

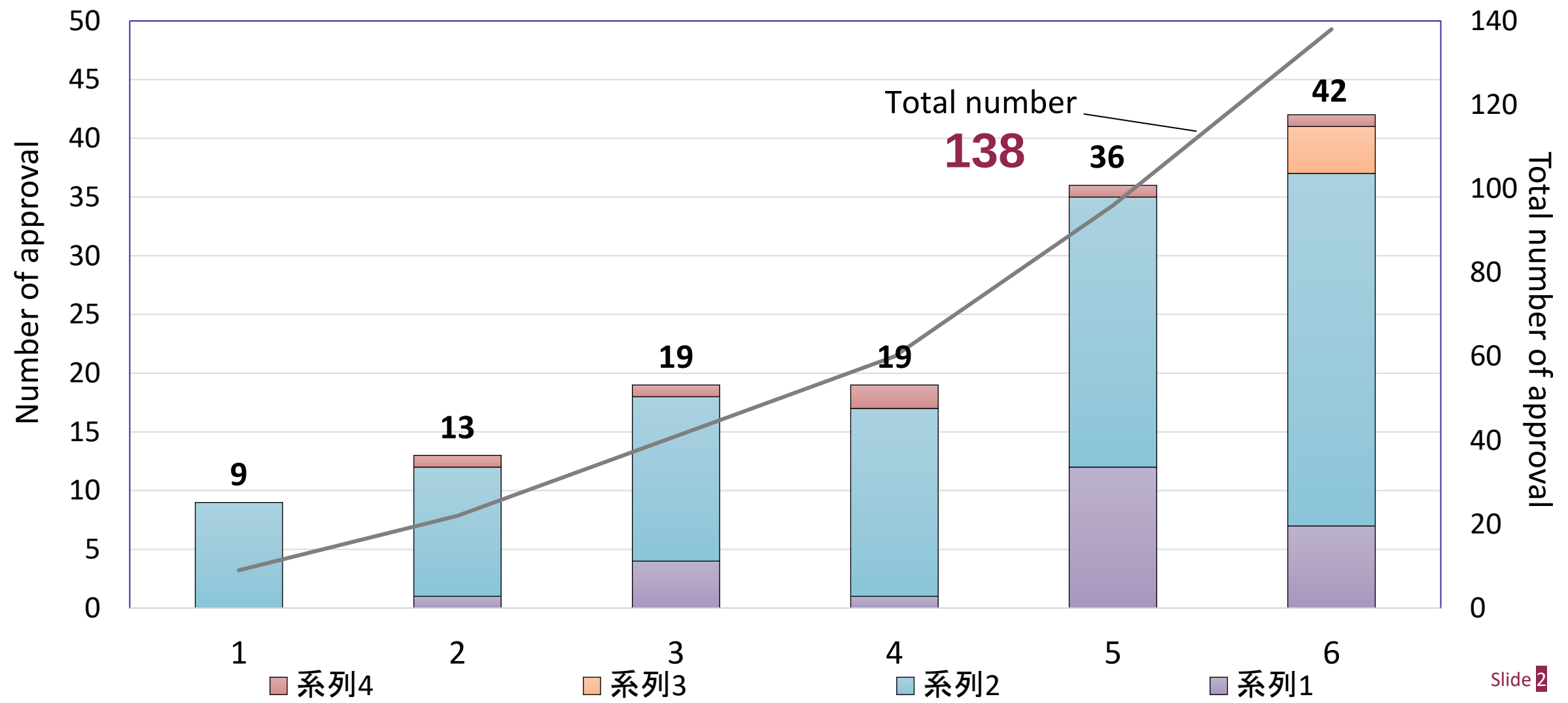
Regulation system and perspective for SaMD

Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency

Medical Devices Unit, Office of Software as a Medical
Device, Reviewer

Takatomo Ezura

The annual number of approved SaMD



DX(Digital Transformation) Action Strategies in Healthcare for SaMD (Software as a Medical Device) “DASH for SaMD”

1. Early grasp of research seeds and publication of the review policy

- a. Grasp research seeds in the early stage of development.
- b. Organize and Publish the review policy based on characteristics of SaMD.

