


# **Comparison of the Quality System Regulation and ISO 13485: Corrective and Preventive Action**


**FDA Small Business  
Regulatory Education for Industry (REdI)  
Boston, MA  
May 30, 2019**

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# Why Should We Care?



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HHS/FDA

RIN: 0910-AH99

Publication ID: Spring 2018

**Title:** •Harmonizing and Modernizing Regulation of Medical Device Quality Systems  
**Abstract:**  

FDA intends to harmonize and modernize the Quality System regulation for medical devices. The revisions will supplant the existing requirements with the specifications of an international consensus standard for medical device manufacture, ISO 13485:2016. The revisions are intended to reduce compliance and recordkeeping burdens on device manufacturers by harmonizing domestic and international requirements. The revisions will also modernize the regulation.

**Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services(HHS)  
**RIN Status:** First time published in the Unified Agenda  
**Major:** No  
**EO 13771 Designation:** Other  
**CFR Citation:** [21 CFR 820](#)  
**Legal Authority:** [21 U.S.C. 351](#) [21 U.S.C. 352](#) [21 U.S.C. 360](#) [21 U.S.C. 360c](#) [21 U.S.C. 360d](#) [21 U.S.C. 360e](#) [21 U.S.C. 360h](#) [21 U.S.C. 360i](#) [21 U.S.C. 360j](#) [21 U.S.C. 360l](#) [21 U.S.C. 371](#) [21 U.S.C. 374](#) [21 U.S.C. 381](#) [21 U.S.C. 383](#) [42 U.S.C. 216 and 262](#) [42 U.S.C. 263a](#) [42 U.S.C. 264](#)  
**Legal Deadline:** None  
**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/2019	

**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant  
**Agenda Stage of Rulemaking:** Proposed Rule Stage  
**Unfunded Mandates:** No

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis Required:** Undetermined  
**Small Entities Affected:** No  
**Included in the Regulatory Plan:** No  
**RIN Data Printed in the FR:** No

**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined  
**Federalism:** No

# No Additional Questions Please!

# Learning Objectives

- Introduce 21 CFR 820 and ISO 13485:2016
- Provide background on the regulation and standard
- Compare requirements in regulation and standard
  - as they relate to Corrective Action and Preventive Action

# Poll

**Do you have a quality system that complies with the Quality System Regulation (21 CFR Part 820)?**

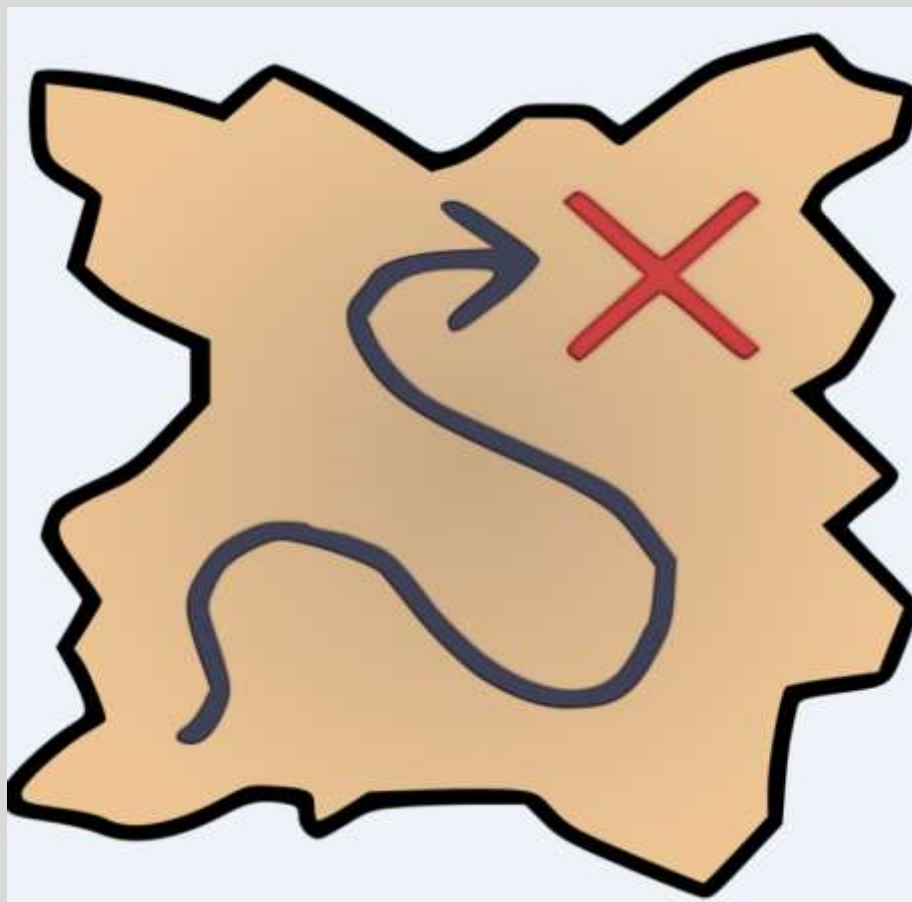
- 1. Yes**
- 2. No**
- 3. I don't know**
- 4. I plead the fifth. There's an FDA investigator in the room**

