



4164-01-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Food and Drug Administration**

**[Docket No. FDA-2018-D-0688]**

### **Standardization of Data and Documentation Practices for Product Tracing; Draft Guidance for Industry; Availability**

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of a draft guidance for industry entitled "Standardization of Data and Documentation Practices for Product Tracing." The draft guidance elaborates on the standards for the interoperable exchange of transaction information, transaction history, and transaction statements (product tracing information) provided under the drug supply chain security provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act). This guidance is intended to assist trading partners in standardizing the data contained in the product tracing information that trading partners must provide, capture, and maintain under the FD&C Act. In addition, this guidance includes recommendations for documentation practices that a trading partner can use to meet its product tracing obligations, including in situations where a trading partner is permitted by law to provide other trading partners with product tracing information that omits certain elements that would otherwise be required.

**DATES:** Submit either electronic or written comments on the draft guidance by **[INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]** to

ensure that the Agency considers your comment on this draft guidance before it begins work on the final version of the guidance.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on any guidance at any time as follows:

*Electronic Submissions*

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to <https://www.regulations.gov> will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>.
- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see "Written/Paper Submissions" and "Instructions").

*Written/Paper Submissions*

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- Mail/Hand delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions): Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in "Instructions."

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA-2018-D-0688 for "Standardization of Data and Documentation Practices for Product Tracing; Draft Guidance for Industry; Availability." Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as "Confidential Submissions," publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- Confidential Submissions--To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states "THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION." The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as "confidential." Any information marked as "confidential" will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about

FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the "Search" box and follow the prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

Submit written requests for single copies of the draft guidance to the Division of Drug Information, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10001 New Hampshire Ave., Hillandale Building, 4th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your requests. See the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for electronic access to the draft guidance document.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Connie Jung, Office of Compliance, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, 301-796-3130, [drugtrackandtrace@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:drugtrackandtrace@fda.hhs.gov) .

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

I.

Background

On November 27, 2013, the Drug Supply Chain Security Act (Title II of Pub. L. 113-54) was signed into law. Section 202 of the Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA), which added new sections 581 and 582 to the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 360eee and 360eee-1), set forth new

definitions and requirements related to product tracing. The DSCSA outlines critical steps to build an electronic, interoperable system by November 27, 2023, that will identify and trace certain prescription drugs as they are distributed within the United States.

Under section 582(b)(1), (c)(1), (d)(1), and (e)(1) of the FD&C Act, certain trading partners in the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain (manufacturers, wholesale distributors, dispensers, and repackagers) are required to capture, maintain, and provide the subsequent purchaser of certain prescription drug products with product tracing information. These requirements took effect on January 1, 2015, for manufacturers, wholesale distributors, and repackagers, and on July 1, 2015, for dispensers.

As required by section 582(a)(2)(A) of the FD&C Act, FDA established initial standards in 2014 to facilitate the interoperable exchange of transaction information, transaction history, and transaction statements between trading partners (79 FR 70878, November 28, 2014). Those standards help trading partners comply with the requirements of section 582(b)(1), (c)(1), (d)(1), and (e)(1) of the FD&C Act to provide the subsequent trading partners with product tracing information, in paper or electronic format, through the extension and/or use of current systems and processes.

This draft guidance elaborates on the initial standards that FDA established in 2014. It is intended to assist trading partners in standardizing the data that are contained in the product tracing information they must provide to subsequent purchasers. It is also intended to help trading partners understand the data elements that should be included in the product tracing information, particularly in situations where they are permitted by law to provide other trading partners with product tracing information that omits certain elements that would otherwise be required. In addition, the draft guidance recommends documentation practices that trading

partners can use to satisfy the requirements of section 582(b)(1), (c)(1), (d)(1), and (e)(1) of the FD&C Act.

This draft guidance is being issued consistent with FDA's good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The draft guidance, when finalized, will represent the current thinking of FDA about standardization of data and documentation practices for the exchange of product tracing information. It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. This guidance is not subject to Executive Order 12866.

## II. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This draft guidance includes information collection provisions that are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). FDA intends to solicit public comment and obtain OMB approval for any information collections recommended in this guidance that are new or that would represent modifications to those previously approved collections of information found in FDA regulations or guidances.

## III. Electronic Access

Persons with access to the internet may obtain the document at <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/default.htm>, <https://www.fda.gov/BiologicsBloodVaccines/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/default.htm>, or <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Dated: February 23, 2018.

**Leslie Kux,**

*Associate Commissioner for Policy.*

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