3. Review system based on characteristics of SaMD

- a. Carry out efficient review based on characteristics of SaMD
- b. Utilize the Post-Approval Change Management Protocol (PACMP/IDATEN) scheme
- c. Consider establishing the innovative SaMD designation system

2. Unification of the consulting contact point

- a. Unify consultation service
- b. Publish consultation case examples as many as possible

4. Enhanced structure reinforcement for early realization

- a. Establish new office which specialized in reviewing SaMD in PMDA and MHLW**
- b. Establish an expert examination committee in the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council
- c. Establish an expert examination committee for SaMD in the Pharmaceutical Affairs and Food Sanitation Council
- d. Enrich published database of approval cases

Outline

- Overview of regulation on SaMD product in Japan
- Evaluation and review of SaMD
- Activities for regulatory innovation in the Office of SaMD

Overview of regulation on SaMD products in Japan

Classification of non-IVD Medical Devices

GHTF Classification		Classification in Japan			
Class	Risk level	Class	# of JMDN**	Category	Pre-market regulation
A	Low Surgical retractors/ tongues depressors	I	1,214	General MDs	Self declaration***
B	Low to Moderate Hypodermic needles/ suction equipment	II	2,003	Controlled MDs + Designated Controlled MDs	Third party Certification (Review by RCB*) (Designated Controlled MDs and Designated Specially Controlled MDs)
C	Moderate to High Lung ventilator/ bone fixation plate	III	812	Specially Controlled MDs + Designated Specially Controlled MDs	
D	High Heart valves / implantable defibrillator	IV	372		Ministerial Approval (Review by PMDA) (Controlled MDs and Specially Controlled MDs)

*RCB: Registered Certification Bodies

**JMDN: Japanese Medical Device Nomenclature

***MD software classified as Class I is **NOT** subjected to restrictions on the PMD-Act

Classification of non-IVD Medical Devices

GHTF Classification		Classification in Japan			
Class	Risk level	Class	# of JMDN**	Category	Pre-market regulation
A	Low Surgical retractors/ tongues depressors	I	1,214	General MDs	Self declaration***
B	Low to Moderate Hypodermic needles/ suction equipment	II	2,003	Controlled MDs + Designated Controlled MDs	Third party Certification (Review by RCB*) (Designated Controlled MDs and Designated Specially Controlled MDs)
C	Moderate to High Lung ventilator fixation plate	III	1,015	Controlled MDs + Designated Specially Controlled MDs	Third party Certification (Review by RCB*) (Designated Controlled MDs and Designated Specially Controlled MDs)
D	High Heart valves / implantable defibrillator	IV	372	+ Designated Specially Controlled MDs	(Review by PMDA) (Controlled MDs and Specially Controlled MDs)

