

# **Update 2003: FDA and CLIA**

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1

## **Surviving CLIA**

- **CLIA Overview**
  - Something OLD
  - Something NEW
- **Key Features**
- **Who are the players**
- **FDA and CLIA**
- **CLIA regulations**
- **What is categorization**
- **What requires categorization**
- **What is not regulated under CLIA**

2

## Surviving CLIA

- How FDA categorizes tests
  - CDRH
  - CBER
- “Automatic” categorizations
- Specific requests for categorizations
- Categorization letter; CLIA website
- Where do you go for help

3

## What is CLIA?

- Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA)
- Enacted as result of reports of inaccurate test results from Pap smears
- Questions were raised about how labs functioned and what quality control procedures existed

4

## **CLIA '88**

- **CLIA '88 - President Reagan- 10/31/1988**
- **Social Security Act**
- **Labs receiving Medicare funds must be CLIA-certified.**
- **All clinical labs must be CLIA-certified to test human specimens**
- **Notice Proposed Rule 1990/60,000 comments**
- **Final Rule 2/28/1992**
- **Final QC Rule 1/24/03**

5

## **Highlights Final QC Rule**

- **Removes FDA's review of manufacturers' QC instructions for compliance with CLIA**
- **Sets QC standards for nonwaived testing.**
- **Reduces QC frequency in most of the subspecialties**
- **Merges moderate & high complexity QC requirements**
- **Uses plain language**

6

## Highlights

- Reorganizes to mimic the flow of a specimen through the lab.
- Studies show most lab errors are pre-analytical
- Requires mod. complexity labs to validate a test once before use
- Ensures the test works accurately before pts. tested.
- Onus on laboratory
- CMS drafting inspector guidelines

7

## Who are the Players?

- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (formerly HCFA) oversees CLIA
- Authority for regulation and policy
- CLIA self-funded
- User fees from regulated labs
- CMS pays FDA to categorize commercially marketed tests
- CDC categorizes lab procedures
  - Provider performed microscopy
  - Gram stain

8

# CMS

- Reimbursement
- CLIA certificate
- HIPAA – Privacy Act
- CLIA regulations, lab sends report to authorized person
- CLIA defines as individual authorized under State law to order tests or receive test results, or both.
- HIPAA-- patient requests their records from a lab, results should be sent to them.

9

## CMS CLIA Contact

- Kathy Todd, CMS  
[ktodd@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:ktodd@cms.hhs.gov)
- Phone: 410.786.3385
- Fax: 410.786.1224

10

## **OIVD's CLIA Players**

- **Renita Hoard, CSO**
- **Dr. Joe Hackett, founding father**
- **Don St. Pierre, Deputy Director**
- **Dr. Steve Gutman, Director**
- **CLIA team – represents OIVD**
- **CBER devices – Clara**
- **CBER waiver tests- Clara, lead reviewer, OIVD CLIA team**

11

## **Key Features**

- **Standards based on complexity of testing, not the laboratory site**
- **The key to understanding categorization;**
  - the analyst/operator
  - how complex it is for the analyst to run the test

12

## **FDA and CLIA**

- **1992 CLIA regulations**
- **FDA responsible for complexity categorization**
- **1993-94 FDA categorized >900 tests**
- **1994 CDC delegated responsibility**
- **Resources, funding issues**

13

## **FDA and CLIA**

- **Impetus for change**
- **Manufacturers**
- **Congress**
- **“Confusion and duplication of effort”**
- **CDC, CMS, FDA consensus**
- **Interagency agreement 2/27/99**
- **Tri-agency team – CMS, CDC, FDA**

14

## What Regulations Govern Categorization

- 42 CFR 493.17, categorization of specific laboratory tests by level of complexity
- Moderate, high
- 7 Criteria

15

## Moderate, High

### 42 CFR 493.17

- Knowledge
- Training and experience
- Characteristics of operational Steps
- Calibration, QC, PT materials
- Troubleshooting, Maintenance
- Interpretation and judgment

16



# Moderate, High

## 42 CFR 493.17

- 7 criteria scored as 1, 2, or 3
- Score of 1 = minimum
- Score of 3 = specialized
- Total scores of 12 or less = moderate
- 13 or higher = high
- e.g. PCR = high complexity

