

# Regulated Mobile Applications

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# Significance

- “According to industry estimates, 500 million smartphone users worldwide will be using a health care application by 2015, and by 2018, 50 percent of the more than 3.4 billion smartphone and tablet users will have downloaded mobile health applications. These users include health care professionals, consumers, and patients.”

# Overview

- What do we mean by “regulated mobile applications”?
- What are the risks and regulatory expectations?
- How can we leverage GAMP good practice principles?

# Opportunities...

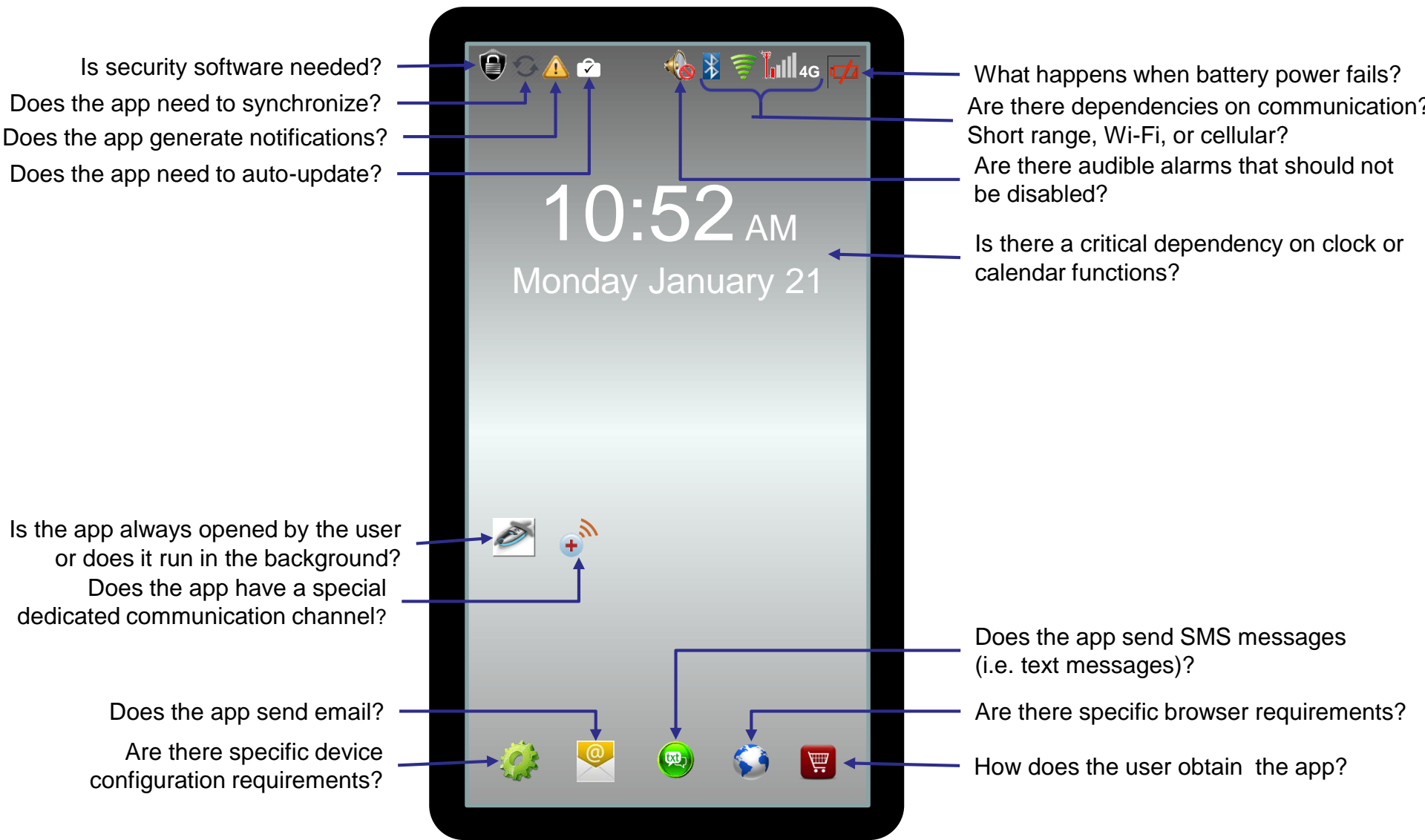
- A smartphone app that uses a phone's camera to analyse urine
- Can tested for the presence of 10 elements - including glucose, proteins and nitrites
- Tests for 25 different health issues
  - could help diagnose and treat diseases in the developing world.

