body by May 26, 2024 and contract signed by September 26, 2024
- ✓ OR prove you have contacted a “considerable” number of designated notified bodies and undergo derogation process in Article 97
- ✓ Must continue to comply with MDD and add QMS compliant for MDR Article 120 no later than May 26, 2024
- ✓ No significant change
- ✓ Do not present an unacceptable risk
- ✓ No sell off date IF placed on the market before the end of the new transition period. The previous was May 27, 2025.



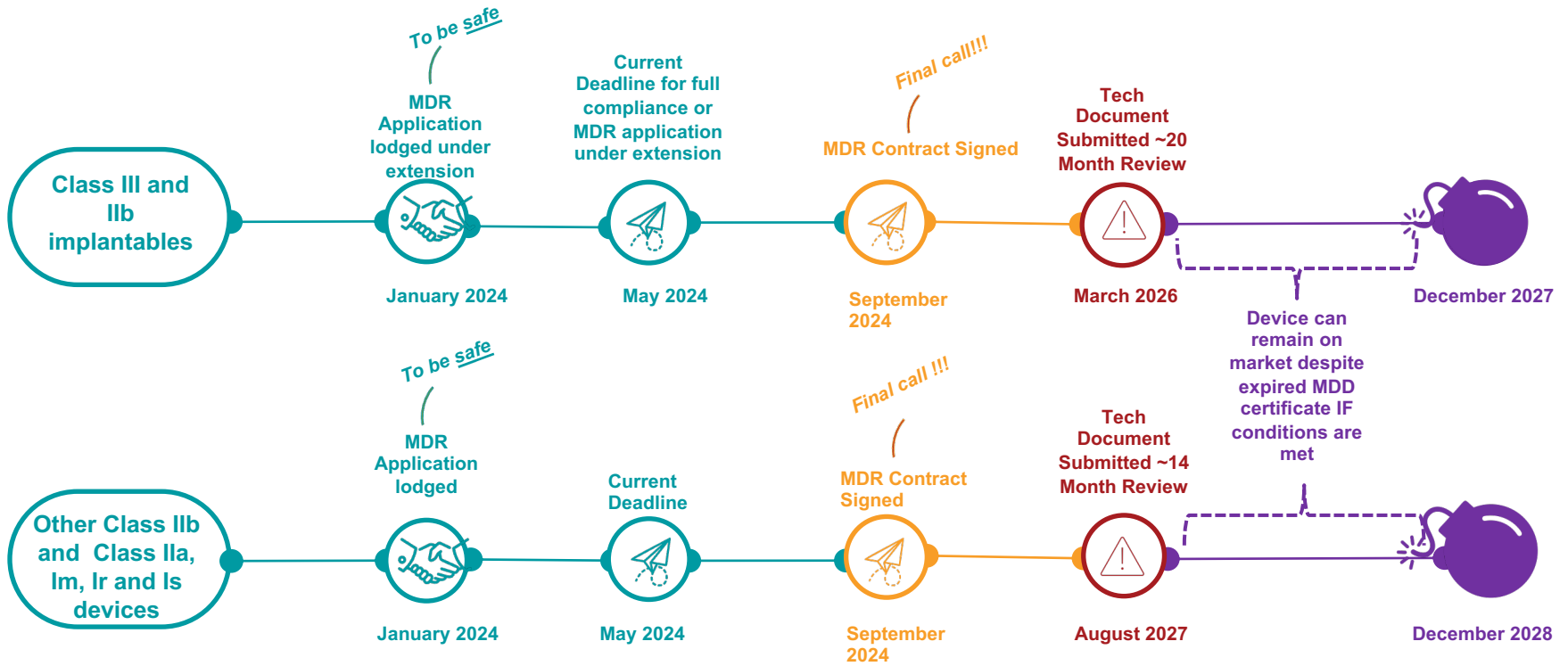


# It Just Doesn't Add Up

- ▶ According to the EC, notified bodies can issue 6,300 MDR certifications per year