17

# Categorization Regulations

## 42 CFR 493.15 (c)

- Lists the 9 generic test groups
- Categorized by regulation
- Automatically waived
- But still requires categorization notification letter from FDA
- Requires posting categorization on website

18

## Generic 9

### 493.15 (c)

- dipstick and tablet reagent urinalysis
- fecal occult blood
- ovulation tests
- urine pregnancy tests
- erythrocyte sedimentation rate
- hemoglobin (copper sulfate)
- blood glucose devices (FDA-cleared for OTC use)
- spun microhematocrit
- hemoglobin single analyte instruments (1993)

19

## Most Common Waived Tests

- Urine pregnancy – 34%
- All other tests – 20%
- Blood glucose (OTC) – 18%
- Urine dipstick/tablet chemistries-19%
- Ovulation tests – 5%
- Fecal occult blood – 4%

20

## **Categorization Regulations**

- **CMS and PHS Sept 13, 1995 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking**
- **Clarified statutory criteria for obtaining waiver**
- **Guidelines list the criteria**
- **Final rule pending**
- **CMS leads tri-agency team**

21

## **CMS/PHS Waiver Criteria**

- **Defined simplicity, low risk**
- **Defined accuracy as comparison to reference materials, methods**
- **Precision field studies in hands of lay user**
- **Flex studies, different environments**
- **Studies distinct from FDA premarket review**

22

## Categorization Regulations

- Food and Drug Modernization Act  
Nov. 21, 1997
- clarifies tests cleared for over-the-counter are automatically waived.
- But still requires categorization notification letter from FDA
- Requires posting categorization on website

23

## OTC

- Growing number of OTC tests
  - drugs of abuse
  - cholesterol, HDL chol
  - vaginal ph
  - microalbumin
  - FSH, qual.
  - HgbA1C
  - fern test, saliva.
  - semen, male fertility

24

## Prescription Home Use

- Prescription home use is an Rx device physician instructs patient to use in home
- FDA devices are OTC or Rx
- Any device used in the home that is not OTC
- Examples – prothrombin time, hemoglobin A1c

25

## What is Categorization?

- Process of assigning new commercially marketed tests to one of 3 CLIA categories: *waived, moderate, high*
- The key to understanding categorization; the *analyst/operator* and the *complexity of testing*
- Regulations that govern categorization

26

## What Requires Categorization

- **Categorization applies to all laboratory test systems on materials derived from the human body conducted for the purpose of diagnosis, prevention or treatment, or assessment of the health**

27

## What Requires Categorization

- **Plain Language**
- **Commercially marketed test systems that produce a result**
- **This includes 510(k) exempt tests**

28

## **Not Categorized**

### **Produce no test result**

- **Quality Control**
- **Calibrators**
- **Test tubes**
- **Collection kits**
  - drugs of abuse
  - Hepatitis C, HIV

29

## **Not Categorized**

### **Not currently regulated under CLIA**

- **Non-invasive (laser hematocrit)**
- **Breath tests (h. pylori, alcohol)**
- **Drugs of abuse – Workplace**
- **Monitoring devices (Minimed)**

30

## **How FDA Categorizes**

- **Center for Devices and Radiological Health**
- **Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research**

31

## **CDRH Categorizes**

- **Pre-amendment**
- **510(k) exempt tests**
- **New Premarket Notification 510(k)**  
e.g. special 510(k)s
- **New Premarket Approvals (original, supplements)**

32



## **CDRH Categorizes**

- **New Humanitarian Device Exemptions (original, supplement)**
- **510(k) add-to-files**
  - Replacement reagents
  - Manufacturer name change
  - Relabel
- **Previously uncategorized test systems**

33

## **Automatic Categorizations**

- **Manufacturer submits premarket submission to Document Mail Center**
- **Categorization performed in conjunction with product review**
- **CLIA notification accompanies clearance, approval order or follows shortly after**

