



Australian Government

Department of Health

Therapeutic Goods Administration

# Establishing the Australian Unique Device Identification (UDI) system

23 May 2022

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ARCS Annual Conference 2022

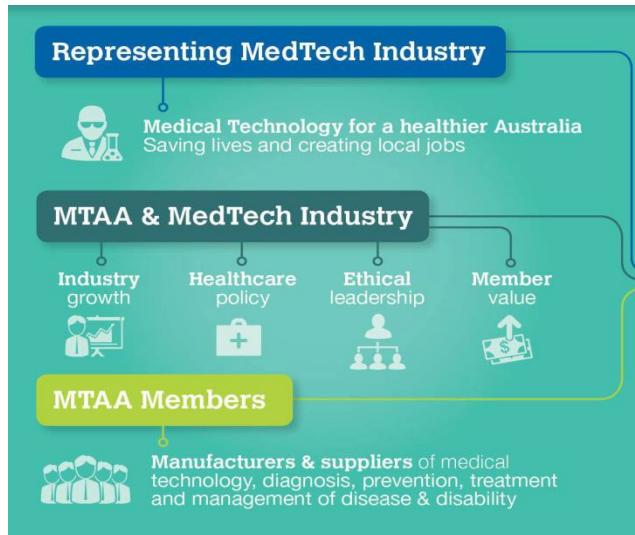
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Medical Devices Post Market Reviews and Reforms Section  
Australian Government Department of Health, TGA  
ARCS Annual Conference 2022



# This is a joint presentation



**Medical Technology**  
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



**TGA** Health Safety  
Regulation



The Australian Government is in caretaker mode and in accordance with the caretaker conventions I will be limiting my statements today to factual issues and matters of administration.

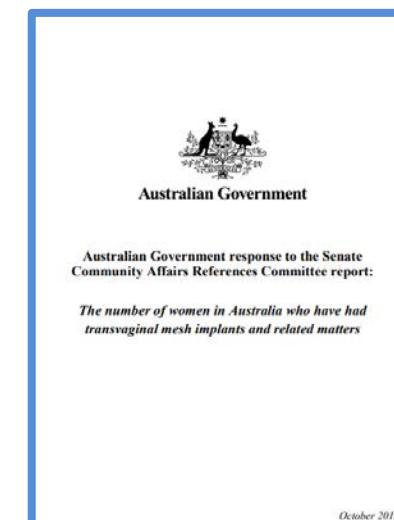
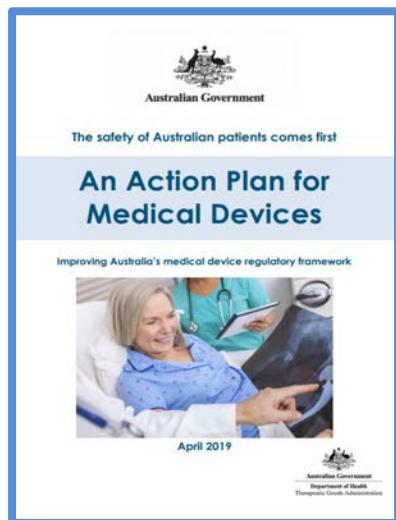
# Purpose of today's presentation

- What is Unique Device Identification?
- What does this mean for patients, hospitals, e-health records and supply chain?
- Establishing the Australian UDI system – progress to date
- What does this mean for manufacturers?

# Background and key drivers

Worldwide recognition that, in the interests of patient safety and improved industry outcomes, the ability to unambiguously identify medical devices is essential

Demand for improved traceability of medical devices in the supply chain



Review of Medicines and Medical Devices Regulation

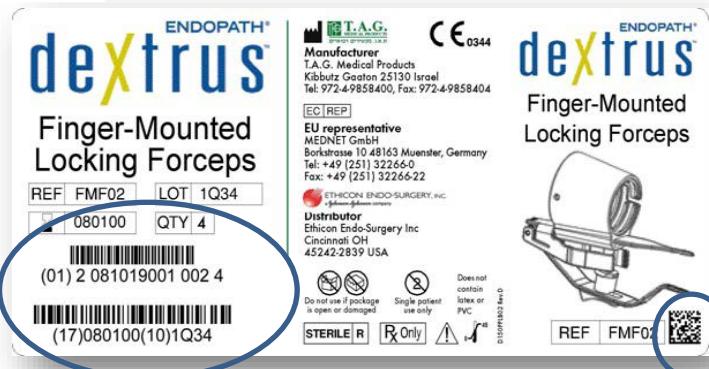
2019 TGA Action Plan for Medical Devices

Senate Community Affairs References Committee Report

2013 UDI Guidance  
2019 UDI Application Guide

# What is Unique Device Identification?

- A globally unique series of characters that allows the unambiguous identification of a specific model of device on the market
- Created through a globally accepted standard and
- Applied to the device packaging (or device itself) and every level of packaging



## Model Information

- Device Identifier (DI)
- A globally unique code specific to a model of medical device
- Used as the access key to data stored in the UDI repository

(01) 2 081019001 002 4

## Production information

- Production Identifier (PI)
- A code that identifies the unit of device production
- There are different types, and the production identifier includes serial number, lot/batch number, Software as a Medical Device (SaMD) version, manufacturing and/or expiration date
- Not stored in the repository



(17)080100(10)1Q34

# What are the benefits (why is it important)?

**Patients:** Faster and more accurate identification of patients who have devices that are included in a recall or safety action  
Help prevent recalled or expired products from being used in care process  
Enable accurate, real time details within digital health records

**Recalls:** Prevent use of recalled products, and enhance surveillance activities

**Healthcare:** More reliable and efficient system of tracking and tracing medical device issues

**Point-of-Care:** Ensuring correct product is utilised and recording of data in Electronic Health Record and Patient Implant Cards

**Research:** Comparative studies on product, treatment outcomes or patient care  
Automation of accurate product data into registries to support research and monitoring activities

**Supply Chain:** Tracking use of Product, Lot Numbers and Expiry  
Easier identification of recalled products within inventory  
Enablement of consistency in data capture capability across all products supporting greater automation

**Commerce:** Improving accuracy in transactional, analytical and contractual processes

**Reimbursement:** Accurately identify devices for reimbursement requirements

**Anti-Counterfeiting:** May enable additional preventative measures



# Vision – globally unique device identifiers



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衛生福利部  
Ministry of Health and Welfare  
促進全民健康與福祉