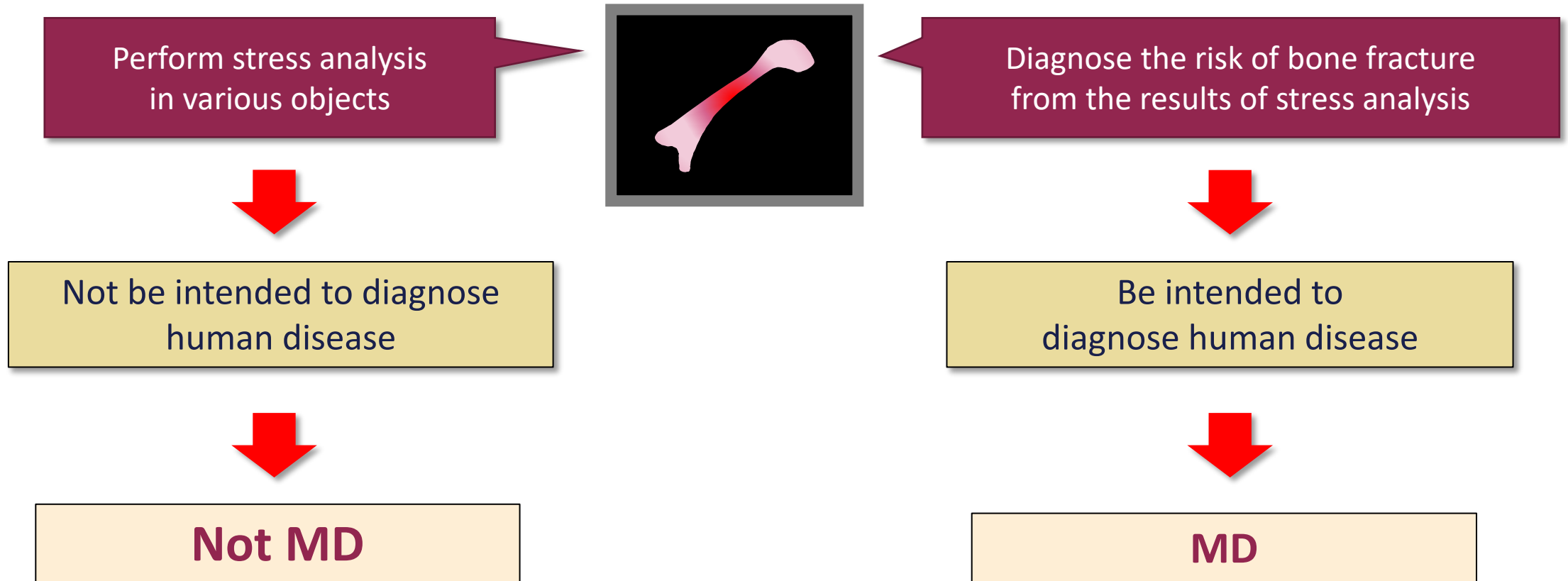
MD software classified as **Class I** is **NOT** subjected to restrictions on the PMD-Act

*RCB: Registered Certification Bodies

**JMDN: Japanese Medical Device Nomenclature

***MD software classified as Class I is **NOT** subjected to restrictions on the PMD-Act

Intended use and claims of medical devices



Medical indications can not be claimed;
such as diagnosis of bone fracture risk

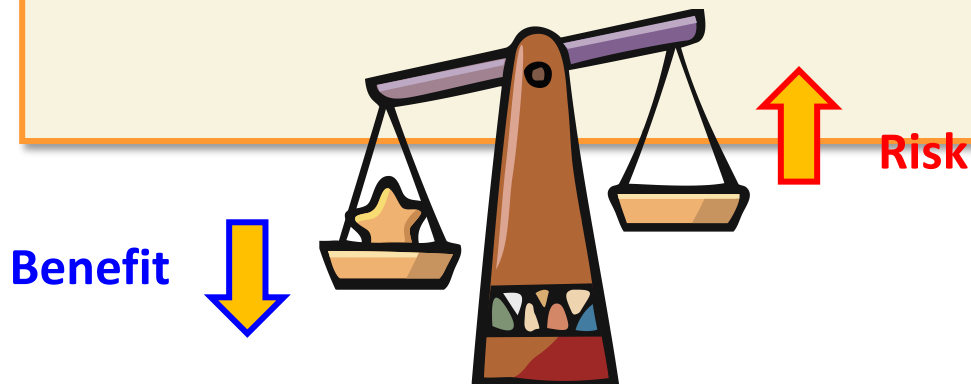
Analytical performance to enable diagnosis of
bone fracture risk should be evaluated

Evaluation and review of SaMD

Reasons of Approval Rejection

- (a) The given device is judged that it does **NOT** have its own effectiveness and/or performance as to be concerned in the application.
- (b) The given device is judged of **NO** value for medical use because its adverse effect(s) far exceed its effectiveness and/or performance.

*PMD Act, Article 23-2-5 paragraph (2),
item (iii), (a) & (b)*



Risk of SaMD



SaMD is trying to improve the user's decision better

Possibility to induce improper decision

【e.g.】

- CAD which provides doctors' reference information for diagnostic support
⇒ inducing improper diagnosis decision
- DTx promotes behavioral modification
⇒ promote excessive intervention and loss of treatment opportunity.

