

EU Falsified Medicines Directive Getting Started

A guide to the upcoming mandates affecting the European pharmaceutical supply chain.

WHY WAS EU FMD DEVELOPED?

The regulation aims to prevent illegitimate medications from:



Entering the supply chain



Threatening patients



Moving around the world

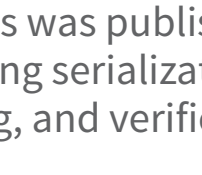
WHEN DOES IT BEGIN?

EU FMD became law in 2013, and the compliance deadline is approaching:

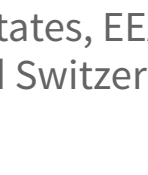
February 2016

February 2019

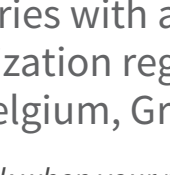
February 2025



The Delegated Act on safety features was published, detailing serialization, reporting, and verification.



Compliance deadline for EU member states, EEA members, and Switzerland.



Compliance deadline for countries with an existing serialization regulation in force (Belgium, Greece, Italy)*.

Note: Check when your market intends to implement EU FMD.



A NOTE ON GRANDFATHERING

What is grandfathering? Grandfathering is a provision in which some pre-existing situations are not subject to a new rule or regulation.

Grandfathering for EU FMD requirements: Products packed and released for sale before the law takes effect may be distributed and sold until their expiry date, if they are not repackaged or relabeled.

WHO DOES IT AFFECT?

Everyone in the pharmaceutical supply chain is involved:



Pharmaceutical Manufacturers/MAH*



Parallel Importers



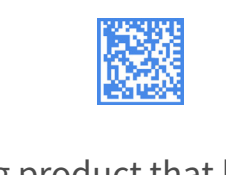
Wholesale Distributors



Dispensers



SERIALIZE
Drug product at the smallest saleable unit



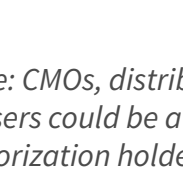
VERIFY
Unique identifier, prior to relabeling and repackaging product



VERIFY
Unique identifier, prior to resale



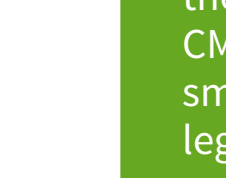
VERIFY
Unique identifier, prior to dispensation



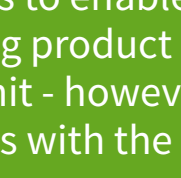
REPORT
1. Product master data
2. Product pack data
3. Recall notifications
4. Status updates



SERIALIZE
Drug product that has been relabeled and repackaged



REPORT
1. Product master data
2. Product pack data
3. Recall notifications
4. Status updates



VERIFY
Decommission product identifier

**Note: CMOs, distributors or dispensers could be a marketing authorization holder (MAH).*

A NOTE ON CMOs

CMOs will be required to exchange product and serialization data with their MAH customers to enable the CMO to serialize drug product at the smallest saleable unit - however, the legal responsibility is with the MAH.



A NOTE ON CODE FORMAT

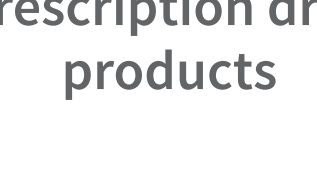
Medications must include a 2D DataMatrix with:

- GTIN / NTIN / National code
- Expiry date
- Serial number
- National reimbursement number (if required)
- Batch number

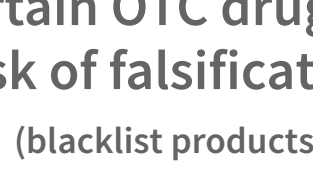


WHICH PRODUCTS ARE INCLUDED?