Government  
of Canada



U.S. FOOD & DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION



European  
Commission



Australian Government  
Department of Health  
Therapeutic Goods Administration



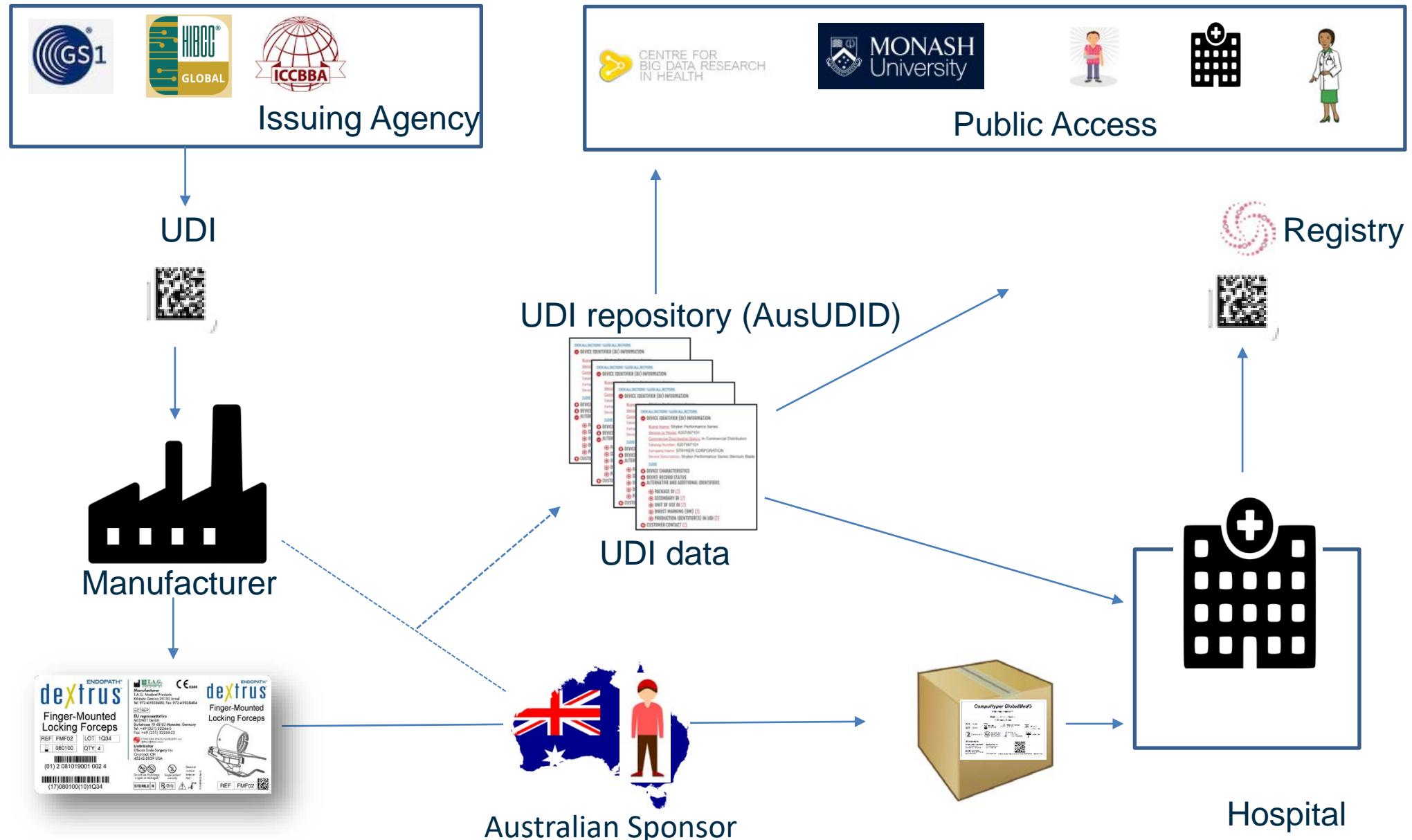
NATIONAL MEDICAL PRODUCTS ADMINISTRATION  
国家药品监督管理局



Medicines & Healthcare products  
Regulatory Agency



独立行政法人 医薬品医療機器総合機構  
Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency





# The UDI database

## The Regulator's database

Contains static information

Does not include production information

Does not contain patient or personal data

## Supply chain, hospitals, registries etc.

Will collect device data and production data (batch number, expiry date, lot number, manufacture date)

Will link to patient data (in hospital, registry and billing systems for example)

## UDI data that we are proposing to store

Device information	Device information	Clinical characteristics	Clinical characteristics	Manufacture information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unit of use DI</li><li>• UDI-DI (primary)</li><li>• UDI Type (IA)</li><li>• Additional device DI</li><li>• Additional device UDI type (IA)</li><li>• ARTG ID</li><li>• Brand name</li><li>• Device model or version</li><li>• Software version</li><li>• Reference number</li><li>• Catalogue number</li><li>• Direct part marking (DPM)?</li><li>• Direct part marking DI</li><li>• DPM same as primary DI?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GMDN code/term</li><li>• Configurable medical devices system?</li><li>• URL for additional information</li><li>• How the device is controlled<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– serial</li><li>– lot or batch #</li><li>– expiry date</li><li>– manufacture date</li><li>– software version date or release date</li><li>– ISBT-128</li></ul></li><li>• Previous DI</li><li>• Reason for DI change</li><li>• Date of discontinuance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clinical size<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– volume</li><li>– length</li><li>– gauge</li><li>– diameter</li></ul></li><li>• Storage conditions<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– temperature range</li><li>– needs to be refrigerated</li><li>– relative humidity range</li><li>– pressure range</li><li>– avoid direct sunlight</li></ul></li><li>• Handling conditions<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– temperature range</li><li>– needs to be refrigerated</li><li>– relative humidity range</li><li>– pressure range</li><li>– avoid direct sunlight</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Critical warnings<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– contains latex?</li><li>– contains DEHP?</li><li>– MRI compatible?</li></ul></li><li>• Number of reuses</li><li>• Additional product description (clinically relevant)</li><li>• Labelled as single use?</li><li>• Packaged sterile?</li><li>• Need for sterilisation before use?</li><li>• Method of sterilisation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Manufacturer's name</li><li>• Manufacturers address</li><li>• Manufacturers customer service contact</li><li>• Sponsor's name</li><li>• Sponsor's address</li><li>• Sponsor contact phone</li><li>• Sponsor's contact email</li></ul>
				Supply chain information For every device packaging level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Package type ???</li><li>• UDI-DI</li><li>• UDI type (e.g. GS1)</li><li>• Quantity per package</li><li>• Additional device identifier</li><li>• Additional device identifier type (IA)</li></ul>

