



Webinar:

# Progress with updating EN ISO 23908 on sharps injury protection

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European Commission, Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety  
(DG SANTE)

*Unit B.6 Medical Devices, Health Technology Assessment*

# Setting the scene: harmonised standards in support of the EU Regulations on medical devices

- In April 2021 the **Commission** adopted the **Implementing Decision [C\(2021\) 2406](#)** on a **standardisation request to CEN and CENELEC as regards medical devices in support of Regulation (EU) 2017/745 (MDR) and *in vitro* diagnostic medical devices in support of Regulation (EU) 2017/746 (IVDR) ([M/575](#))**, in force since May 2021, including:
  - *Annex I*: 201 existing harmonised standards to be revised (Table 1) and 27 new harmonised standards to be drafted (Table 2) for the MDR, by 27 May 2024, and
  - *Annex II*: 46 existing harmonised standards to be revised (Table 1) and 3 new harmonised standards to be drafted (Table 2) for the IVDR, by 27 May 2024**Regularly updated:** draft first amendment, currently in the “[Notification system](#)” until 30 June 2022
- **[CEN and CENELEC](#)** as the relevant European standardisation organisations (ESOs) **and their Technical Committees** develop harmonised standards on the basis of the MDR/IVDR standardisation request, also in cooperation (by virtue of the Vienna and Frankfurt Agreements) with **[ISO](#) and [IEC](#)** as the relevant international standardisation organisations (ISOs)
- **The Commission with the support of the HAS consultants** assesses the draft harmonised standards to be cited in the [Official Journal of the European Union](#) (OJEU) to confer presumption of conformity with the requirements of the Regulations the standards aim to cover

# Publications in the OJEU of references of harmonised standards in support of the MDR and the IVDR

- After the first publications in **July 2021**, new publications took place in **January 2022** and in **May 2022**:
  - for Regulation (EU) 2017/745 (MDR): **16 references** so far
    - [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2021/1182 of 16 July 2021](#): 6 references
    - [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2022/6 of 4 January 2022](#): 8 additional references
    - [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2022/757 of 11 May 2022](#): 2 additional references
  - for Regulation (EU) 2017/746 (IVDR): **10 references** so far
    - [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2021/1195 of 19 July 2021](#): 4 references
    - [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2022/15 of 6 January 2022](#): 5 additional references
    - [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2022/729 of 11 May 2022](#): 1 additional reference
- Overall information on the page [Medical devices - Harmonised standards](#); consolidated versions (pdf, xls) on the standardisation pages for [Medical devices](#) and for [In vitro diagnostic medical devices](#)
- **New publications as amendments of the first publications** will continue to take place regularly, to enlarge the lists according to the development of the standardisation work at European and international level, as provided by CEN and CENELEC – next ones, **by the end of 2022**

# The standard EN ISO 23908 in the MDR/IVDR standardisation request

- EN ISO 23908:2013 *Sharps injury protection - Requirements and test methods - Sharps protection features for single-use hypodermic needles, introducers for catheters and needles used for blood sampling* is listed as item 114 in Table 1 of Annex I to the MDR/IVDR standardisation request among the “existing harmonised standards to be revised” by 27 May 2024
- Specific requirements for this standard are laid down in Section 2.3 of Part B of Annex III:  
*“The existing standard EN ISO 23908:2013 shall be modified by describing technical solutions for safety-engineered mechanisms to be applied in design and manufacture of devices to ensure compliance with points 11.1 and 22.2 of Chapter II of Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2017/745. The standard shall apply to devices which are intended to be used for administration and/or extraction of body/blood fluids and/or medicinal substances”*

# General safety and performance requirements 11.1 and 22.2 of Annex I to the MDR

- 11. Infection and microbial contamination
  - 11.1. Devices and their manufacturing processes shall be designed in such a way as to eliminate or to reduce as far as possible the risk of infection to patients, users and, where applicable, other persons. The design shall:
    - (a) reduce as far as possible and appropriate the risks from unintended cuts and pricks, such as needle stick injuries,
    - (b) allow easy and safe handling,
    - (c) reduce as far as possible any microbial leakage from the device and/or microbial exposure during use, and
    - (d) prevent microbial contamination of the device or its content such as specimens or fluids.
  - 22. Protection against the risks posed by medical devices intended by the manufacturer for use by lay persons
    - 22.2. Devices for use by lay persons shall be designed and manufactured in such a way as to:
      - ensure that the device can be used safely and accurately by the intended user at all stages of the procedure, if necessary after appropriate training and/or information,
      - reduce, as far as possible and appropriate, the risk from unintended cuts and pricks such as needle stick injuries, and
      - reduce as far as possible the risk of error by the intended user in the handling of the device and, if applicable, in the interpretation of the results.

# Ongoing activities on the revision of EN ISO 23908

- At international level: [ISO/AWI 23908 Sharps injury protection - Requirements and test methods - Sharps protection features for single-use needles, introducers for catheters and needles used for blood testing, monitoring, sampling and medical substance administration](#), under development in the ISO Technical Committee ISO/TC 84 “Devices for administration of medicinal products and catheters”, currently at the stage 10.99 (Proposal – New project approved) since 2021-11-05
- At European level: [prEN ISO 23908 rev Sharps injury protection - Requirements and test methods - Sharps protection features for single-use hypodermic needles, introducers for catheters and needles used for blood sampling](#) (Work item n° 00205372), under drafting in the CEN Technical Committee CEN/TC 205 “Non-active medical devices”, currently at the stage 10.99.0000 (Decision on WI proposal – Accept); next stage: 20.60.0979 (Circulation of 1<sup>st</sup> Working Document)

# Thank you!

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