How to review

**What is
the concept of development?**

**Clinical
utility**

Does it contribute to
patient outcomes?

e.g. :
Shown that oversights were
reduced by using CAD,
comparing the diagnostic results
between interpretation using
CAD and without CAD

**What is the
concept of design?**

**Clinical
performance**

Does it perform appropriately for
clinical data?

e.g. :
Evaluate the sensitivity and
specificity for clinical image data

**Operation
verification**

Does it work as designed.

e.g. :
The basic bench test to
validate performance of the
function implemented



Summary of evaluation and review for SaMD

- Evaluate efficacy and risk, and explain that efficacy outweighs risk.
- Reviewers are trying to understand what kind of medical device it is first.
- Evaluation methods and criteria are depended on these concepts.
- SaMD also has risks.

Matters related to AI

The Science Board

- PMDA established the Science Board on May 14th 2012.
- As a high-level consultative body which discusses scientific aspects of pharmaceuticals and medical devices review.
- The purposes of the Science Board are, ***advancing regulatory science and evaluate products with advanced science and technology in appropriate manner*** by enhancing cooperation and communication with academia and medical institutions.

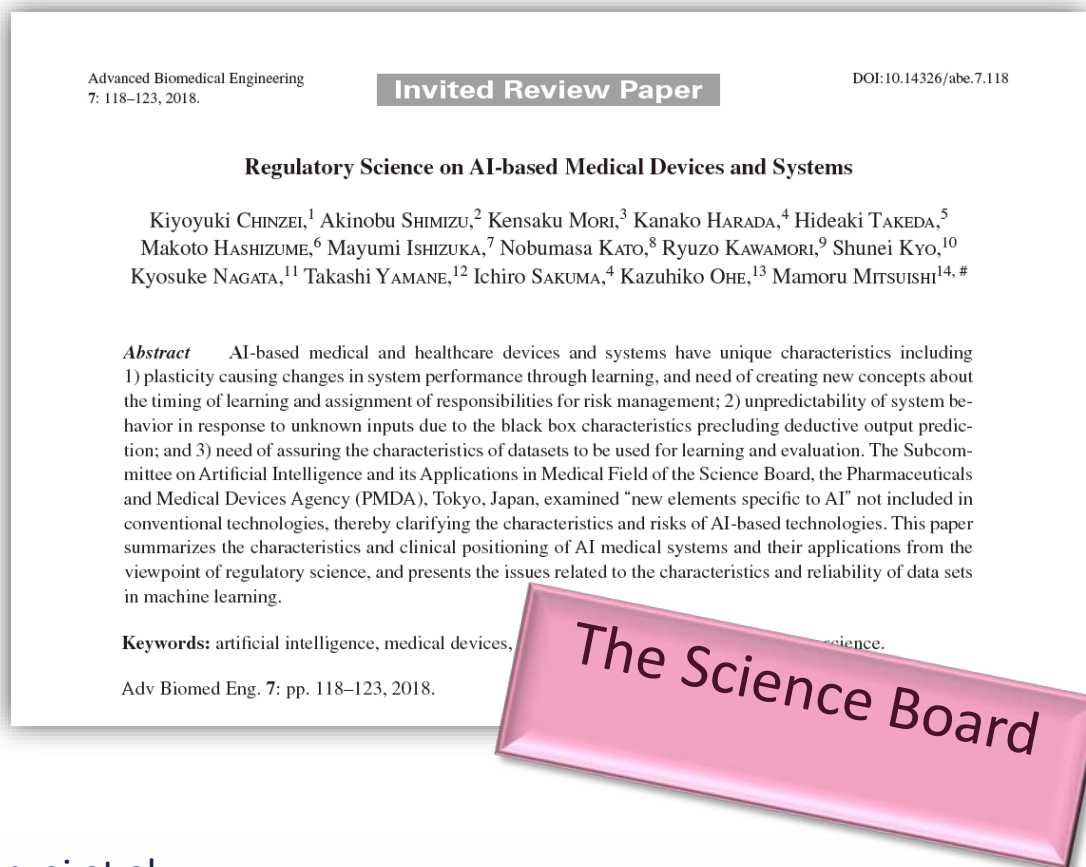
<https://www.pmda.go.jp/english/rs-sb-std/sb/0001.html>

- “Next Generation Evaluation Guidance” is a guidance organized by specialists appointed by NIHS (National Institute of Health Service) and MHLW.
- The purpose of the guidance is to accelerate development and review process of much-needed innovative medical devices and bring the innovative medical devices into medical practice in a timely manner .
- More than twenty guidance for the medical device with cutting-edge technologies have been published.