# For legacy devices (still under active MDD certs)



## Notified Bodies feel constraints remain

- ▶ Does not help with the capacity or workload and come 2028 they feel they will still be in the same boat
- ▶ They don't have visibility to the “tidal wave” coming because so many manufacturers have yet to apply for MDR
- ▶ Proposal not clear regarding MDD certificate maintenance



## Bias built into the timeline?

- ▶ Creates a natural priority and pressure for Notified Bodies to process higher risk applications to meet the 2017 deadline and get to the 2018 applications later
- ▶ What about innovation? For new devices, where do you fall in the queue given that you do not have a certificate expiring? Should you actually wait to submit until 2029?
- ▶ Those who put their applications in early could potentially be penalized by this system.



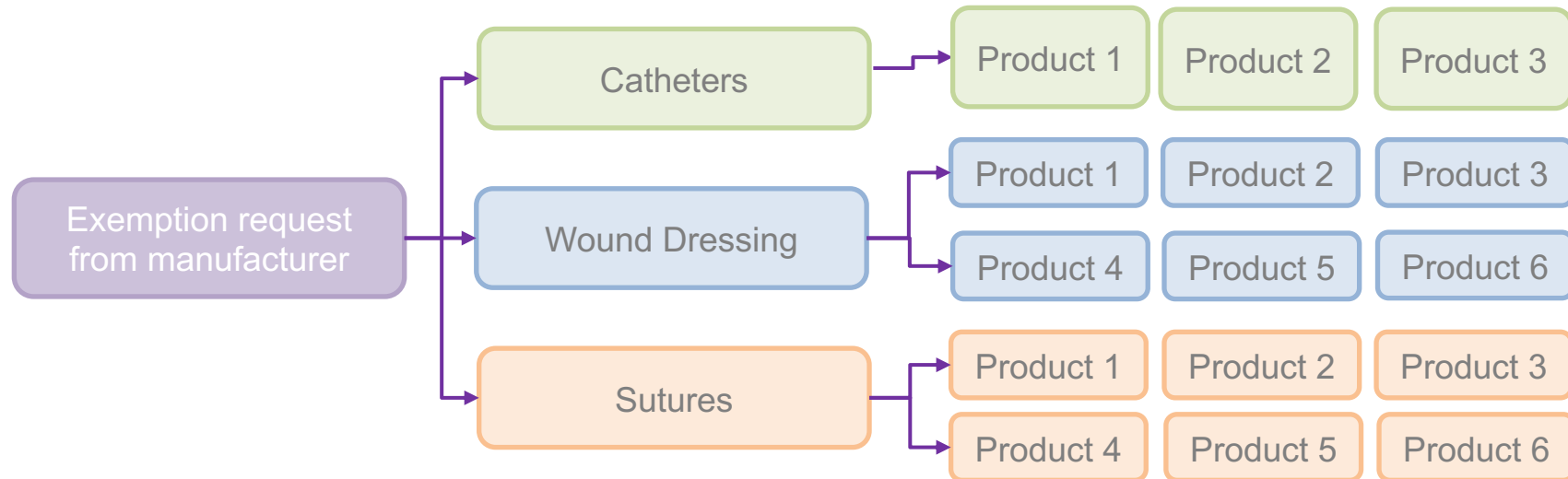
*“False start. Offense. 2 years.”*

## Two Articles Diverge in a Wood....

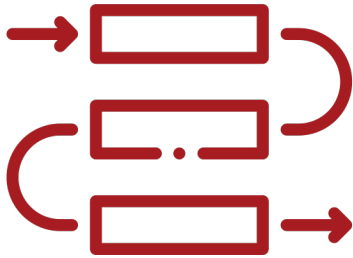
Article 59	Article 97
Allows <b>EACH</b> EU Member State competent authorities to decide that a device can be brought to market without a valid CE mark	Allows a <b>SINGLE</b> EU Member State competent authorities to decide that a device can remain on market without a valid CE mark
Manufacturers don't have to plan on pursuing CE marking	Manufacturers must show evidence they are working toward MDR certification
<p>Prepare documentation to demonstrate to a national competent authority the device is compliant.</p> <p>Ensure post-market surveillance data of other markets, or equivalent or similar devices, is available and of high quality.</p> <p>Be able to demonstrate your device is of critical importance and there is no suitable alternative.</p>	<p>Prepare documentation per checklist in MDCG 2022-18 for demonstration to a competent authority that the device is a low-risk, legacy device.</p> <p>Demonstrate a “reasonable effort” to contact a “considerable number” of Notified Bodies</p> <p>Most applications will be given 12 month window to receive their CE Mark.</p>

# Legacy Devices and Article 97 (MDCG 2022 – 18)

- ▶ Manufacturers must file one exemption request *per product*, NOT per family



# Competence of Competent Authorities



## No QMS of their Own

*How to ensure consistency when qualifying products?*



## Government Bodies

*Hiring is slow. Training is slow.  
Change is very slow.*



## Smaller Budgets

*How do they fund their increased role in MDR?*



# MDCG Guidance

# MDCG Guidances – The Plan for 2023

- ▶ **MDCG guidance documents planned to be released in 2023**
  - [Ongoing guidance development and deliverables of MDCG Subgroups](#)
    - Notified Bodies Oversight
    - Standards
    - Clinical Investigations and Evaluations
    - PMSV
    - Market Surveillance
    - New Technologies
    - Eudamed
    - IVD
    - Nomenclature
    - Annex XVI



# Read the MDCGs written for NBs



















## ► Not just the ones addressed to manufacturers

- Learn how *they* assess you
- Use templates provided
- This is how NBs reports are structured

## ► These have twice as much detail as those for manufacturers

- *ALL* of the efforts to alleviate backlog have been directed at the notified bodies, not manufacturers
- Use their guidance documents as your template

### → Notified bodies

Reference	Title	Publication