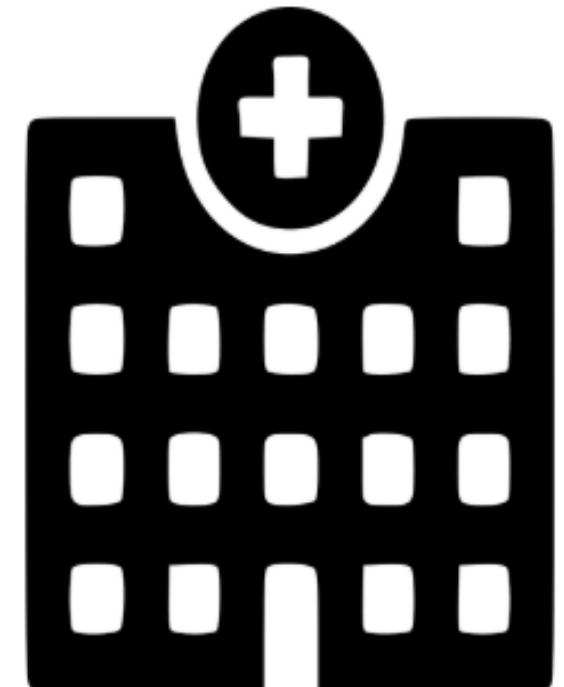
# For patients

- Improved ability to find information about device options prior to surgery
- Help prevent recalled or expired devices from being used in care process
- Improved access to data about implanted devices through inclusion on Patient Implant Card, can potentially be included in discharge papers and digital health records (such as My Health Record)
- Ability to search other data sources using the UDI – for example recalls, adverse events, Australian UDI database
- Ability to scan device UDI to link directly to device data held in Australian UDI database. Includes ability to see production information (lot number etc.) noting this is not stored in the Australian UDI database



# For hospitals and e-health records

- Enables tracing of devices implanted in patients
- Help prevent recalled or expired devices from being used in care process
- Scan at point of care reduces errors with manual entry
- Publicly available access to the Australian UDI Database (search, scan, download)
- Automate the download of device data into local data sets
- Enables longitudinal analysis
- Limit free text
- Note mapping of data changes over time (where a new UDI might be created)
- Accelerate adoption using the UDI for Healthcare (UDI4H) and UDI for Registries (UDI4R) frameworks (UDI “in a box”)



# For supply chain

- Supports a future of improved visibility and traceability of products throughout the supply chain
- Supports improved consignment management
- Enables greater automation and data capture, reducing errors and manual intervention in supply chain processes
- Greater inventory accuracy in real time
- Less reliance on manual processes to manage products
- Improved accuracy and timeliness where devices are used, enabling automation of ordering, reconciliation and reimbursement
- More accurate data capture to support improved analytics, especially in areas related to patient level costing, value based health and procurement
- Common business language



# TGA will build and manage the UDI system

Greater benefits for patients if  
UDI is adopted in hospital and other systems



**Prostheses List**

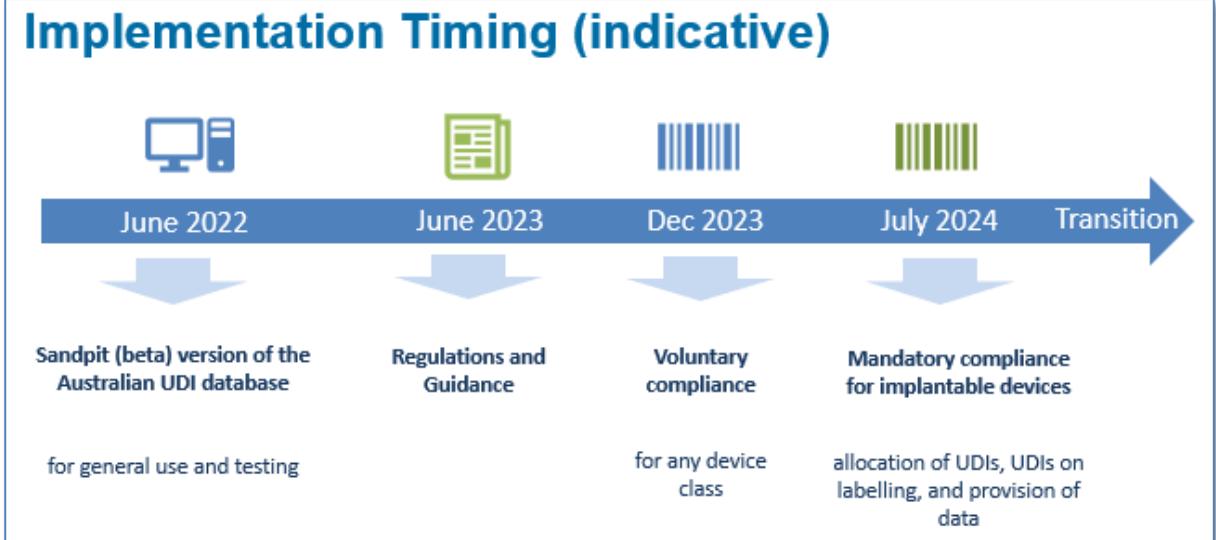
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- What does this mean for manufacturers?

# UDI development – four streams in parallel      Timing

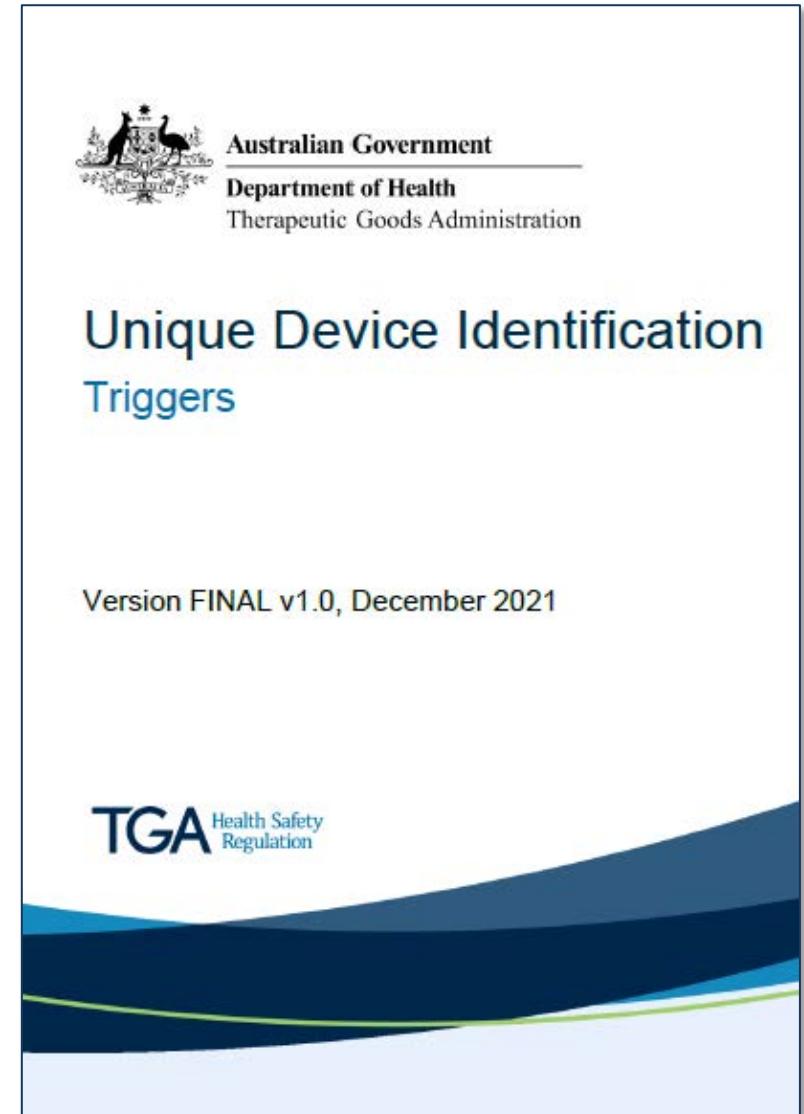
- Engagement
- Regulations
- Database and technical solution
- Adoption