# Risks...

- Apps may delay skin cancer diagnosis
  - using phones rather than seeking expert help could be harmful
- The University of Pittsburgh tested four applications with 188 pictures of cancers and other skin conditions.
- Three of the apps using automated algorithms wrongly labelled the cancerous lesions as unproblematic in almost a third of cases.

# Example Uses

- To improve patient compliance to a medical regimen
- As a marketing tool
- As an aid to diagnosis
- As a channel for patient reporting
- As an interface to a medical device
- To control a medical device



# What are “Mobile Medical Apps”?

“Mobile medical apps are medical devices that are mobile apps, meet the definition of a medical device and are an accessory to a regulated medical device or transform a mobile platform into a regulated medical device.”

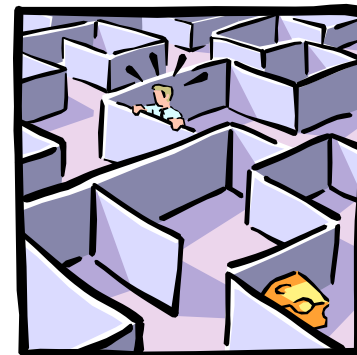
US FDA



# Part of a GxP System

- Mobile apps may also be components or parts of a GxP regulated computerized system:
  - Interface for warehouse management, including goods receipt or movement
  - Dashboard interface to a large number of laboratory systems
  - Interface to manufacturing equipment, possibly with the ability to adjust set-points
  - Access to enterprise applications such as ERP

# Environment



- Complex
- Rapidly changing
- Volatile
- Regulatory situation unclear
- Blurring boundaries: software, hardware, drug/device, web ecosystem, product, internal/external
- National / regional differences
- Many viewpoints
- Drug companies becoming software companies...

# FDASIA

- Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act (2012), required
  - “A proposed strategy and recommendations on an appropriate, risk-based regulatory framework pertaining to health information technology, including mobile medical applications, that promotes innovation, protects patient safety, and avoids regulatory duplication.”

# FDA

## Mobile Medical Applications

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### Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff

Document issued on: September 25, 2013



**U.S. Food and Drug Administration**  
Protecting and Promoting *Your* Health



# MEDDEV 2.1/6

**MEDICAL DEVICES: Guidance document  
Qualification and Classification of stand  
alone software**

**GUIDELINES ON THE QUALIFICATION  
AND CLASSIFICATION OF STAND ALONE  
SOFTWARE USED IN HEALTHCARE  
WITHIN THE REGULATORY  
FRAMEWORK OF MEDICAL DEVICES**

**January 2012**

# Other References

- *Regulation of medical software and mobile medical 'apps'*, Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration, 13 September 2013
- *Guidance on medical device stand-alone software (including apps)*, UK Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, 19 March 2014
- *Medical Information Systems – guidance for qualification and classification of standalone software with a medical purpose*; Swedish Medical Products Agency



## **GAMP Good Practice Guide**

# **A Risk-Based Approach to Regulated Mobile Applications**

# Purpose

- Identify and explain the unique risks related to this type of application
- Describe solutions and controls
- Consider how the GAMP framework and principles may be applied



# Purpose

- Managing software on a variety of operating systems at different version levels on many different devices
- Ensuring compliance with applicable regulations, including implications for data integrity and data privacy / protection
- Recommendations for retiring mobile apps – including data retention and destruction