MDCG 2021-23  	Guidance for notified bodies, distributors and importers on certification activities in accordance with Article 16(4) of Regulation (EU) 2017/745 and Regulation (EU) 2017/746	August 2021
MDCG 2021-18  	Applied-for scope of designation and notification of a conformity assessment body – Regulation (EU) 2017/746 (IVDR)	July 2021
MDCG 2021-17  	Applied-for scope of designation and notification of a conformity assessment body – Regulation (EU) 2017/745 (MDR)	July 2021
MDCG 2021-16  	Application form to be submitted by a conformity assessment body when applying for designation as notified body under the in vitro diagnostic devices regulation (IVDR)	July 2021
MDCG 2021-15  	Application form to be submitted by a conformity assessment body when applying for designation as notified body under the medical devices regulation (MDR)	July 2021
MDCG 2021-14  	Explanatory note on IVDR codes	July 2021
MDCG 2020-17  	Questions and Answers related to MDCG 2020-4 "Guidance on temporary extraordinary measures related to medical device notified body audits during COVID-19 quarantine orders and travel restrictions"	December 2020
MDCG 2020-14  	Guidance for notified bodies on the use of MDSAP audit reports in the context of surveillance audits carried out under the Medical Devices Regulation (MDR)/In Vitro Diagnostic medical devices Regulation (IVDR)	August 2020
MDCG 2020-12  	Guidance on transitional provisions for consultations of authorities on devices incorporating a substance which may be considered a medicinal product and which has action ancillary to that of the device, as well as on devices manufactured using TSE susceptible animal tissues	June 2020
MDCG 2020-11  	Guidance on the renewal of designation and monitoring of notified bodies under Directives 90/385/EEC and 93/42/EEC to be performed in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/666 amending Commission implementing Regulation (EU) 920/2013	May 2020
MDCG 2020-4  	Guidance on temporary extraordinary measures related to medical device notified body audits during COVID-19 quarantine orders and travel restrictions	April 2020
MDCG 2020-3  	Guidance on significant changes regarding the transitional provision under Article 120 of the MDR with regard to devices covered by certificates according to MDD or AIMDD	March 2020
MDCG 2019-14  	Explanatory note on MDR codes	December 2019
MDCG 2019-13  	Guidance on sampling of devices for the assessment of the technical documentation	December 2019
MDCG 2019-12  	Designating authority's final assessment form: Key information (EN)	October 2019
MDCG 2019-10 rev.1  	Application of transitional provisions concerning validity of certificates issued in accordance to the directives	October 2019
MDCG 2019-6 v2  	Questions and answers: Requirements relating to notified bodies	October 2019
MDCG 2018-8  	Guidance on content of the certificates, voluntary certificate transfers	November 2018
NBOG BPG 2017-2  	Best practice guidance on the information required for personnel involved in conformity assessment	February 2018
NBOG BPG 2017-1  	Best practice guidance on designation and notification of conformity assessment bodies	February 2018
NBOG F 2017-8  	Review of qualification for the authorisation of personnel (IVDR)	February 2018
NBOG F 2017-7  	Review of qualification for the authorisation of personnel (MDR)	February 2018
NBOG F 2017-6  	Preliminary assessment review template (IVDR)	February 2018
NBOG F 2017-5  	Preliminary assessment review template (MDR)	February 2018