# Poll

**Do you have a quality management system that conforms to the International Medical Devices Standard ISO 13485:2016?**

- 1. Yes**
- 2. No**
- 3. I don't know**
- 4. I plead the fifth. There's an ISO 13485 lead auditor in the room**

# How Did We Get Here - Background



# Background:

## 21 CFR 820

### The Quality System Regulation

- 1978 Good Manufacturing Practice
- cGMP
- 1990 Safe Medical Device Amendments
- 1996 Quality System Regulation
- 2012 Amendments
- Today

# Background

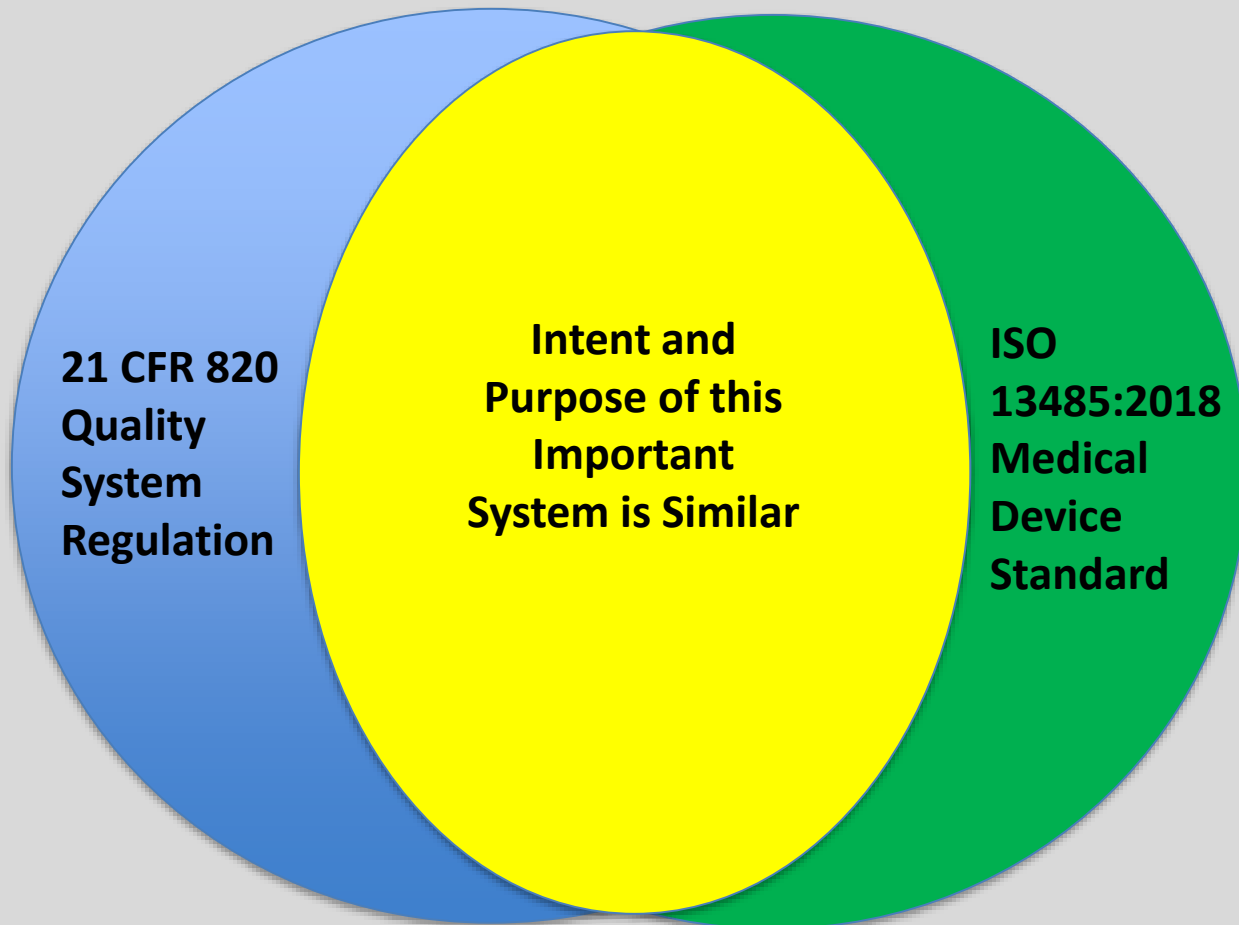
## ISO 13485

### Medical Devices – Quality Management Systems

- GHTF 1992  
(Harmonization)
- ISO 9001:1994
- ISO 13485:1996
- ISO 13485:2003
- IMDRF 2011  
(Convergence)
- MDSAP 2012
- ISO 13485:2016
- Today