- Sandpit version available June 2022
- Regulatory consultation 1H 2022
- Voluntary compliance 1 January 2023



# Progress to date

- Approval and funding to build the Australian UDI database within a four year timeframe
- Legislation changed to allow for the TGA to collect UDI data
- Extensive consultation – including ‘lessons learnt’
- UDI Triggers Working Group complete and final report produced
- Technical Working Group established
- Early Adopter Projects (UDI4H, UDI4R)
  - Qld Health Early Adopter Project - scoping continues  
Likely to be expanded to include mesh devices (such as hernia mesh)
  - Discussions continue with a second jurisdiction
- Successful connection of National Product Catalogue (beta) to the sandpit AusUDID
- ARTG/UDI alignment work being planned
- Planning started for adopting UDI in other TGA processes such as recalls and adverse events





# Australian UDI database

- Contemporary design – including the use of APIs to enable interoperability
- Ability to download publicly available data using a variety of standards (exploring Health Level 7 standards SPL and FHIR, JSON, CSV for example)
- Full database or regular changes
- Minimal free text
- Links to existing reference numbers (catalogue #, ARTG ID, Prostheses List billing code)
- Snapshot of UDI records over time, ability to see data changes and UDI Device Identifier changes
- Publicly available through a portal (no login)
- Historical and current data
- ‘Sandpit’ version as well as production
- Joined-up data sets (future state)
- Static data only

The screenshot shows the TGA AusUDID portal interface. The top navigation bar includes the Australian Government Department of Health logo, the TGA AusUDID logo with a 'FOUNDATION' badge, a user profile for 'VAN WIJK, Michelle', and a 'Log out?' button. A dropdown menu shows 'No simulation'. The main menu has links for Home, Search, Scan a barcode, Downloads, Recalls, Adverse events, and Staff centre. The 'Search' link is currently active. Below the menu, a search bar says 'Search the device database'. The search results table shows a single row for an 'Avalus™' device. The table columns are: Brand name (Avalus™), Model / version (7420), Manufacturer (MEDTRONIC, INC.), ARTG ID (111947), and ARTG ID (231988). There is a checked checkbox next to the second ARTG ID. At the bottom right of the table, there are links for XML, JSON, and Adverse Event.

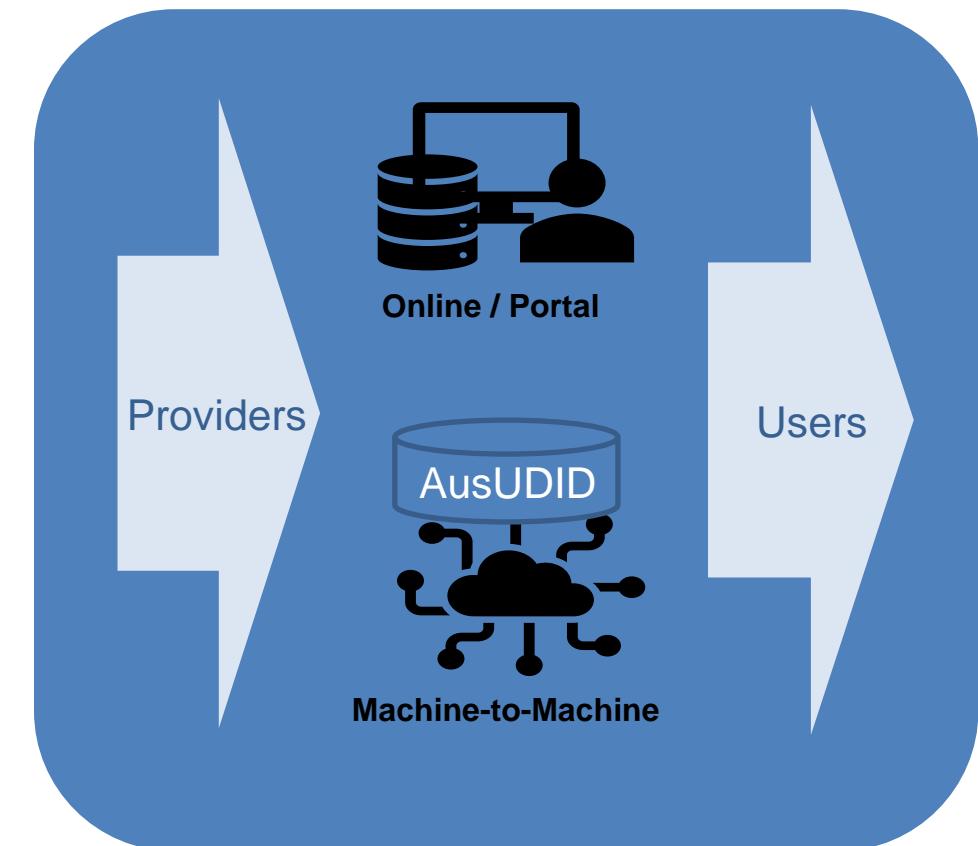
Brand name	Model / version	Manufacturer	ARTG ID	ARTG ID
Avalus™	7420	MEDTRONIC, INC.	111947	231988

# Technical Working Group

## ICT design, interoperability and data exchange between AusUDID and external ICT systems

### Emerging themes/discussion

- Minimise any additional data elements
- Make the definitions for the elements clear to avoid confusion
- Allow changes to data
- Data upload preferences - M2M, HL7 Structured Product Labelling (SPL)
- Base initial considerations on U.S. FDA UDI
- Support for automated versioning of records
- The importance of a help desk for support
- Relationship between Catalogue number and UDI