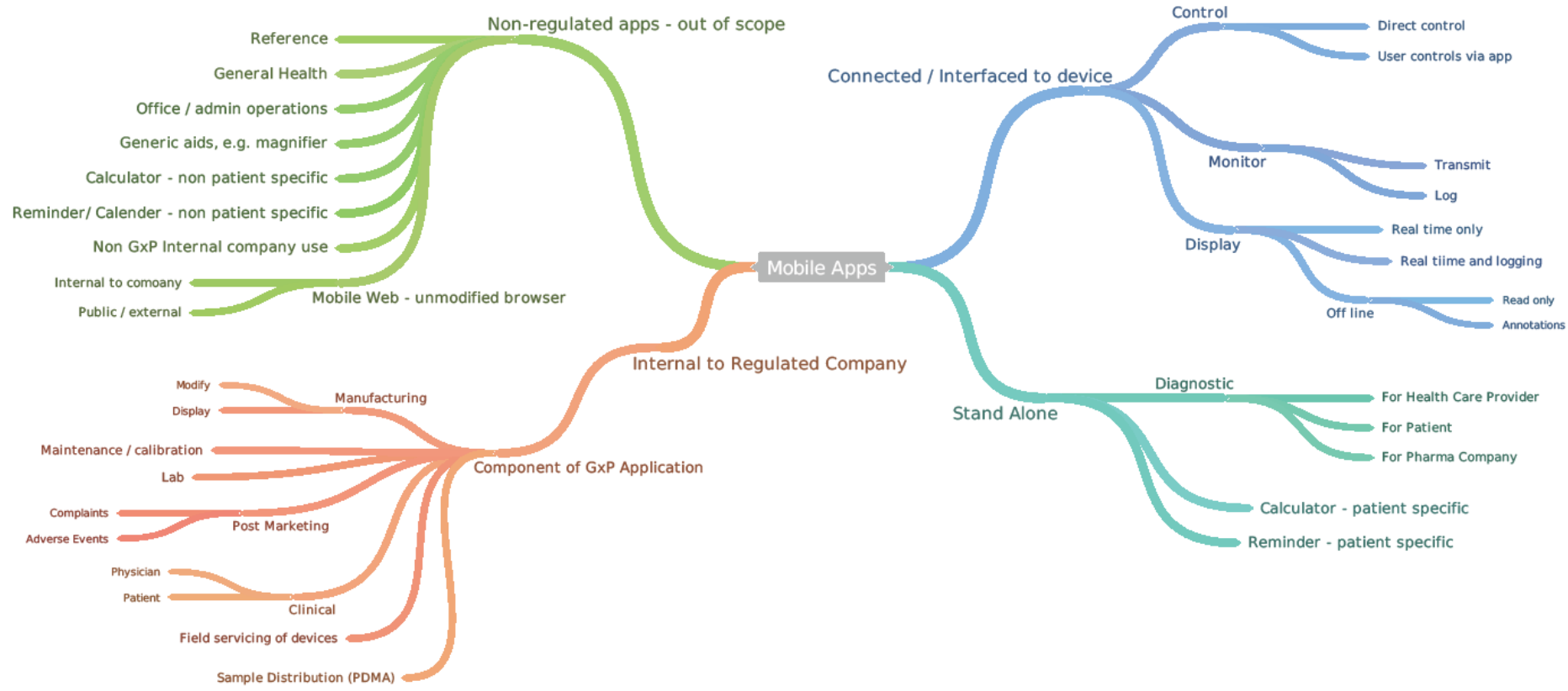
# Scope

- How current industry good practice as described in GAMP guidance may be applied to mobile apps.
- Not intended to cover all detailed requirements for medical device classification, registration, development, and support.

# Scope

- Detailed requirements for medical devices will vary from region to region, and it is the responsibility of organizations and individuals involved to identify, interpret, and apply such requirements as applicable
- Companies need to be familiar with the local regulations in any country where they intend to deploy a regulated mobile app.
- Relevant international standards such as IEC 62304 and ISO 13485 should be consulted.

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# Regulatory Input

- Significant influence on approach, structure, and content, especially US FDA.

