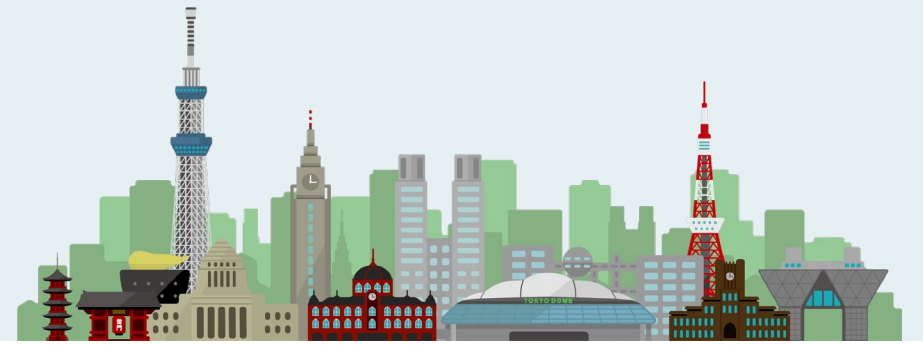




**IMDRF** International Medical Device  
Regulators Forum



# Sharing jurisdictional case studies and challenges in expanding reliance

**Tracey Duffy**

First Assistant Secretary

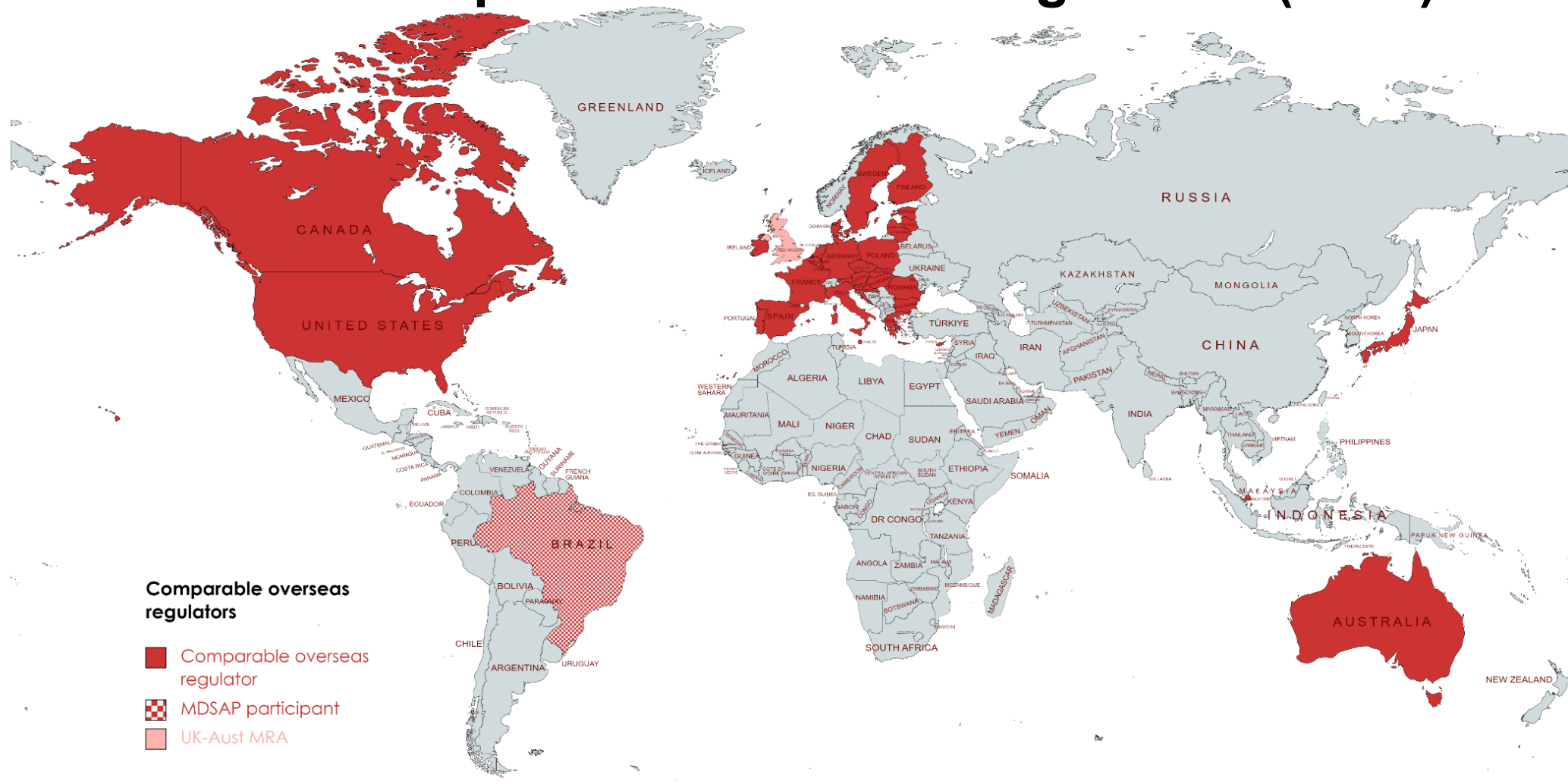
Medical Devices and Product Quality Division

Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

Joint Workshop March 2025



# Australia – Comparable Overseas Regulators (COR) framework





## Criteria for Comparable Overseas Regulators



1. Comparability of the regulatory framework
2. IMDRF membership
3. Life cycle approach and post-market vigilance
4. Communication and cooperation with overseas regulators
5. Expertise of the overseas regulator

- Decision is made by the Australian Government
- The TGA advises the Government based on the above criteria after significant liaising with the other regulator
- The outcome is expressed in a Determination (legal instrument).



## Legislation to support reliance

- [\*Therapeutic Goods \(Overseas Regulators\) Determination 2018\*](#)

This instrument lists entities determined to be overseas regulators under the Therapeutic Goods Act

- [\*Therapeutic Goods \(Medical Devices—Information that Must Accompany Application for Inclusion\) Determination 2018\*](#)

This instrument lists the kind of information that must accompany an application for inclusion in the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG)



## Australia – Expanding pre-market reliance through recognising Comparable Overseas Regulators

Oct 2018

EU Notified bodies  
Health Canada  
Japan PMDA, MHLW  
MDSAP Auditing  
Organisations  
US FDA

Sep 2022

Singapore  
HSA

Oct 2024

US FDA\*

Discussions  
underway

UK MHRA  
Brazil ANVISA

\*Expanded reliance pathways:

- Class III devices: MDSAP Certification + USFDA 510(K) clearance
- Class IIa devices exempt from USFDA regulation: MDSAP Certification + evidence of exemption from USFDA 510(K) regulation



## Pre-market reliance example – Types of acceptable COR evidence\* for Class III medical devices

Comparable Overseas Regulator	Documents accepted by TGA to support a Class III Medical Device application
Health Canada	MDSAP + Medical device licence Class IV
Japan MHLW/PMDA	MDSAP + Pre-market approval certificate
EU MDR	Annex IX(QMS) + Annex IX (Technical documentation)
EU MDD	Annex II.3 + II.4 (design exam)
US FDA	MDSAP + PMA
Singapore HSA	Form supporting entry in Singapore Register of Health Products as a Class D medical device

\*The TGA remains independent in reaching its own decision, even when relying on decisions, assessments and information from other regulatory authorities



# Post-market reliance – MDSAP

## Auditing Organisation reports

- Auditing Organisations audit manufacturers annually – reports are shared through the electronic platform REPs (Regulatory Exchange Platform – secure)
- Regulatory Authorities can access reports on REPs

## Australia's post market reliance implementation

- Auditing Organisation reports are utilized in post market reviews and investigations
- E.g., adverse event reports may trigger an investigation. Auditing Organisation reports are then utilized, alongside other intelligence, to assess risk and determine appropriate compliance actions.