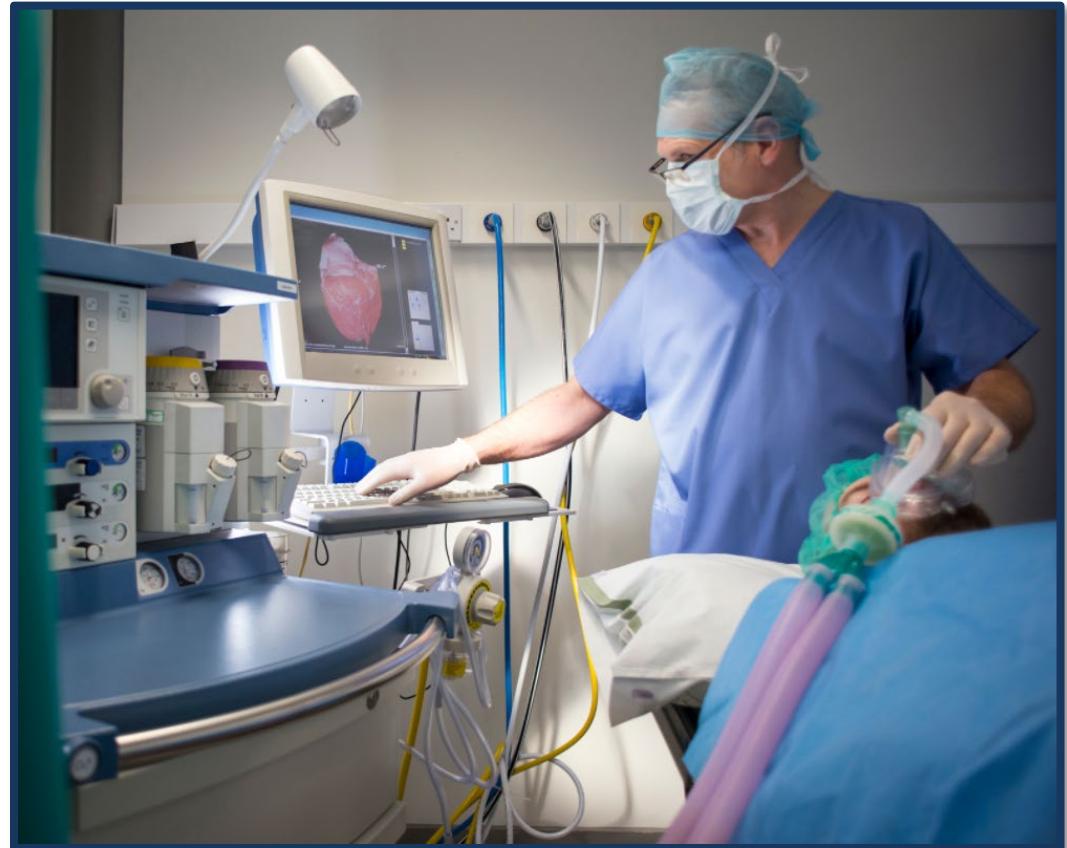


# Early adopter projects

- To enable the early use of / experiments in using the UDI throughout the broader healthcare system
- Project 1 – government public hospitals (Queensland)
- Ongoing discussions with registries, and software providers

## Benefits

- Use of identifiers in hospitals and health system
- Improve speed of uptake in health
- Information gathering (issues, costs etc.) to inform planning
- Re-usable framework (UDI 4 Hospitals (UDI4H))



# Qld early adopter project - considerations



AUSTRALIAN  
COMMISSION  
ON SAFETY AND  
QUALITY IN  
HEALTH CARE



Hospitals  
Inventory control



Procurement and supply  
chain



Manufacturers



Registries



Patient Implant Card  
Discharge papers



My Health Record  
Electronic Medical Record  
Non-Electronic Medical Record



Recalls

PRO

Public patient  
Private patient

\$ Invoices



National  
Product  
Catalogue



Devices

# Issues affecting adoption

- Lack of translation between different issuing entities
- Preparation time and costs
- Purchasing uses “REF” or catalogue numbers
- UDI carrier being easily identifiable

UDI



# To Inform the Regulatory Framework

## UDI Consultation 3

Focus areas include

- Impacts of accepting both U.S. and EU labels and data
- Transition approach
- Likely to be from June 2022 using the TGA Consultation Hub
- Notification to existing sponsors and UDI stakeholder list
- [udi@health.gov.au](mailto:udi@health.gov.au)

Consultation period

6 weeks

Finalisation and approval

1 January 2023  
In effect

# Collaboration and engagement

- Manufacturers
- Sponsors
- Healthcare providers (hospitals etc.)
- Industry and peak bodies
- Issuing Agencies
- Patients and patient advocates
- Researchers
- Other regulators
- Device registries
- State and Territory governments
- Distributors (Supply Chain)
- Funders
- Software developers
- Other Government departments and authorities



[udi@health.gov.au](mailto:udi@health.gov.au)

UDI hub - <https://www.tga.gov.au/unique-device-identification-system>

- Sandpit will enable focus on experience in using what has been built, opportunity for feedback and to make changes
- Webinars will continue, focus on guest speakers to benefit manufacturers and sponsors
- 9 webinars to date
- Other work will benefit from engagement:
  - Operational support
  - ARTG/UDI alignment project

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# UDI Value – Manufacturer perspective

Pre-market	Post-market	Supply and Clinical
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A more robust pre-market assessment of medical devices due to the availability of better quality, evidence-based data that is presented consistently and which includes post market data and analysis</li><li>• Enhanced analysis and research through the uniform documentation of devices in electronic health records, clinical information systems, registries and other data sources</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enhanced effectiveness of post-market safety-related activities:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Improved complaint reporting</li><li>– Monitoring of trends</li><li>– Adverse event reporting</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved traceability to end users</li><li>• Reduction in medical and surgical procedural errors by allowing HCPs and others to quickly trace a device and obtain vital information about its characteristics</li><li>• Manage any potential shortages by knowing product location</li><li>• Enhance patient safety and treatment outcomes</li></ul>