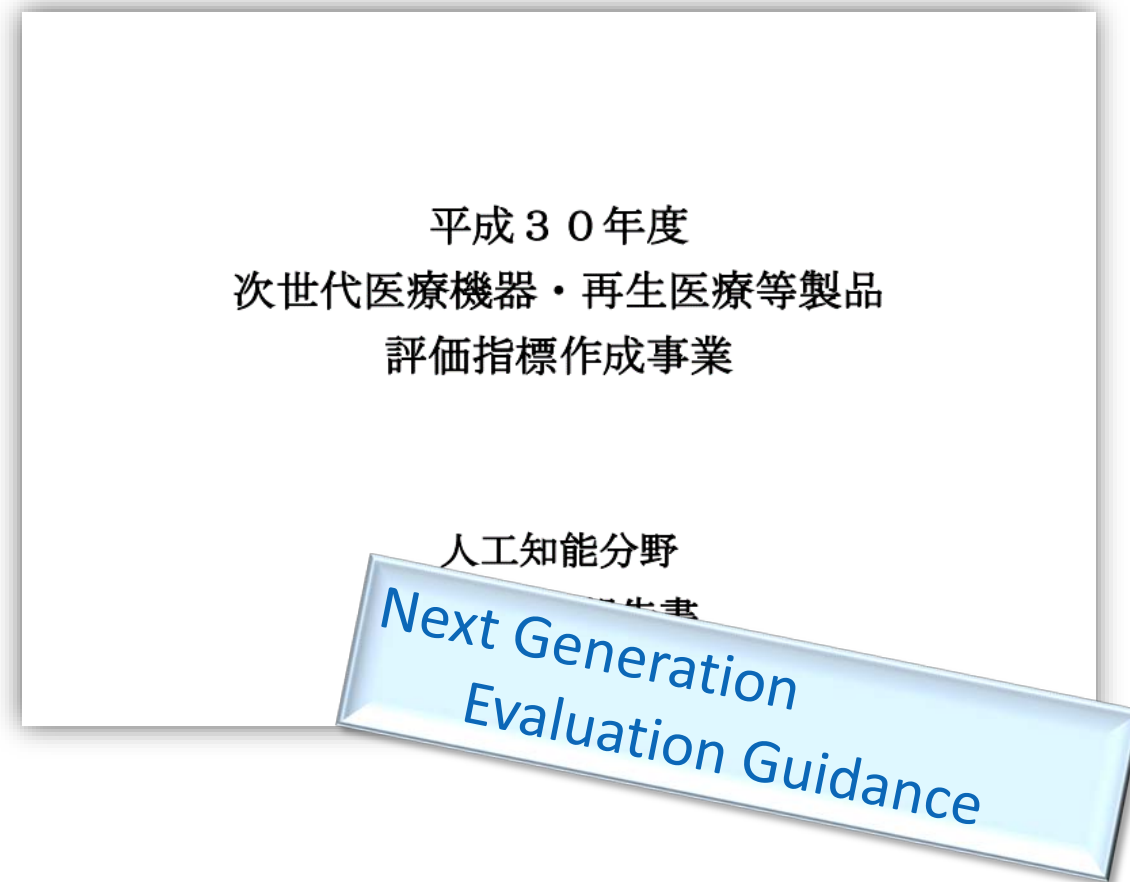
<https://dmd.nihs.go.jp/jisedai/>

Next Generation
Evaluation Guidance

Artificial Intelligence



Chinzei et al.,
“Regulatory Science on AI-based medical Devices and Systems,”
Advanced Biomedical Engineering 7 2018



http://dmd.nihs.go.jp/jisedai/Imaging_AI_for_public/index.html

Uniqueness of AI products

Unpredictability

Developers cannot understand the meanings of the output

How do you estimate the situation in which error occur?

Plasticity

Post market learning may be worsen the performance of AI products

How do you keep its performance?