## Benefits

- Faster access to safe, effective, innovative medical devices
- Reduced duplication of regulatory effort
- Regulation costs less and lets the TGA do more with what we have
- Quicker identification of post market issues
- We are part of the global regulatory infrastructure
- Shared regulatory science - knowledge and relationships





## Lessons and challenges

- Relationships with other national regulators are crucial to success – takes time and lots of conversations!!
- Changes to regulatory requirements for a comparable overseas regulator means we need to review them against our framework to ensure we are still comparable (e.g. EU MDR/IVDR)
- Pressure from industry to accept marketing approval evidence from comparable overseas regulators where certain aspects differs (e.g. exemption, classification differences)
- Differing interpretation of legislation and/or guidance within and across jurisdictions, different codes used to identify medical devices





## Case Study 1

Class IIb application – cardiac system generator supported by EU MDR

TGA checking of application showed:

- Details in application and certificates were complete and correct
- No further information was required

Outcome:

- Application was approved within the legislated 20 working days

**OUR KNOWLEDGE OF EU MDR WAS CRITICAL**



## Case Study 2

Class IIb application – skin contouring radio-frequency system supported by MDSAP and US FDA 510k

TGA checking of application showed:

- IFU did not comply with EP 13.4 (information that must be provided with the device)
- Intended Purpose stated in the original application was inconsistent with the IFU and 510(k).
- The entity the 510(k) was issued to did not match the manufacturer name as stated on the MDSAP certificate.

Outcome:

- The 510(k) Establishment Registration & Device Listing entry showed the registered establishment was the MDSAP certificate holder **(ACCESS TO CONFIRMATORY INFORMATION WAS CRITICAL)**.
- An updated Intended Purpose was provided for the application.
- The IFU was amended to comply with EP 13.
- Application was approved within 33 working days



## Case Study 3

Class III applications (Mitral Valve Clips) supported by EU MDR - with inadequate supporting documents (group of 3 applications)

TGA checking of application showed:

- Clinical evaluation report, IFU and labels of the devices were not provided.
- These documents are needed for preliminary clinical assessment to determine the risk/benefit ratio of the devices. (CLEAR INFORMATION FOR MANUFACTURERS IS CRITICAL FOR THEM TO UNDERSTAND WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED)

Outcome:

- Information requested was provided promptly to the TGA.
- New information received was adequate to proceed to delegate's decision.
- The applications were approved within 20 working days.



## Case Study 4

Class III applications (Breast implant support materials)- supported by EU MDR

TGA checking of application showed:

- Insufficient clinical evidence to establish the safety and performance of the devices for use in breast reconstructive surgery.
- Lack of robust, long-term comparative safety data for this specific use.
- Adverse events poorly reported by surgeons outside of clinical trial.

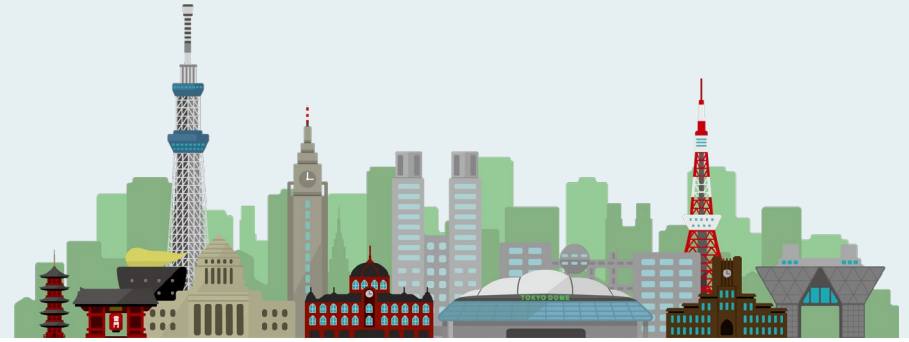
Outcome:

- Approvals based on a number of changes required for product
- Full Clinical review required by the TGA:
  - Narrow intended purpose to use in reconstructive breast surgery only.
  - IFU/PILs updated with comprehensive list of adverse events.
  - Ongoing PMCF plan with registry data for the next 7-years.

**(SOVEREIGN DECISION FOR SPECIFIC PRODUCT BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED)**



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# Thank you / Questions

Therapeutic Goods Administration  
Australia

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