# “How to Use The Guide”

1. An **overview** of those aspects and **risks specific to mobile apps**, and how to address them at a high level
2. **Further information** on how to **apply the GAMP 5** life cycle and Quality Risk Management approach to mobile apps
3. More **detailed “how to”** guidance for practitioners on specific topics
4. Case study **examples**

# Readership

- **“Those requiring an overview of the topic should read ...”**
- **“Those seeking further information on the mobile apps life cycle, should also read...”**
- **“Practitioners requiring detailed information on developing and supporting mobile apps should also consider ...”**
- **“Suppliers of mobile apps should read...”**

# “What’s Special about Mobile Apps?”

- **Novel and particular aspects** of mobile apps that require specific consideration and action
- Refers to other sections within the guide that provide **further guidance** on these topics.

Overview Table with references and further reading



# Analysis of these Aspects

- **Management**
  - Project
  - Operational
- **Technical**
  - Data
  - Usability
  - Platforms
  - Communication

# Risk Management

- Mobile apps may be required to run on several different platforms and operating systems, and at different version levels
- In most cases will not be under the control of an IT department
- Reliability of communications cannot be guaranteed

# Risk Management

- Users cannot be effectively trained
- User behavior cannot be controlled
  - they have the ability to refuse updates, upgrade the O/S, or download other software without the controls normally applied through formal change management
- Some of the users may be patients
  - in some cases they could harm themselves by misusing an app

# Risk Management

- Quality Risk Management (QRM) approach for mobile apps is described
- Based on GAMP 5, and aligned with ISO 14971

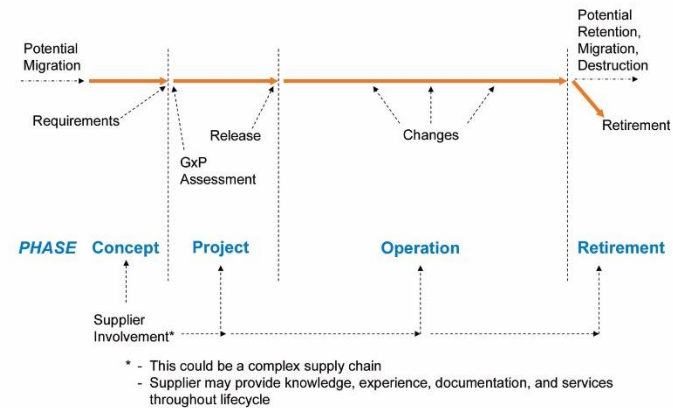
**ISO 14971:2007**

**Medical devices - Application of risk management to medical devices**

# Life Cycle

- Mobile Application Product Life Cycle

- concept
- production
- operation and support
- retirement



Source: Figure 3.2. GAMP 5: A Risk-Based Approach to Compliant GxP Computerized Systems, © Copyright ISPE 2008. All rights reserved. www.ISPE.org.

- Mobile Application Data Life Cycle



# Concept

- Intended use
- User population
- Initial Assessment
  - Mobile medical app?
  - Part of a GxP regulated system?
- Product Quality Plan

**App definition statement** - a concise, concrete declaration of an app's main purpose and its intended audience.

# Production

- Supplier selection
- Prototyping and evaluation
- Requirements
  - User Interface / Usability Requirements
  - Connectivity Requirements
  - Data Security Requirements
  - Target Platform Requirements
- Testing
- User documentation, support, and maintenance.

# Operation and Support

- Change Management
- Maintenance
- Problem Identification and Resolution
- Feedback Mechanism for users from within the Mobile App
  - (e.g. via a form submitted to a web service, or mail-based feedback)
- Process to deal with that feedback



# Support in the Market

- An established process for medical device reporting (for Mobile Medical Apps)
- An established process for medical device field action / correction (for Mobile Medical Apps)
- Retirement, replacement, or withdrawal of product
- Retention, migration, or destruction of data

# Conclusions

- Mobile apps are not going away...
- Many opportunities
- Many challenges

# Conclusions

- Define intended use, and identify user community
- Identify risks and appropriate controls
- Apply a managed life cycle, following GAMP principles

*GAMP Good Practice Guide:  
A Risk-Based Approach to Regulated  
Mobile Applications*



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