Unpredictability

- It is difficult to limit the data set for evaluation because we do not understand where the weaknesses are in the output data.
- Comprehensive analysis of the results based on the clinical situation.
- Consider collecting data for evaluation as well as for development.



Plasticity

Post-Approval Change Management Protocol (PACMP) for Medical Devices

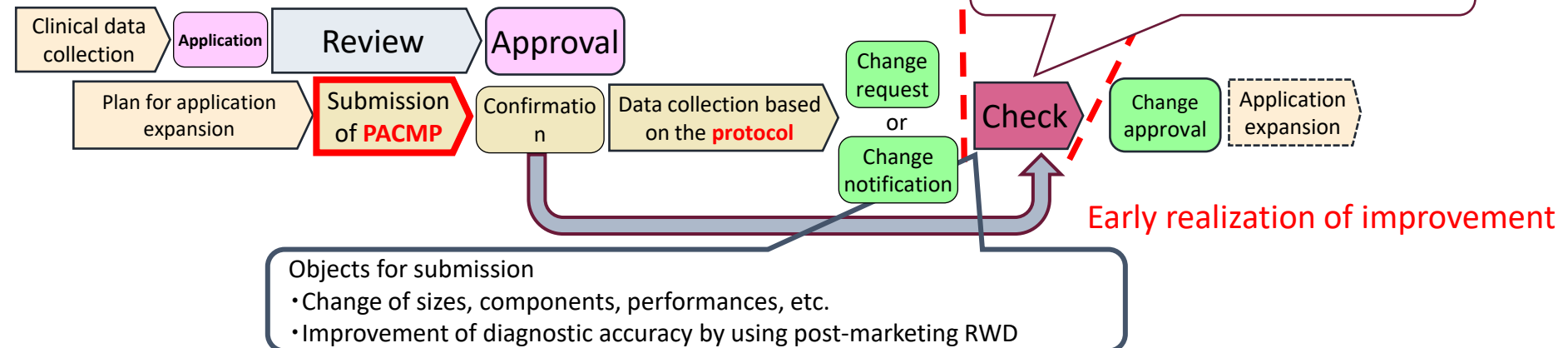
PACMP is introduced for medical devices to enable continuous improvements through product lifecycle.

Administrative notification No.0831-14, August 31, 2020

Regular Approval Process



Approval Process using PACMP



Summary of Matters related to AI

Unpredictability

- Since we don't know the weaknesses of AI, evaluation data must be exhaustively analyzed for possible clinical situations.
- Collect enough data to evaluate the performance of your product.

Plasticity

- The challenge of plasticity will be addressed through the utilization of PACMP.

This approach is not a drastic solution to the unpredictability of AI.

Activities for regulatory innovation in the Office of SaMD

Working group for SaMD

International:

IMDRF Working Group

Artificial Intelligence Medical Devices

WHO Working Group

WHO Meeting on Regulatory
Consideration for Artificial Intelligence

Domestic:

NIHS and MHLW Review Working Group

Next Generation Evaluation Guidance
Medical device programs with promote
behavioral modification

Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

Research on how to regulate pharmaceutical
affairs for medical device programs using
advanced technologies such as artificial
intelligence

New consultation for SaMD

Comprehensive consultation for SaMD



Determine whether
the product is MD or
Non MD

MHLW, Compliance and
Narcotics Division

Consultation regarding the
determination of whether or not
software under development is
classified as a medical device
under the PMDA Act.



Review the developed
product

PMDA, Office of SaMD

Pre-consultation before each
consultation (pre-development
consultation, clinical trial protocol
consultation, etc.) conducted by
PMDA.



Consult the
reimbursement
prices

MHLW, Economic
Affairs Division

Various consultations regarding
medical insurance.

Take home messages

If you are trying to market a medical device in Japan, you should

1. consider the intended use and claims for SaMD
2. know the special regulations of classification for SaMD
3. consider the risks of SaMD based on clinical performance
4. consider collecting data for evaluation as well as for development
5. consider utilizing PACMP
6. take advantage of the new consultation

Thank you for your kind attention!



Takatomo Ezura
ezura-takatomo@pmda.go.jp