# Notable MDCG Guidances

## ► For Notified Bodies

- [MDCG 2019-6 \(Rev 4\)](#): Requirements relating to Notified Bodies (Oct 2022)
- [MDCG 2022-13](#): Designation, re-assessment and notification of conformity assessment bodies and notified bodies (Aug 2022)
- [MDCG 2022-4](#): Guidance on appropriate surveillance regarding the transitional provisions under Article 120 of the MDR with regard to devices covered by certificates according to the MDD or the AIMDD (Dec 2022)
- [MDCG 2022-14 Position Paper](#): Transition to the MDR and IVDR – NB capacity and availability of medical devices and IVDs (Aug 2022)

## ► For Manufacturers

- [MDCG 2022-11 Position Paper](#): Notice to manufacturers to ensure timely compliance with MDR requirements (June 2022)

# MDCG Guidances for Notified Bodies

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## MDCG 2019-6

- **NBs are not obliged to follow MDCGs, but are encouraged as they reflect interpretation of EU law.**
- **Clarifications related to MDR definitions** for reviewers – “Two years professional experience”, “employed”, “permanent availability of personnel with relevant clinical expertise”
- **Process requirement clarifications** – auditing suppliers and subcontractors, allocation of resources, changes which need prior approval by NB

# MDCG Guidances for Notified Bodies

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- [MDCG 2022-14 Position Paper](#): Transition to the MDR and IVDR – NB capacity and availability of medical devices and IVDs (Aug 2022)

## MDCG 2022-13

- **Provides instructions for Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs)** which apply for designation as a NB or re-assessment
- **On-site and off-site assessment activities**
- **Instructions for the Final Assessment report (including non-compliances) and submission to commission**
- **Publication in NANDO** – designating authority notifies to the Commission and other Member States

# MDCG Guidances for Notified Bodies

## ► For Notified Bodies

- [MDCG 2019-6 \(Rev 4\)](#): Requirements relating to Notified Bodies (Oct 2022)
- [MDCG 2022-13](#): Designation, re-assessment and notification of conformity assessment bodies and notified bodies (Aug 2022)
- [MDCG 2022-4](#): Guidance on appropriate surveillance regarding the transitional provisions under Article 120 of the MDR with regard to devices covered by certificates according to the MDD or the AIMDD (Dec 2022)
- [MDCG 2022-14 Position Paper](#): Transition to the MDR and IVDR – NB capacity and availability of medical devices and IVDs (Aug 2022)

