

# WHO REGULATORY UPDATES

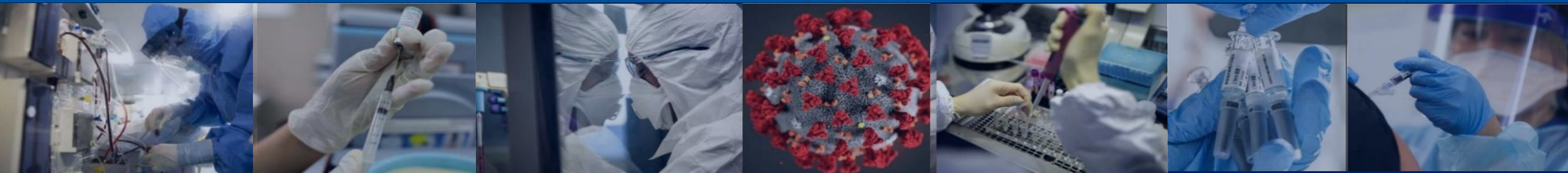
27th IMDRF Management Committee Meeting  
10-14 March 2025, Tokyo, Japan

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**Regulation and Prequalification Department**

**World Health Organization**



**World Health  
Organization**

## Outline

- Regulatory strengthening activities

- Prequalification

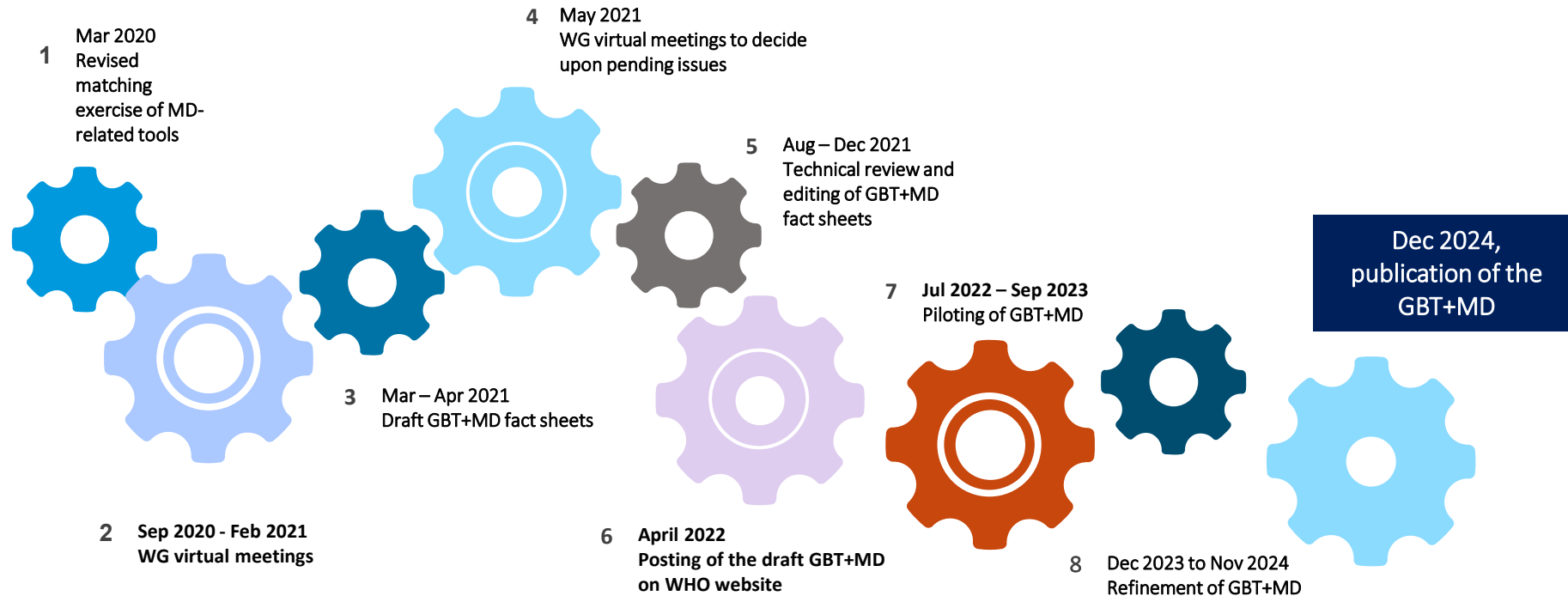
- Nomenclature

- Conclusion

✓ GBT Plus

✓ Regulatory reliance and harmonization initiatives

# Development of GBT+ for Medical Devices including Invitro Diagnostics



Link: <https://www.who.int/tools/global-benchmarking-tools>

# Updated Figures of the WHO GBT+MD

Item \ Function	RS	MA	PS	LI	RI	LA	CT	Grand Total
Number of Sub-Indicators	68	35	44	19	26	29	29	<b>250</b>