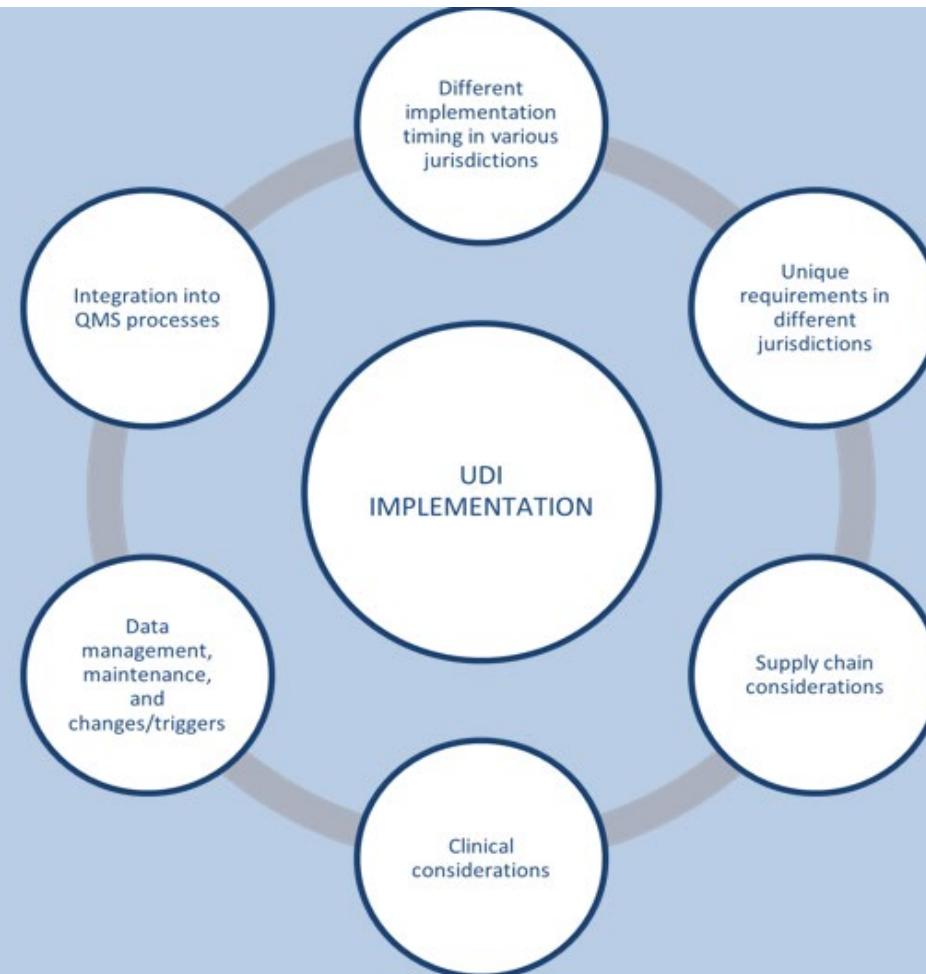


# Implementing UDI





# Implementing UDI



# Timing in different jurisdictions

2014



2019



2021



2022



2023



2024



# Unique jurisdiction requirements

Jurisdiction	Unique Requirement
USA	<p>Text to describe the outer packaging of the product that allows users to understand higher level packaging configurations</p> <p>Requires entry of labeler DUNS number</p>
EU	Requires Basic-DI
China	Requires the 20 digit medical insurance code
Saudi Arabia	<p>Arabic version of the brand/trade name and the device description for home use devices</p> <p>If the barcode is linear, it must be a single barcode</p>
Taiwan	Labels needs to state "containing DEHP (di-(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate) if applicable
Singapore	Need to use HAS issuing agency if the device is not marketed in US or EU

# Data

- Data gathering
- Data submission
- Maintenance
- Changes to device



# Supply chain and Clinical use



## Supply chain

- Ability to use UDI in ERP and other systems
- Must work on conveyers
- UDI on multiple layers of packaging
- Different UDI standards
- Triggers – need for a new UDI-DI
- Changes to device data over time – from a supply chain perspective
- Supply-chain use of AIDC symbology vs other users



UDI



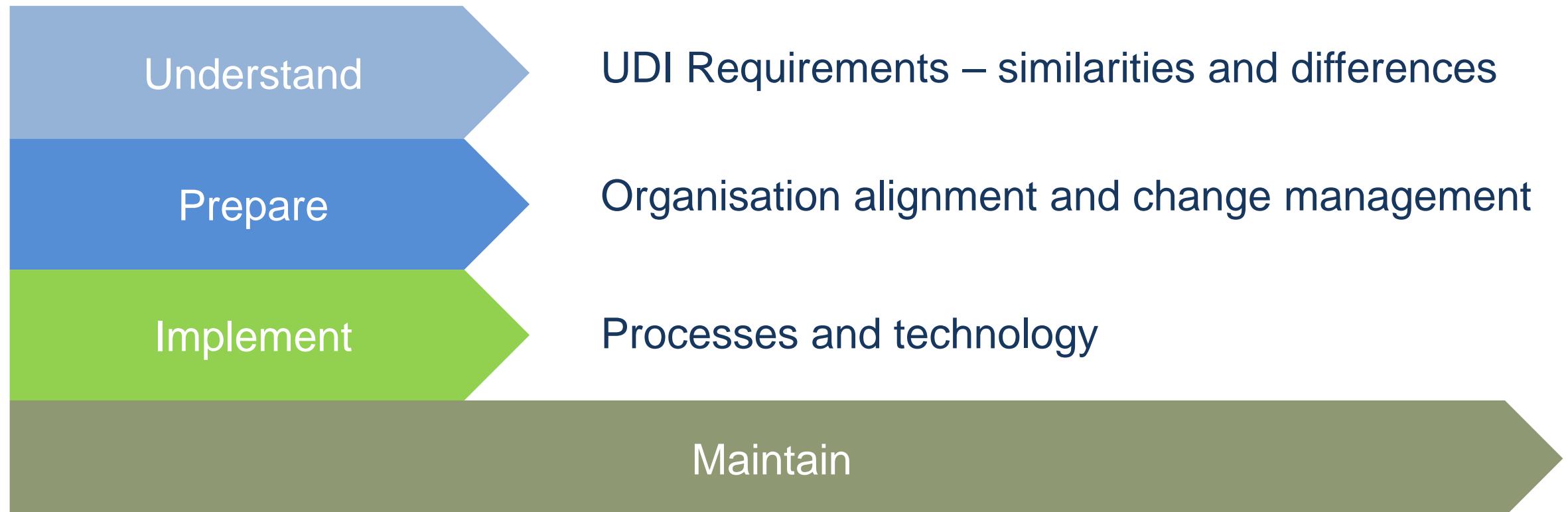
## Clinical use

- Ability to scan and interpret different UDI carrier formats and standards
- Changes to device data over time – from a clinical perspective
- Incorporating device data into clinical device catalogues