## MDCG 2022-4

- **Provides instructions on surveillance activities** to be performed by NBs as defined in Article 120(3)
- **Clarifies responsible NB for surveillance of product for ‘legacy devices’ under MDD, MDR or transition**
- **Includes comparison table of QMS requirements** under MDD v MDR

# MDCG Guidances for Notified Bodies

## ► For Notified Bodies

- [MDCG 2019-6 \(Rev 4\)](#): Requirements relating to Notified Bodies (Oct 2022)
- [MDCG 2022-13](#): Designation, re-assessment and notification of conformity assessment bodies and notified bodies (Aug 2022)
- [MDCG 2022-4](#): Guidance on appropriate surveillance regarding the transitional provisions under Article 120 of the MDR with regard to devices covered by certificates according to the MDD or the AIMDD (Dec 2022)
- [MDCG 2022-14 Position Paper](#): Transition to the MDR and IVDR – NB capacity and availability of medical devices and IVDs (Aug 2022)

### MDCG 2022-14

- **Urges NBs to increase capacities** through hybrid audits, appropriate surveillance, leveraging evidence, develop schemes to **allocate capacity for SMEs and first-time applicants**
- **Commits to review guidance to eliminate administrative workload**
- For ‘safe and effective legacy devices’, the **complexity of conformity assessments should be reduced** and more pragmatism ensured
- **Commitment to provide additional guidance to assist with practical application of Clinical Evaluation** (specifically for legacy devices)



# MDCG Guidances for Manufacturers

## ► For Manufacturers

- [MDCG 2022-11 Position Paper](#): Notice to manufacturers to ensure timely compliance with MDR requirements (June 2022)

► “It is essential that all manufacturers adjust their system, finalise transition to the MDR and apply to a notified body, **submitting complete and compliant applications, as soon as possible and well in advance of the end of the transition period...**”

► No Excuses

# TEAM NB Position Papers

# Team NB Position Papers



The European Association for Medical devices of Notified Bodies



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## TEAM-NB DOCUMENTS

+ Documents 2023

+ Documents 2022

[Team-NB Position Papers list \*new!\*](#)

26 papers

20/12/2022

[Team-NB Position Paper Certificates under conditions-V1](#)

20/12/2022

[Team-NB PositionPaper-AI Designation-V1-20221216](#)

16/12/2022

[Team-NB Position Paper Modifications Sampling Plan V1](#)

08/12/2022

# Team NB Position Papers



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20/12/2022

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20/12/2022

[Team-NB PositionPaper-AI Designation-V1-20221216](#)

16/12/2022

[Team-NB Position Paper Modifications Sampling Plan V1](#)

08/12/2022

[Modifications Sampling Plan](#)

[Article117 NB-Opinion Template](#)

[Cyber Security](#)

[Best Practice Guidance for ... Technical Documentation](#)

# Final Thoughts on MDR

# I talked to 5 competitors

► ...and they ALL said the same thing



## Portfolio Management

*Do you need all six suture types or is one sufficient?*



## Push vs. Pull Documentation

*Provide everything upfront. NB are not going to ask twice.*



## Clinical Reviews

*How many resources are dedicated to your clinical plan?*

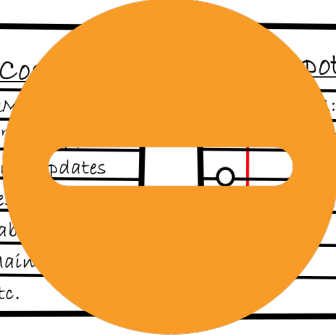


## Just Start

*It's a long process. NB can't do proper resource planning without knowing what's in their pipeline.*

# Know your costs and products for each market

Switzerland or UKCA



Costs	Protheses
- QMS updates	- Year 1: 0.5%
- 3 <sup>rd</sup> party fees	- Tender market
- Eng. updates	
- Testing updates	
- Label updates	
- Maintenance	
- etc.	

