



**CORE-MD**

*Coordinating Research and Evidence  
for Medical Devices*

# What guidance do the Notified Bodies need?

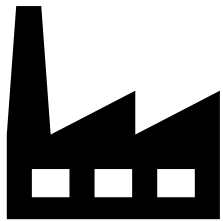
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27 November, 2023



# Medical Device Regulation (MDR 2017/745)

*Council Directive 90/385/EEC <sup>(3)</sup> and Council Directive 93/42/EEC <sup>(4)</sup> constitute the Union regulatory framework for medical devices, other than in vitro diagnostic medical devices. However, a fundamental revision of those Directives is needed to establish a **robust, transparent, predictable and sustainable regulatory framework for medical devices** which ensures a high level of safety and health whilst supporting innovation. (Opening Statement)*



The manufacturer shall specify and justify the level of clinical evidence necessary to demonstrate conformity with the relevant general safety and performance requirements. That level of clinical evidence shall be appropriate in view of the characteristics of the device and its intended purpose.

.... shall be based on **clinical data providing sufficient clinical evidence**,

(Article 61(1))



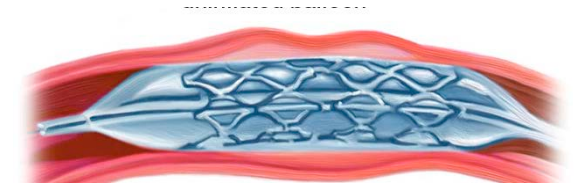
*The notified body shall have permanent availability of personnel with relevant clinical expertise and where possible such personnel shall be employed by the notified body itself. Such personnel shall be integrated throughout the notified body's assessment and decision-making process in order to be able to make an assessment of the manufacturer's clinical evaluation.*

(Annex VII Section 3.2.4)

# Challenges



The term '*sufficient*' is interpreted to mean '*quantity and quality*' of clinical data



Different regulatory scenarios may present different interpretations of what is sufficient...



**Claims of Equivalence**



**Devices previously  
marketed**



**Novelty**

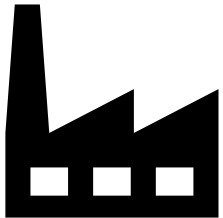


**Device  
Lifetime**

# Challenges



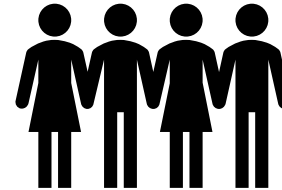
When this is a lack of clear guidance on the interpretation of sufficiency for these forementioned scenarios, this leads to individual interpretation and does not provide a *predictable* outcome for manufacturers.



Manufacturers  
interpretation of  
sufficiency



Notified body clinician  
expectations on  
sufficiency



European expert  
panels expectations  
of sufficiency



Competent authority  
expectations of notified body  
interpretation of sufficiency

When there is a lack of consensus on the interpretation of sufficiency of data, this will lead to all actors having a different opinion.

# Solutions needed

What guidance do ~~the Notified Bodies~~ *all actors in the regulatory* system need?



Guidance on what is *state of the art* \* in the area of medicine



Guidance that guarantees sufficient clinical data from clinical investigations

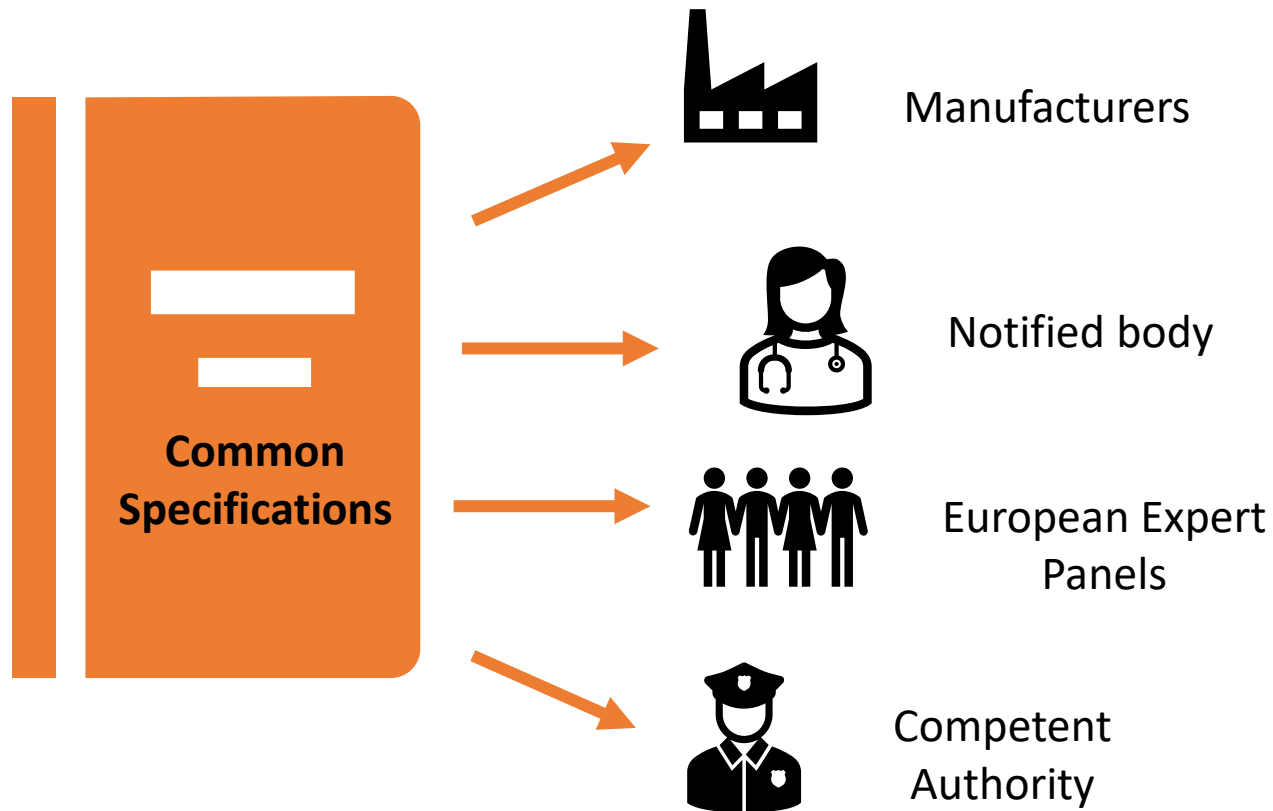


Guidance that defines expectations on post market clinical follow up (PMCF)

\***'state of the art'**: IMDRF/GRRP WG/N47 provides the following definition: *Developed stage of **current technical capability** and/or **accepted clinical practice** in regard to products, processes and patient management, based on the relevant consolidated findings of science, technology and experience.*



# Common Specifications



- The Medical Device Regulation 2017/745 does mention the role of common specifications.
- When agreement can be achieved between all actors on the sufficiency of clinical data, then this will provide the harmonisation of interpretation for all actors involved helping to achieve the aim of the MDR to provide a **robust, transparent, predictable and sustainable regulatory framework**.

**CORE-MD**, Coordinating Research and Evidence for Medical Devices, aims to translate expert scientific and clinical evidence on study designs for evaluating high-risk medical devices into advice for EU regulators.



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For more information, visit: [www.core-md.eu](http://www.core-md.eu)



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