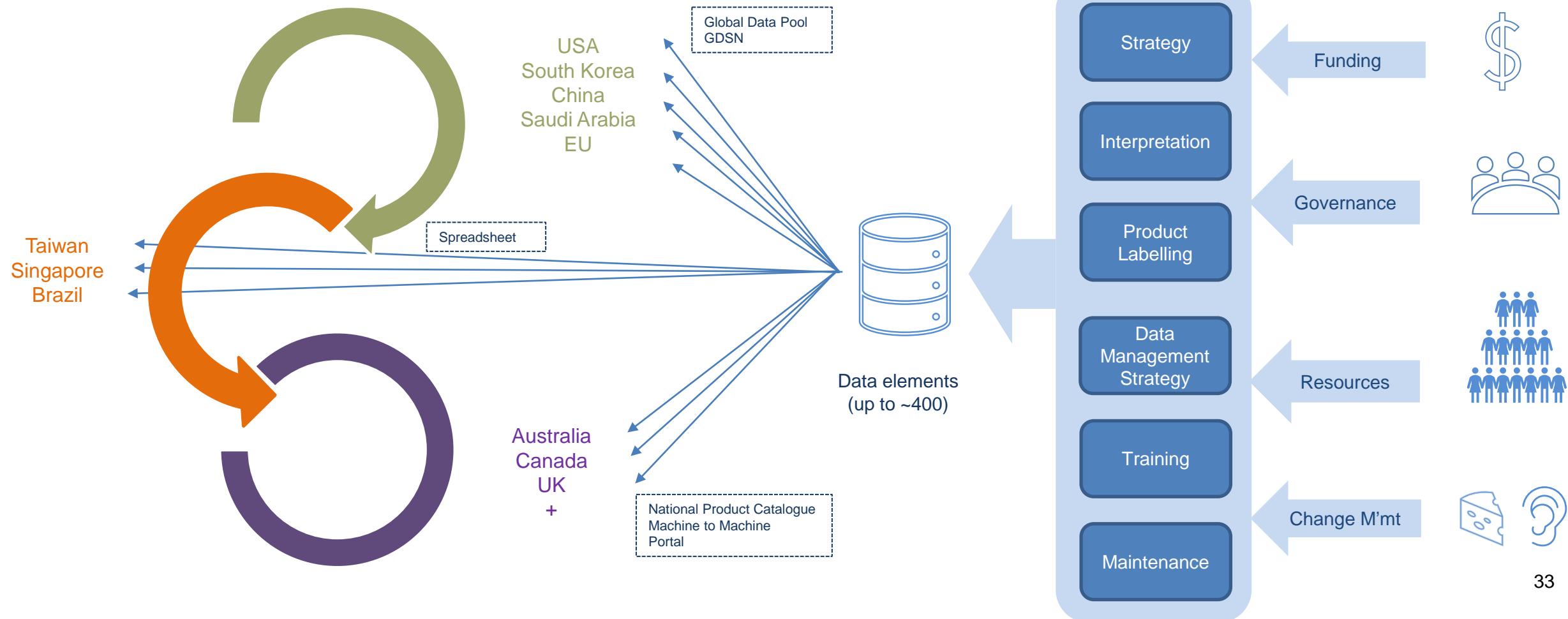
# Integration into the QMS

- Impacts the whole lifecycle of the device
- [https://ec.europa.eu/health/system/files/2021-07/md\\_2021-19\\_en\\_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/system/files/2021-07/md_2021-19_en_0.pdf)

# At a high level



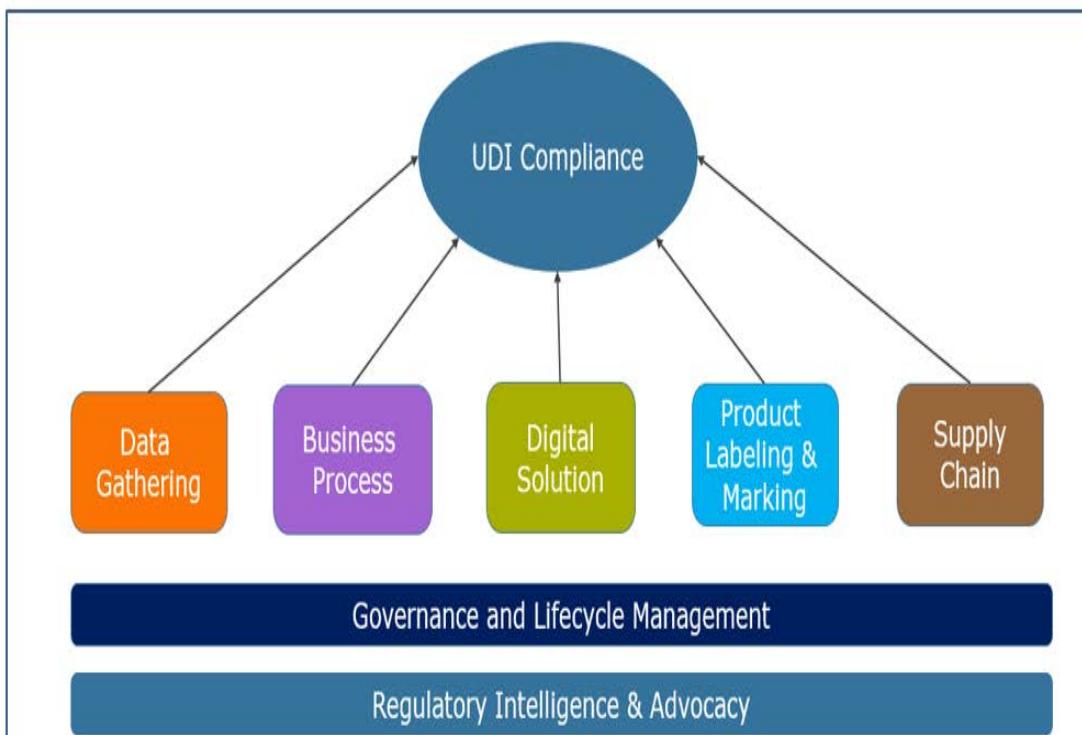
# Extent of impact for manufacturers





# Industry examples

## Our Approach - S+N Global UDI Strategy



- **Product Development & Engineering**

Creating new materials, bill of materials, and all associated product attributes (part description, GTIN, serial, sterility, clinically relevant size, etc.).

- **Label Development and UDI**

Designing labels with the required information (e.g. date of manufacture, shelf-life expiry, magnetic resonance safety info, etc.), publishing the data to the FDA GUDID database and jurisdictional registries.

- **Supply Chain**

Managing product effectiveness, material status, country of origin, and distribution channels.

- **Label Operations**

Managing enterprise labeling master data within enterprise software, printing correct and legible labels, and ensuring barcode scanability.

