

What Does FDA Regulate?

A Guide for Health Professionals



U.S. FOOD & DRUG
ADMINISTRATION



FDA is responsible for protecting public health by ensuring the safety, efficacy, and security of human and veterinary drugs, biological products, and medical devices. FDA also has the responsibility in maintaining the safety of our nation's food supply (human and animal), cosmetics, and products that emit radiation.

The scope of FDA's regulatory authority is very broad. FDA's responsibilities are closely related to those of several other government agencies. It is often frustrating and confusing to determine the appropriate regulatory agency to contact. The following is a list of traditionally-recognized product that the FDA has regulatory jurisdiction over - however, this is not a complete list.



FOODS, INCLUDING:

- bottled water
- infant formula
- food additives
- dietary supplements
- other foods (except some meat, poultry & egg products)

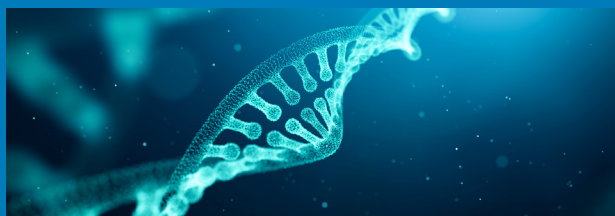
DRUGS, INCLUDING:

- over-the-counter drugs
- prescription drugs (brand-name & generic)



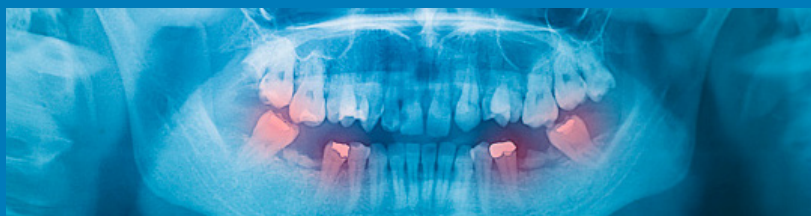
BIOLOGICS, INCLUDING:

vaccines for humans
blood & blood products
tissue & tissue products
cellular & gene therapy products



MEDICAL DEVICES, INCLUDING:

dental devices
surgical implants & prosthetics
complex devices such as heart pacemakers
common items like tongue depressors & bedpans



PRODUCTS THAT EMIT RADIATION, INCLUDING:

sunlamps
laser products
x-ray equipment
microwave ovens
ultrasonic therapy equipment

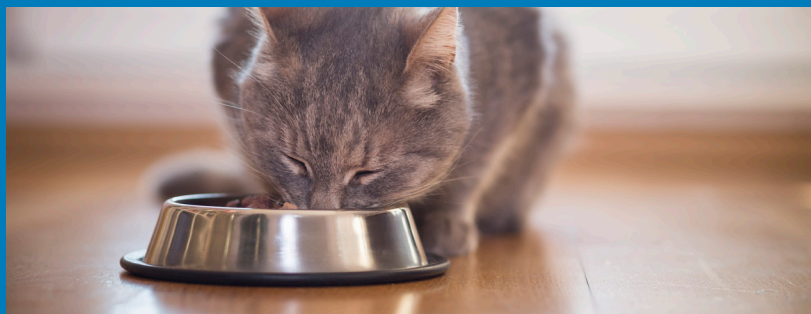


TOBACCO PRODUCTS, INCLUDING:

cigars
cigarettes
e-cigarettes
smokeless tobacco
roll-your-own tobacco
hookah & pipe tobacco

COSMETICS, INCLUDING:

tattoos
perfumes
moisturizers
lipstick & fingernail polishes
color additives in makeup & personal care products



VETERINARY PRODUCTS, INCLUDING:

pet food
livestock feed
veterinary drugs & devices

For additional information, including more details on what FDA regulates, visit <https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/fda-basics/what-does-fda-regulate>.

For information on FDA's Stakeholder Engagement, visit <https://www.fda.gov/stakeholders>.