34

## Automatic Categorization, Replacement Reagents

- *Well characterized lab analyzers for use by laboratory professionals.*
- *Previously cleared instruments and reagents, when a claim is made for a new reagent/instrument combination.*
- *Introduction of new instrument family members of a previously cleared instrument family.*

35

## Automatic Categorization

- **Replacement reagent**
  - *Replacement reagents require a package insert with the new instrument/reagent combination*
  - **CLIA notification follows shortly after**

36

## **Categorization by Request**

- **Change in company name**
- **Additional trade name**
- **Modification?**
- **Not previously categorized**
  - defaults to high complexity

37

## **Categorization by Request**

- **Submit new labeling to FDA**
- **Document Mail Center, HFZ-401, 9200 Corporate Blvd., Rockville, MD 20850**
- **“For CLIA Categorization Only”**
- **Reference original 510(k) number**
- **CLIA categorization performed**
- **Notification letter to manufacturer**
- **Categorization posted on website**

38

## **Categorization by Request**

- **Exempt from 510(k), CLIA required**
- **Submit new labeling to FDA's DMC**
- **"For CLIA Categorization Only"**
- **OIVD assigns "X" document number**

39

## **Categorization by Request**

- **"X" number accessible through CLIA database**
- **CLIA categorization performed**
- **CLIA letter issued**
- **Categorization posted on CLIA website**

40

## **Categorization by Request**

- **Waiver via CMS/PHS 1995 Criteria**
- **Test cleared or approved to apply for waiver through process**
- **FDA approves waiver protocol**
- **Waiver studies begin**
- **Timeframe depends on queue**

41

## **CBER:**

- **Manufacturer submits request for product review to CBER**
- **When test is cleared, approved, licensed CBER sends test instructions to Clara Sliva**
- **CBER test logged into CDRH CLIA database using CBER document number: BK, BP, BLA, PL**

42

## **Rapid HIV Waiver**

- **Manufacturer submits waiver application to CDRH**
- **CBER reviewer consults**
- **CMS consults**
- **CDRH issues letter**
- **CDRH posts categorization on CLIA website**

43

## **Categorization Notification Letter**

- **FDA's document number is the key**
- **“k001111” – new 510(k) CDRH**
- **“BLA002222 – new BLA CBER**
- **“k001111/A1” – new trade name**
- **complexity**
- **test system name**
- **analyte name**

44

## **Categorization Notification Letter**

- **Call – don't be shy**
- **No letter 3 weeks after clearance**
- **Incorrect letter**
- **Website updates monthly**

45

## **FDA's CLIA Workload**

- **10/1//02 – 4/18/03**
- **1,125 categorized**
- **912 - moderate**
- **87 - high**
- **126 - waived**

46

## >1,125 Tests Categorized



47

## FDA's CLIA Website

- <http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/clia/>
- “Government Google” for current CLIA information
- Lists all waived analytes and tests
- Links to CMS, CDC websites
- CLIA database

48



## CLIA Database

- <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfCLIA/search.cfm>
- Contains all commercially marketed tests categorized by CDC and FDA
- Several ways to search

49

## Search CLIA Database

- Search for CLIA records by
  - test system name
  - specialty/subspecialty
  - analyte
  - document number
  - qualifier (reagent application)  
e.g. SLIVA Analyzer/St. Pierre reagent
  - effective date
  - complexity

50

## Tips

- You may enter the entire test name
- But most successful if you enter the first word or two
- Or just the first few letters
- e.g. first few letters of manufacturer name

51

## Mastering the CLIA Database

- Manufacturer Test System
- Qualifier
- Analyte
- Document Number
- Complexity
- Analyte
- Specialty
- Effective Date (*mm/dd/yyyy*)
- Sort *one* or a *combination* of the values and select Search:

52

## **Publication of Categorizations**

- **Monthly on FDA's CLIA Home Page**
- **Federal Register Notice, interval to be determined**

53

## **What We Have Learned**

- **Multiple stakeholders**
- **Labs**
- **Providers**
- **Patients**
- **Manufacturers**
- **Government**

54

# **Over 31,000 Categorizations**

**Laboratory Inspectors, Laboratories,  
Manufacturers, and Other Stakeholders  
Want to Know**

55

## **CLIA INFORMATION**

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56