# Regulation and Standard CAPA Comparison



# Comparison: Intent

The purpose of the requirements in both are to:

1. Collect and analyze information and data
2. Identify nonconformities and potential nonconformities
3. Determine their cause(s), evaluate need to take action and identify action
4. Verify identified action is effective and does not have adverse effects
5. Implement action and review effectiveness

# Definitions

*All definitions are from ISO 9000:2015, Quality management systems – Fundamentals and vocabulary*

## 3.12.3 Correction

Action to eliminate a detected *nonconformity* (3.6.9)

- Note 1 to entry: A correction can be made in advance of, in conjunction with or after a *corrective action* (3.12.2)
- Note 2 to entry: A correction can be, for example, *rework* (3.12.8) or *regrade* (3.12.4)

# Definitions

## 3.12.2 Corrective Action

Action to eliminate the cause of a *nonconformity* (3.6.9) and to prevent recurrence

- Note 1 to entry: There can be more than one cause for a nonconformity
- Note 2 to entry: Corrective action is taken to prevent recurrence whereas *preventive action* (3.12.1) is taken to prevent occurrence

# Definitions

## 3.12.1 Preventive Action

Action to eliminate the cause of a potential *nonconformity* (3.6.9) or other potential undesirable situation

- Note 1 to entry: There can be more than one cause for a potential nonconformity
- Note 2 to entry: Preventive action is taken to prevent occurrence whereas *corrective action* (3.12.2) is taken to prevent recurrence

# Comparison: Layout

## Regulation 21 CFR 820

Subpart J – Corrective and Preventive Action

820.100

(a) Procedures,  
data analysis, investigation,  
identification of actions, v&v,  
implementation,  
communication, management  
review

(b) Records

## Standard ISO 13485

8.4 Analysis of data

8.5 Improvement

8.5.2 Corrective Action

8.5.3 Preventive Action

# Comparison: Similarities

Both require that you:

- have procedures to address corrective and preventive actions
- document those procedures and the results from those activities
- use appropriate statistical techniques

# Comparison: Similarities

Both require you to:

1. Collect and analyze information and data
2. Identify nonconformities and potential nonconformities
3. Investigate and determine cause (root) of nonconformity
4. Determine if and what action(s) is required to prevent occurrence or reoccurrence



# Comparison: Similarities

Both require you to:

5. Verify\* action(s) does not have any adverse effects
6. Verify\* action(s) is effective
7. Implement those action(s)
8. Update all documentation and ensure those changes are implemented

\*21 CFR 820 also includes validation. Note order of activity

# Specifics in Regulation 21 CFR 820

Specifically calls out requirement to:

- communicate CAPA information to those directly responsible for assuring the quality of such product – 820.100 (a)(6)
- submit relevant information on CAPA for management review – 820.100 (a)(7)

# Specifics in Regulation 21 CFR 820

- Calls out both verifying or validating corrective and preventive action
  - to ensure that such action is effective and
  - does not adversely affect the finished device –  
820.100(a)(4)

# Specifics in Standard ISO 13485

Specifically requires that:

- organization uses the subsystem to look at overall effectiveness of and make changes to improve the QMS as necessary – 8.5.1 General
- necessary corrective actions are taken without “undue delay” – 8.5.2 Corrective Action

# Specifics in Standard ISO 13485

- Requires that you consider regulatory requirements when verifying both actions
- Requires that both corrective actions and preventive actions are appropriate for the effects of nonconformities encountered or potential problems

8.5.2 Corrective action

8.5.3 Preventive action

# Additional Resources

- [AAMI Quality Systems White Paper Comparison of 21 CFR 820 to ISO 13485:2016 - 2018.pdf](#)
- [NSF US FDA QS Regulation verse ISO 13485:2016 QMS Requirements.pdf](#)

# Summary

- Introduced 21 CFR 820 and ISO 13485:2016
- Reviewed a short history of the regulation and standard
- Compared requirements in regulation and standard
  - as they relate to Corrective Action and Preventive Action

# Questions?



# Your Call to Action

- Keep current on potential regulatory changes being proposed
- Understand these changes as they relate to your quality management system, especially corrective actions and preventive actions
- Use this knowledge to ensure your devices are safe, effective and meet both user needs and regulatory requirements

# Thank You

