

[Organization logo]

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PROCEDURE FOR CONTROL OF NONCONFORMING PRODUCTS

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Change history

Date	Version	Created by	Description of change
	0.1	Advisera	Basic document outline

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1. Purpose, scope and users

The purpose of this Procedure is to describe all activities related to identifying and managing nonconforming product in order to prevent its unwanted use or shipment and to define responsibilities and authorities related to treatment of nonconforming product.

This Procedure is applied to all processes and/or areas (parts of organization) within the Quality Management System (QMS).

Users of this document are members of top management of [organization name], as well as the owners of processes in which the nonconformity occurred.

Commented [AES4]: Include the name of your organization.

2. Reference documents

- ISO 13485:2016 standard, clause 8.3
- Quality Manual
- Procedure for Corrective and Preventive Action
- MDR 2017/745, article 10(9) and Annex IX – Chapter I
- IVDR 2017/746
- MEDDEV 2.12/1 rev. 8 Vigilance System
- [national regulations for vigilance system]

Commented [AES5]: You can find a template for this document in the ISO 13485 & MDR Integrated Documentation Toolkit, folder "03_Quality_Manual".

Commented [AES6]: You can find a template for this document in the ISO 13485 & MDR Integrated Documentation Toolkit, folder "25_Corrective_and_Preventive_Action".

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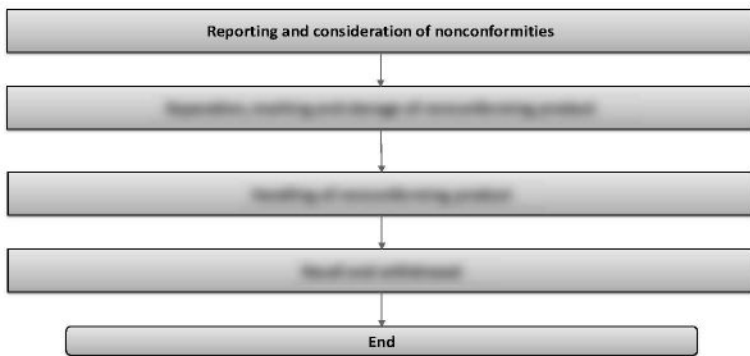
You can find the full text of the MDR on the following link:
<https://advisera.com/13485academy/mdr/>

Commented [AES8]: Delete if your medical device is not an in vitro diagnostic medical device.

Commented [AES9]: Include reference to your national regulation that covers the matter of how adverse events should be handled.

3. Managing nonconformity

3.1. Process flow



3.2. Reporting and consideration of nonconformities

A nonconformity can be generated by various processes:

- Nonconforming materials identified during incoming inspection
- Finished product nonconforming to the specifications of the product
- Nonconforming product during incoming inspection
- Nonconforming material received

Every employee who notices a nonconformity must report it to [job title]. The nonconformity is recorded in the Nonconforming Product Record by [job title].

Commented [AES10]: E.g., Management Representative

3.3. Separation, marking and storage of nonconforming products

[Job title] separates nonconforming product from conforming products. Responsible for separation, marking and storage of nonconforming products in order to prevent misuse and unauthorized use and shipment is [job title] or chief of shift in which the nonconformity is discovered. An employee in the work place where the nonconformity is discovered marks the nonconforming product.

Commented [AES11]: Person responsible for warehousing and storage.

[organization name]

Nonconforming raw materials and the final products are stored with a sign reading "Nonconforming Material", and they are stored in a designated area marked as "NCR" (Nonconforming Material).

After solving the nonconformity and performing all activities mentioned above, [job title] enters data about the nonconformity in the Registry of Nonconformities.

3.4. Handling nonconforming product

[Job title] selects members of the Team for nonconforming products depending on the process in which the nonconformity has occurred or was discovered.

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The Team for nonconforming product assesses the nonconforming product in order to determine the method for dealing with the nonconforming product.