Sub-Indicators measuring maturity level 1	8	7	9	2	3	2	2	<b>33</b>
Sub-Indicators measuring maturity level 2	10	3	11	3	3	3	9	<b>42</b>
Sub-Indicators measuring maturity level 3	27	22	16	12	12	17	15	<b>121</b>
Sub-Indicators measuring maturity level 4	23	3	8	2	8	7	3	<b>54</b>

Minimal capacity

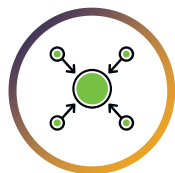
Advanced/  
reference NRAs

# Rollout of the WHO Global Benchmarking Tool + Medical Devices (GBT + MD)

- **November 2024:** Formal benchmarking of Nigeria regulatory system
- **February 2025:** Regional assisted self-benchmarking workshop for SEAR countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor Leste



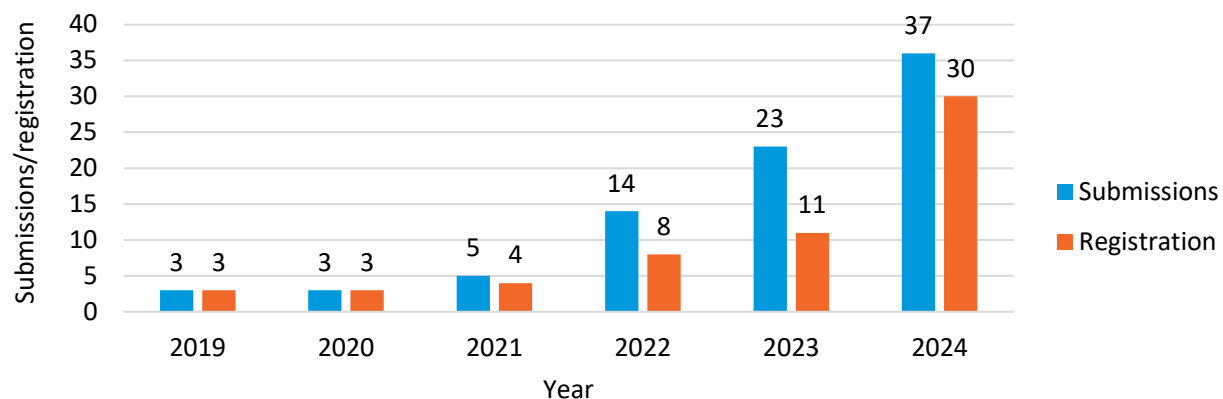
# Promoting regulatory reliance for medical devices regulation



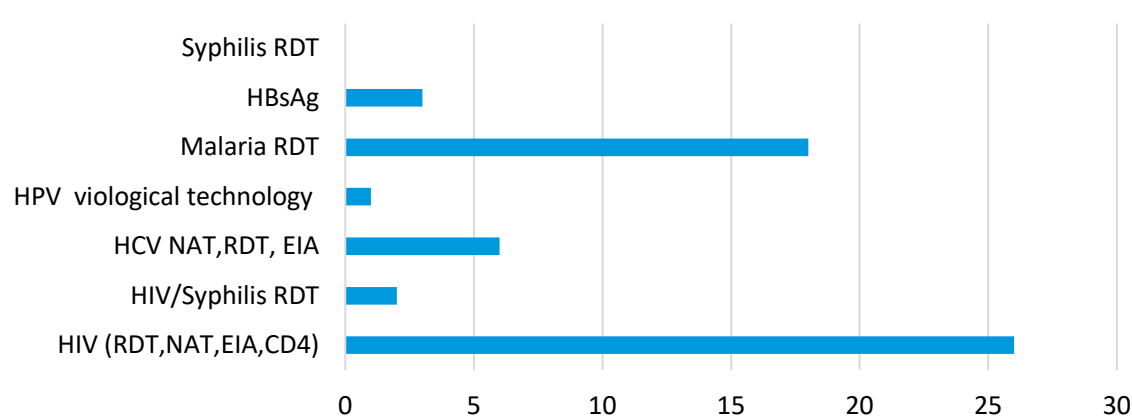
## WHO Collaborative registration procedure for IVDs

