

# Industry Highlights of IMDRF Clinical Definitions and Clinical Evaluation Process

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Further, Together

# Outline



GOAL OF IMDRF AND  
CLINICAL EVALUATIONS



PRACTICAL APPLICATION



CLINICAL EVALUATION AND  
PRODUCT LIFECYCLE



# Goal Of IMDRF On Clinical Evaluations

- Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of pre-market review by increased global harmonization
  - Leveraging and evaluating available clinical evidence
  - Reduce the number of **redundant** clinical trials
  - Integrate principles of post-market clinical follow and real-world evidence
  - **Accelerate** introduction of and effective medical devices/technologies to patients

# Ranking of Clinical Evidence

## Hierarchy of Clinical Evidence

Rank 1: High Quality Clinical Investigations
Rank 2: High Quality Clinical Investigations With Gaps
Rank 3: High Quality Registries, Clinical Data Collection Systems
Rank 4: Studies with Methodological Flaws (e.g., most literature, Aggregate Patient Data Surveys)
Rank 5: Equivalence Data
Rank 6: SOTA Data Including Similar Device Data
Rank 7: PMS Complaints and Vigilance Data
Rank 8: Proactive PMS (e.g., physician user surveys)
Rank 9: Case Reports and Small Case Series
Rank 10: Non-Clinical Elements of Common Specifications
Rank 11: Simulated Use, Animal, Cadaver Testing Involving End Users
Rank 12: Pre-Clinical and Bench Testing

## Higher Bar for Clinical Evidence

### Considerations:

- Higher risk class and/or implantable
- Novel features, technology or application (NOVELTY)
- New indication
- Known safety issues, open CAPAs
- Strong clinical claims

## Lower Bar for Clinical Evidence

### Considerations:

- Lower risk class, non-implantable
- Long market history with well-known safety profile
- Simple, stable design and indications
- Indirect clinical benefits
- Equivalency
- Well-Established Technology (WET)\*
- Standard of Care (SOC) Legacy device\*

*\*Does not eliminate need for subject device data collection in the PMCF space*

## Practical Application

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US regulators (FDA) fashioned new guidance on software as a medical device (SaMD) based on IMDRF principles.

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The degree of clinical evaluation and evidence required of a SaMD would depend on the function it performs.

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SaMD clinical evaluation should be able to support manufacturers' claims of safety, effectiveness and performance.



# Clinical Evaluation is an Iterative Process!

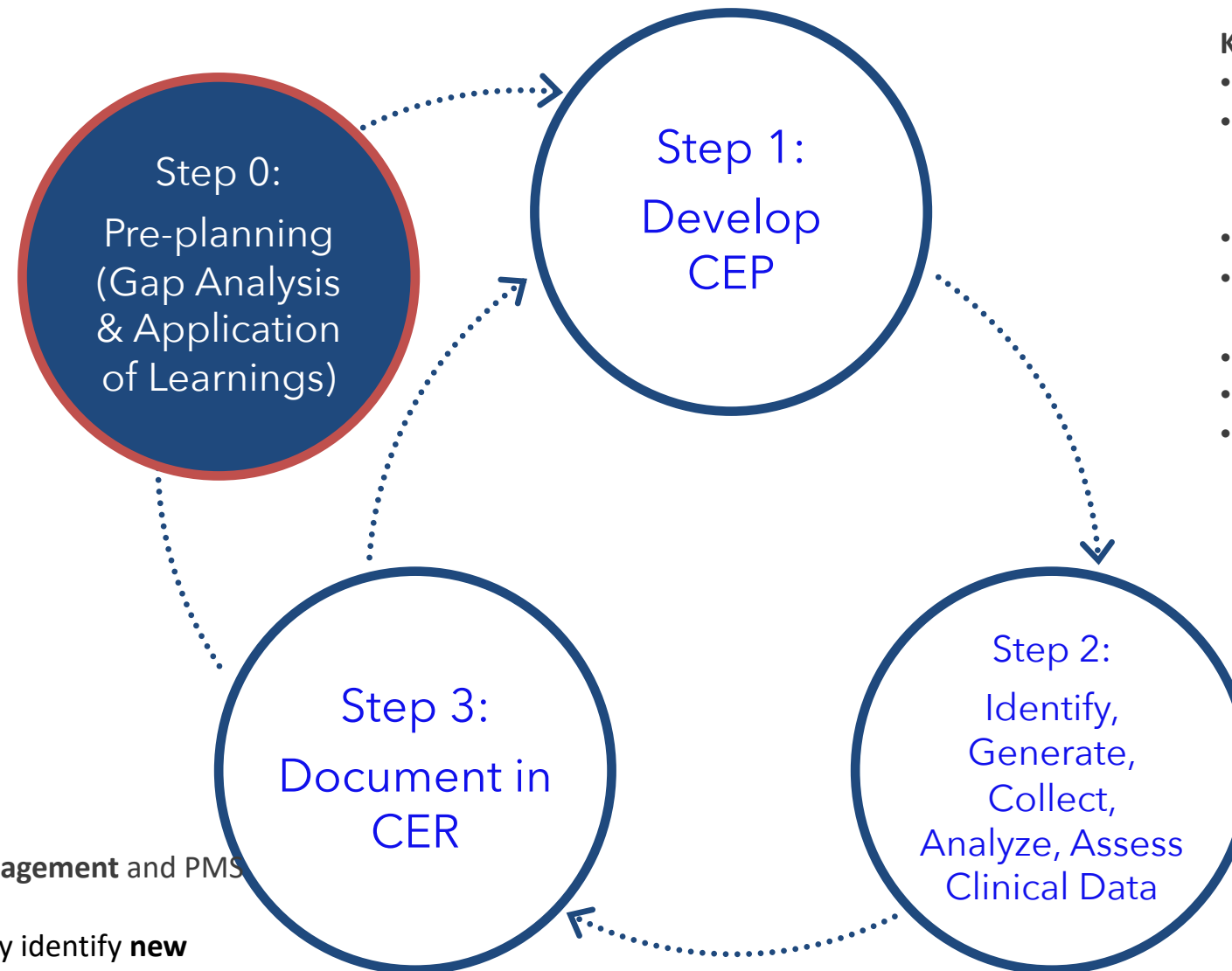
PLAN, Identify, Generate, Collect, Analyze, Assess, Report, Apply Learnings, REPEAT

## Gap Analysis for Clinical Evaluation:

- Process of determining **clinical evidence sufficiency** to allow for a qualified assessment of device safety, performance and acceptability of benefit-risk when used as intended
- Informs clinical data gaps so they can be appropriately remediated (e.g., narrower indications or additional data generation)

## Clinical Evaluation Report:

- Feed output into **risk management** and PMS activities
- Data arising from PMS may identify **new risks** or provide additional clarity on indications and contraindications



## Key questions to be answered:

- Are the indications appropriate and supported?
- Are the clinical data of sufficient amount and quality to constitute “sufficient clinical evidence” for demonstration of conformity
- Are there new safety concerns?
- Informs submission strategy (e.g., SOC, equivalence, conformance adjacency)
- Informs potential PMCF activity/burden
- Allows us to be proactive!
- A lot of cross-functional involvement and alignment needed for successful cycle!



**Questions?**