FDA Standard Recognition Process

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How does FDA use Standards?

FDA officially **RECOGNIZES** standards and communicates that recognition to the public.

Medical Device Applicant shows **COMPLIANCE** with standards in medical device submissions to justify safety & effectiveness.

FDA uses standards in a similar manner as FDA **GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS**.
How does FDA use Standards?

FDA uses standards to:

- Provide clearer regulatory expectations & streamline review
- Increase consistency, credibility, and predictability
- Promote international harmonization
- Facilitate market entry for safe & effective medical devices
- Adopt unambiguous nomenclature used in technical community
FDA Recognized Standards

FDA doesn’t recognize every standard.

A FDA Committee reviews standards for recognition.

Currently, we recognize ≈ 1190 standards.

Recognition is announced in FR (Federal Register) Notice

These notices are published at least twice a year.

They take effect immediately. (No notice/comment period)

Recognized Consensus Standards Search Database

https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfStandards/search.cfm
Recognized Consensus Standards Search Database
FDA Caveats to Standards

• Recognition of part of a standard

• FDA may not recognize the most current version of a standard.

• Additional guidance for use of a standard

• Medical device clearance seldom relies solely on following standards.
Reporting Standard Conformance in your Submission

• Submit FDA form 3654

• Provide more detail in the appropriate submission section
  (e.g., IEC60601-1 in Electrical Safety)
  • Identify the standard & amendments cited, and if it is recognized by FDA.
  • How you used the standard.
  (e.g., use of optional pathways within the standard)
  • Justify any deviations from the standard. (including not using standard)
  • Justify any differences between the tested and marketed devices.
  • If conformance included performance testing, provide test reports.
FDA’s involvement in standards development