- ✓ 37 national regulatory authorities signed agreement to participate in CRP for PQ IVDs
- ✓ 62 IVD products registered in countries through CRP with average time of 89 days (within 90 days)

Number of submission against registration



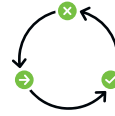
Type of Assays Registered under CRP



## Support to NRAs

- ✓ CRP 12th Annual hybrid meeting held in November 2024, in Jakarta, Indonesia, with over 200 participants (*100 in person*)
- ✓ SEARN NRAs in developing a reliance model based on the WHO Global Model Regulatory Framework (GMRF)
- ✓ Global Webinar on the Facilitated Procedure for EUL MPXV Assays in Oct 2024 (*4 NRAs signed CRP, submissions in NRAs awaiting decision*)
- ✓ Conducted a specific workshop on EUL for MPXV for SEARN members in January 2025 (*preparedness*)

# Support | NRAs and regional harmonization initiatives



## AMDF reform ( to MDA-TC)

- Ongoing support to AMRH - medical devices assessment technical committee (MDA-TC)
- MDA -TC will also facilitate harmonization of requirements and standards for assessments, registration and marketing authorization activities at REC and NRA levels in Africa

## Technical support

- WHO training materials for assessment of IVDs technical files finalized - pilot in Q2 2025
- Contributed to the review of the AU Model Law to include specific requirements for medical devices and development Model Regulations

## Southeast Asian Regulatory Network (SEARN), W5

- Development of a strategy to facilitate reliance for medical devices and regulatory capacity building framework
- Workshop on regulation of MDs (GMRF, Reliance and initial assessment using GBT plus MDs)

GMRF: [https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/biologicals/ecbs/annex3-gmrf-who\\_tr\\_s\\_1045.pdf?sfvrsn=88867b3a\\_3&download=true](https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/biologicals/ecbs/annex3-gmrf-who_tr_s_1045.pdf?sfvrsn=88867b3a_3&download=true)

GBT +: [Evaluation of national regulatory systems of medical devices \(GBT+ Medical devices\)](#)



# Collating field safety notices

## Use of WHO EIOS to create a global repository of field safety notices of medical devices

### • Benefits

- Emerging regulators can consider reliance when another regulator has reviewed a FSCA and FSN

### • Expected challenges

- Detecting content published in PDF format

The screenshot displays the EIOS monitoring interface. At the top, the navigation bar includes 'Monitoring', 'Documents', 'Dashboards', 'Training', and 'Help and Feedback'. The main content area shows a board titled 'Board: SF medical products (All)'. Below this, there are filters for 'Categories: Substandard and falsified medical products' and a 'Filter definition' button. A 'TOTAL ARTICLES' count of 29 is shown. The dashboard lists three articles:

Source	Article Title	Category	Location
facebook-COFEPRIS 11 Nov 09:14 UTC Spanish: Castilian	#CofeprisAlerta On the counterfeiting of two anti-cancer drugs. <a href="https://bit.ly/4f8z00x">https://bit.ly/4f8z00x</a>	Substandard and falsified medical products	Mexico
malijet 11 Nov 08:50 UTC French	Seizure of counterfeit medicines in Koury: Customs strikes hard with 30 tons of pharmaceutical products	Substandard and falsified medical products	Burkina Faso, Nigeria
diariouno 31 Oct 00:24 UTC Spanish: Castilian	ANMAT banned the use and sale of a counterfeit medical product	Substandard and falsified medical products	Argentina, Puerto Rico