Australia and New Zealand



Costs	Protheses
- QMS updates	- Year 1: 0.5%
- 3 <sup>rd</sup> party fees	- Tender market
- Eng. updates	
- Testing updates	
- Label updates	
- Maintenance	
- etc.	

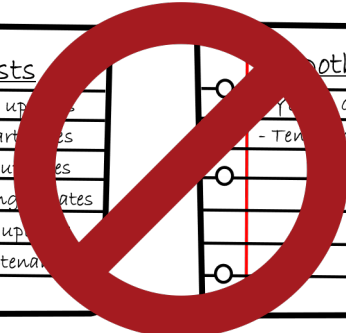


The US



Costs	Protheses
- QMS updates	- Year 1: 0.5%
- 3 <sup>rd</sup> party fees	- Tender market
- Eng. updates	
- Testing updates	
- Label updates	
- Maintenance	
- etc.	

The EU



Costs	Protheses
- QMS updates	- Year 1: 0.5%
- 3 <sup>rd</sup> party fees	- Tender market
- Eng. updates	
- Testing updates	
- Label updates	
- Maintenance	
- etc.	

# Read, prepare and pay attention to the details

- ▶ All of the original EC assumptions about the transition to MDR have been proven invalid
- ▶ This latest extension will NOT resolve all MDR issues
  - The top problems now will still be the top problems in a few years
- ▶ The concessions made by the EC **benefit the notified bodies**, not you
- ▶ The companies that did the right things at the right time **STILL** may be the only ones who survive

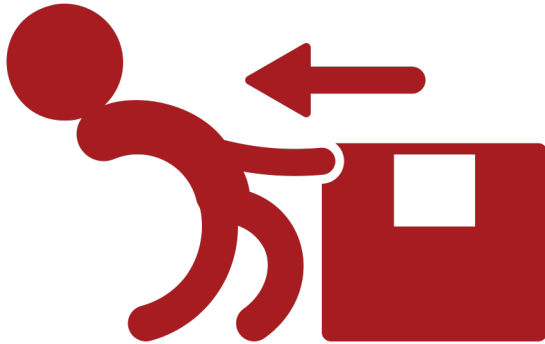


# Frenemies

- ▶ Industry needs to work with their Notified Body. **No “if”, “and” or “buts allowed.**
- ▶ Take advantage of **conversations regarding expectations** with your notified bodies
  - Not considered consulting any longer – actively encouraged by the Competent Authorities



# Changing Strategy to Documentation Review



## Under MDD

*Notified Bodies would pull the documentation out of industry with additional requests.*



## Under MDR

*Industry is expected to push all relevant documentation to Notified Bodies. No longer will NB tease out documentation*

# Clinical Take Aways

## Surveys

Clinical needs a multi part plan including ongoing surveys as part of PMCF. Need feedback good and bad.

## Inclusive Data

Include unfavorable data. If you don't you lose trust *instantly*.

## Marketing is Active

Increased role in PMCF activities along with sharing the message about device availability under MDR.

## “SofC” vs. WET

“Standard of Care” device (MDCG 2020-6) vs WET (Article 61(6b)) discussion with your NB, not to be confused with SOTA and SOC search for the CER process

## Not Equivalence

Can use data from similar devices but be mindful its not an equivalence discussion. Need to prove safety and efficacy of your own device.

# Just Do it Already....



# There Must Be Some Kind of Way Outta Here....

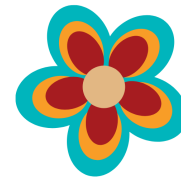


*There must be some kind of way outta here...*

*Said the joker to the thief.*

*There's too much confusion....*

*I can't get no relief.*





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# Free download

- Regulatory Pathway Assessment (RPA)
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Questions?

