
**Implants for surgery — Essential
principles of safety and performance**

*Implants chirurgicaux — Principes essentiels de la sécurité et les
performances*

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 150, *Implants for surgery*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO/TR 14283:2004), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

— the previous edition was based on Annex I of the European Council Medical Devices Directive, while this edition is based on guidance documents developed by the Global Harmonisation Task Force (GHTF).

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to harmonize the documentation and procedures that are used to assess whether an implant conforms to the regulations that apply in each jurisdiction. Eliminating differences between jurisdictions decreases the cost of gaining regulatory compliance and allows patients earlier access to new technologies and treatments.

This document has been developed to encourage and support global convergence of regulatory systems. It is intended for use by regulatory authorities, conformity assessment bodies and industry, and will provide benefits in establishing, in a consistent way, an economic and effective approach to the control of implants in the interest of public health. It seeks to strike a balance between the responsibilities of regulatory authorities to safeguard the health of their citizens and their obligations to avoid placing unnecessary burdens upon the industry.

A further purpose is to provide a basis for the development of technical standards for implants intended to have international applicability.

This document describes fundamental design and manufacturing requirements, referred to as “Essential Principles of Safety and Performance” that, when met, indicate an implant is safe and performs to its specification.

This document is derived and adapted from the previous version of this document (2004) and from guidance documents developed by the Global Harmonization Task Force (GHTF) (GHTF/SG 1 documents N55,^[3] N68,^[4] N70^[5] and N71^[6]). In a few cases additional guidance has been provided and in these cases the additional guidance has been clearly identified by means of a Note.

This document is, by its nature, purely informative.

[Annex A](#) lists applicable pre-existing national or regional requirements, which can be consulted for comparison with the Essential Principles contained in this report.

The Bibliography provides a list of references that can be used to link these essential principles to standards and guidance documents giving product related requirements and guidance on the analysis of risks associated with the use of implants.

NOTE The GHTF documents listed in the Bibliography are subject to periodic review and can be superseded by later documents. The reader is encouraged to refer to the International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF) website at <http://www.imdrf.org/documents/documents.asp> to confirm whether the referenced documents remain current.

Implants for surgery — Essential principles of safety and performance

1 Scope

This document provides fundamental principles for the design and manufacture of active or non-active implants in order that each implant can achieve its intended purpose.

It is often the case that instruments and other equipment are used in association with implants. These devices might be useful or even essential for the safe implantation and/or use of the implants. This document applies to implants, however, it also applies to associated instruments and equipment to the extent that the design and manufacture of the implants is intended to ensure the safe combination and use of the implants with such devices.

Requirements for the safe operation and use of associated instruments and equipment are contained in other standards.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1

active implant

implant whose operation depends on a source of electrical energy or any source of power other than that directly generated by the human body or gravity and which acts by converting this energy

Note 1 to entry: Implants intended to transmit energy, substances or other elements between an active implant and the patient, without any significant change, are not considered to be active implants.

3.2

clinical data

safety and/or performance information that are generated from the clinical use of a medical device

[SOURCE: GHF/SG1/N68:2012, 4.0]

3.3

clinical evaluation

assessment and analysis of clinical data pertaining to a medical device to verify the clinical safety and performance of the device when used as intended by the manufacturer

[SOURCE: GHF/SG1/N68:2012, 4.0]