- Epidemic Intelligence from Open Sources (EIOS) is web-based system designed to support public health intelligence activities using natural language processing and machine learning
- Scrapes 45,000 news sources in any language continuously, translates summary to English



# Prequalification: Main achievements

- In 2024: Three “first-time” listings: the first **HCV self-test**, the first **TB NAT** assay and first **G6PD test**;
- Expansion of the PQ pipeline to **non-communicable diseases & first time QA assessments of NTDs**
- Expanded use of the Expert Review Panel for Diagnostics (**ERPD**) assessments, across several disease areas
- Emergency Use Listing (EUL) assessments of **MPXV NAT** assays with listing of 3 products
- Full implementation of assessment sessions as a new operating model, with 6 sessions per year
  - **Many thanks to all IMDRF member NRAs who have supported this activity**
    - ✓ **TGA Australia, ANVISA Brazil, Health Canada, NMPA China, HSA Singapore, MFDS R. Korea, MHRA UK**
- Development of several new or amended **TSS** documents, including the finalization of the **TB-LAM TSS**
- Development of a new guidance on **change assessments**; and
- Finalization and imminent launch of **ePQS** – a new IT platform

## Prequalification: **Coming next**

- **Revision of the PQDx process: to be implemented in Q2 2025**
  - ✓ Strengthened reliance
- **TSS under development:**
  - ✓ STIs
  - ✓ TB: NGS and IGRA
- **New changes guidance:**
  - ✓ Strengthened risk-based approach
  - ✓ Strengthened reliance
  - ✓ Implementation in March 2025

# Nomenclature of medical devices

- Has been discussed by Member States since May 2019 during the Executive Board 145 meeting
- «**principles:** transparent governance and methodology, freely available and global public good, to be referenced and used by regulators, procurers, managers and all users of medical devices»
- Agreement in 2024 to use EMDN and GMDN in WHO for public reference

## WHA75 Decision in May 2022

- integrate **available** information related to medical devices, including **terms, codes, and definitions**, in the web-based database and clearinghouse established in line with Resolution WHA60.29 (2007)... **MeDevIS**; and to **link this to other WHO platforms**, as a reference to member states and stakeholders;
- submit a substantive report on progress made in implementing this decision to the Executive Board at its **152nd session in 2023**, and **156th session in 2025**, respectively

## Report to the Executive Board EB156 in Feb 2025

- [EB156/13](#) describes [the roadmap for implementation](#) of the WHA75.25 Decision
- promote only the use of these two systems and avoid multiple other developments

Standardization of medical devices nomenclature

International classification, coding and nomenclature of medical devices

The screenshot displays the MeDevIS web interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'WHO UHCC', 'MeDevIS', 'MeDevPacks', and 'Essential in'. Below this is a header with the World Health Organization logo and 'MeDevIS 2025 v2.0'. The main content area shows a search result for 'Pulse oximeter, table top'. To the right of the search result, there are two sections: 'EMDN related code(s)' with the code 'Z1203020408' and the term 'PULSE OXIMETERS', and 'GMDN related code(s)' with the code '45607'. Below these sections, there is a detailed definition of a pulse oximeter. At the bottom right, there is a blue box with the text 'In MEDEVIS Adding MD nomenclatures: EMDN codes and terms GMDN codes terms and definitions'. Below the search result, there is a list of nomenclature statistics: 'nomenclature', 'EMDN (2471)', 'EMDN not available (115)', 'GMDN (2397)', and 'GMDN not available (189)'. The bottom right corner of the screenshot contains a blue box with the text 'In MEDEVIS Adding MD nomenclatures: EMDN codes and terms GMDN codes terms and definitions'.

# Conclusions

- Publication of WHO GBT in 2024 considered a game changer for regulatory capacity building in countries
  - ✓ useful tool for identifying areas for improvement
  - ✓ opportunity for IMDRF members to contribute/benefit in line with GMRF
- Stable, well-functioning and integrated regulatory strong system (ML 3)
  - ✓ ensures quality, safety and performance of medical devices
- Opportunity for WHO Listed Authorities + Medical Devices (WLA+MD)
  - ✓ building on existing capacity and lessons from medicines and vaccines

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Thank you