Methods for dealing with nonconforming product are:

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- Write-offs (Scrap) – [job title] is responsible to organize the write-off by handing over the product to an organization licensed for deposition, recycling or destruction of the product.
- Reusing or classification for other purposes – used in cases when the nonconforming product fulfills demands for the product or process in which it will be used.
- Approval of use (Use "As Is") – is performed by [job title] by approving the shipment based on consent of the user or the decision of a relevant authority and customer if necessary.

Commented [AES14]: This is usually a person responsible for

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Commented [AES16]: Adapt to the organization's practice.

When a correction is needed, [job title] prepares and issues the working order, which defines the additional demands that need to be fulfilled.

Commented [AES17]: E.g., production worker

Commented [AES18]: If your product could not be reworked,

Commented [AES19]: Adapt to the organization's practice.

[Job title] is responsible for nonconforming products and must mark them appropriately ("Nonconforming Material"), and store in a designated work area.

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All the controls must be repeated to the full extent after the corrections. Impact of rework to the product must be investigated and such possible influence must be controlled.

- After all corrective actions are completed, the [job title] informs the [job title] that the product is ready for repeated controls.
- After all rework is complete, the product must pass all phases, identical with the regular process.

[organization name]

[Job title] decides which method for resolving nonconforming product will be used and it is recorded in the Nonconforming Product Record by the team leader.

Commented [AES21]: E.g., Production Manager

3.5. Recall and withdrawal of nonconforming product

Product recall is the process of retrieving nonconforming product from consumers as a result of safety concerns or manufacturing defect in a product.

Product withdrawal is part of the recall process and occurs when the organization removes the product from the marketplaces and distribution centers due to safety issues or product defect. [Job title] is responsible for recall.

Commented [AES22]: E.g., Sales Manager

Commented [AES23]: E.g., Sales Manager

3.5.1. Forming a Product Recall Team

Information about problems with product may come from different sources:

- test results from external laboratory
- customer complaints
- Information from suppliers of the material
- Information from other competent authority

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• if your device is classified as class I

On the following link you can find the Notified Bodies in EU per country:

Based on this information, [job title] forms a Product Recall Team that consists of:

Team function	Job title
Team leader	[Sales Manager]
[Job title]	[Job title]
[Job title]	[Job title]
[Job title]	[Job title]

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3.5.2. Assessment of hazard of product

The team conducts hazard analysis of using a product considering customer safety and, if necessary, makes the decision to conduct:

- Public recall, in cases when the wider public should be alerted
- "Class" recall, in cases when only members of the distribution chain are alerted

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The team is responsible to issue notices to interested parties considering regulatory requirements.

3.5.3. Recall, withdrawal and storage of product

[organization name]

The Product Recall Team defines a way of withdrawing product from consumers, and removing them from marketplaces and distribution centers, if necessary.

3.5.4. Effectiveness analysis of product recall process

After completion of the product recall process, the team holds a meeting to assess the effectiveness of the product recall process and defines corrective actions according to the Procedure for Corrective and Preventive Actions.

Effectiveness of the product recall process is assessed as a ratio of recalled and distributed products.

% of product recalled	Recall effectiveness
100	Excellent
90-99	Very Good
80-89	Good
70-79	Acceptable
60-69	Unsatisfactory

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4. Managing records kept on the basis of this document

Record name	Code	Storage		Responsibility
		Retention	Location	
Nonconforming Product Record	PR18.1	1 year	Office of Quality Management	Quality Management
Registry of Nonconformities	PR18.2	1 year	Office of Quality Management	Quality Management
Registry of Recalled / Withdrawn Products	PR18.3	1 year	Office of Quality Management	Quality Management

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5. Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Nonconforming Product Record
- Appendix 2 – Registry of Nonconformities
- Appendix 3 – Registry of Recalled / Withdrawn Products

[organization name]

[job title]

[name]

[signature]

[signature]

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