- **Manufacturing & Operations**

Direct part marking, proper packaging, labeling application, and product traceability.

- **Warehouse & Logistics**

Material transactions and customer order fulfillment.

- **Quality Assurance & Control**

Maintaining GTIN functional name, verifying labels.

- **Regulatory Affairs**

Maintaining correct FDA product codes, submission files, inclusion listings, and other regulatory data.

# UDI Journey (experience with regulators)

- What some companies have done so far, most have implemented in US, Korea, Saudi Arabia
- Working with other regulators to influence direction of regulations
- Master database is built, and UDI tools have been identified
- Lessons learnt from other regulators
  - Global UDI strategy should be flexible to accommodate new and changing requirements
  - Establish one source of truth and data governance early
  - Maintain a global UDI Data Dictionary with clear definitions
  - Understand internal/external impacts of UDID Triggers
  - Scheduling/staging initial submissions based on volume
  - Review data before submission
  - Develop internal audit process
  - Different requirements in jurisdictions e.g. Fahrenheit vs Celsius, countries requiring entries in local language, difference in data field definitions
  - M2M has unique challenges

# Challenge and request

Lack of harmonisation across countries is one of the biggest challenges and leads to additional administrative burden

- UDI triggers
- Data elements and their definition
- Scope of devices included
- Bar code requirements
- Direct marking
- Existing inventory and legacy products
- Lack of clarity around lowest level of UDI-DI



# UDI success in Australia

- Globally harmonised regulatory frameworks and data elements
- Standardisation of issuing agencies
- Clear definition of requirements
- Appropriate support and guidance from TGA
- Sufficient planning time
- Adoption and use by healthcare providers
- No Australian specific attributes or requirements (other than ARTG in AusUDID)
- Ability to make corrections to the AusUDID without penalty
- Ability to submit in multiple formats - Manual/M2M etc.
- Open and transparent process during development of AusUDID, learning from experience (good and bad) from other jurisdictions, IT system proves reliable and stable, technical support during data upload
- Meeting the intention of UDI as a global system for clearly and accurately identifying a device through distribution and use via alignment to global data elements/triggers e.g. US FDA GUDID.

# What should local sponsors be thinking about?

- Globally harmonised regulatory frameworks and data elements
- Communication with manufacturers
- Time/resource/system requirements to provide data to TGA
- Changes to systems and processes if required
- How to provide data and maintain it over time
- Model of device level, not “inclusion” level (Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods)
- One UDI record if the same model of device has multiple sponsors

# Call to Action

- Participate in TGA activities – Working Groups, Early Adopter Projects, Consultation (June 2022)
- Reach out internally to learn from UDI experience already in your organisation, share this with TGA and MTAA
- Give the TGA your feedback on the look and feel and usability of the AusUDID before the start of voluntary compliance
  - register to use the Sandpit between July and December 2022
  - this will help to ensure there are a diverse range of sandpit users to maximise the feedback on usability before the launch for voluntary compliance
- Join the MTAA UDI WG
- Attend one of the monthly TGA webinars (11.30-12.30 on the third Tuesday of every month) – they are recorded
- Check in regularly at the TGA UDI web hub
- Email the TGA [udi@health.gov.au](mailto:udi@health.gov.au) or the MTAA [jbaveja@mtaa.org.au](mailto:jbaveja@mtaa.org.au)

# AusUDID Sandpit (beta)

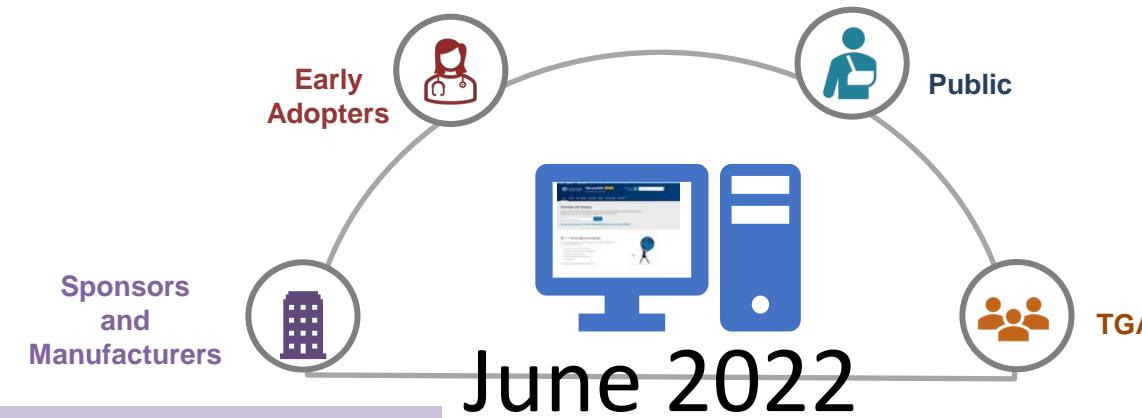
DRAFT

## Early Adopters

- View and download UDI data, full device versions, history and relationships (CSV and M2M (HL7))
- Scan labels and barcodes
- Device data (based on GUDID) to support agreed Projects

## Public

- View and download UDI data, full device versions, history and relationships (CSV)
- Scan labels and barcodes



## Sponsors and Manufacturers

- Create, update and delete UDI records via the Portal
- Create, update, delete UDI records via M2M (beta NPC and other systems using HL7)
- Bulk upload of new UDI records
- Link UDI to ARTG
- Sponsor access and authentication
- Manufacturer access and authentication
- Attach documents to UDI records
- Support clean-up of ARTG data and alignment / integrity with UDI

## TGA

- Manage UDI record and device status
- Verify integrity of UDI data
- TGA Staff Centre (access operational statistics, manage and release reference data)
- Manage reference data sets



# Sandpit – Some more specifics



Onboarding process



Separate logins for this environment



Dedicated support



Guidance



June webinar

Expressions of interest now open  
Email [udi@health.gov.au](mailto:udi@health.gov.au)

The screenshot shows the TGA AusUDID device database interface. The top navigation bar includes the Australian Government Department of Health logo, the TGA AusUDID DEMO button, and a user profile for VAN WIJK, Michelle. The main content area displays search results for a device, with sections for device identifiers, device information, clinical characteristics, sponsor and manufacturer details, global medical device nomenclature, packaging, production information, attachments and downloads, recalls and adverse events, history, and sponsor actions. The device status is listed as 'Unknown' with a note to contact the TGA for clarification. The device is included in the ARTG, with an ARTG identifier provided. There are no critical safety precautions, but users are advised to review clinical characteristics. The device is classified as an Aortic heart valve bioprosthesis.

# Questions?



**Australian Government**

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**Department of Health**  
Therapeutic Goods Administration