Prescription and some OTC drugs are subject to EU FMD requirements:



Prescription drug products



Certain OTC drugs at risk of falsification (blacklist products)

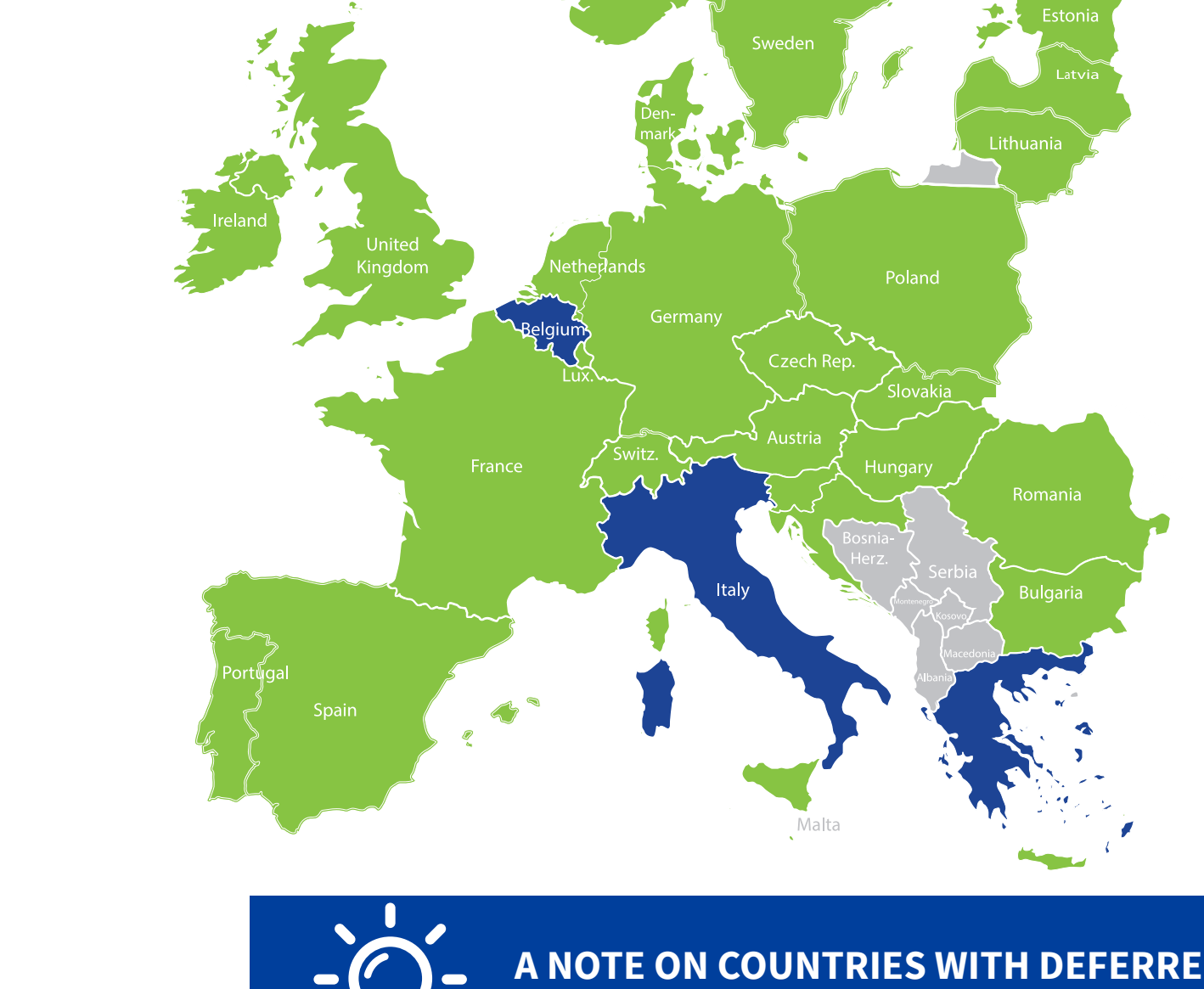


A NOTE ON WHITELIST AND BLACKLIST PRODUCTS

Medications with special handling under EU FMD are listed in Annexes I to IV of the Delegated Act on safety features.

WHERE IS IT MANDATORY?

All countries in the European Economic Area* are subject to EU FMD requirements:



**Note: Switzerland is not part of the EEA but has chosen to adhere to EU FMD.*



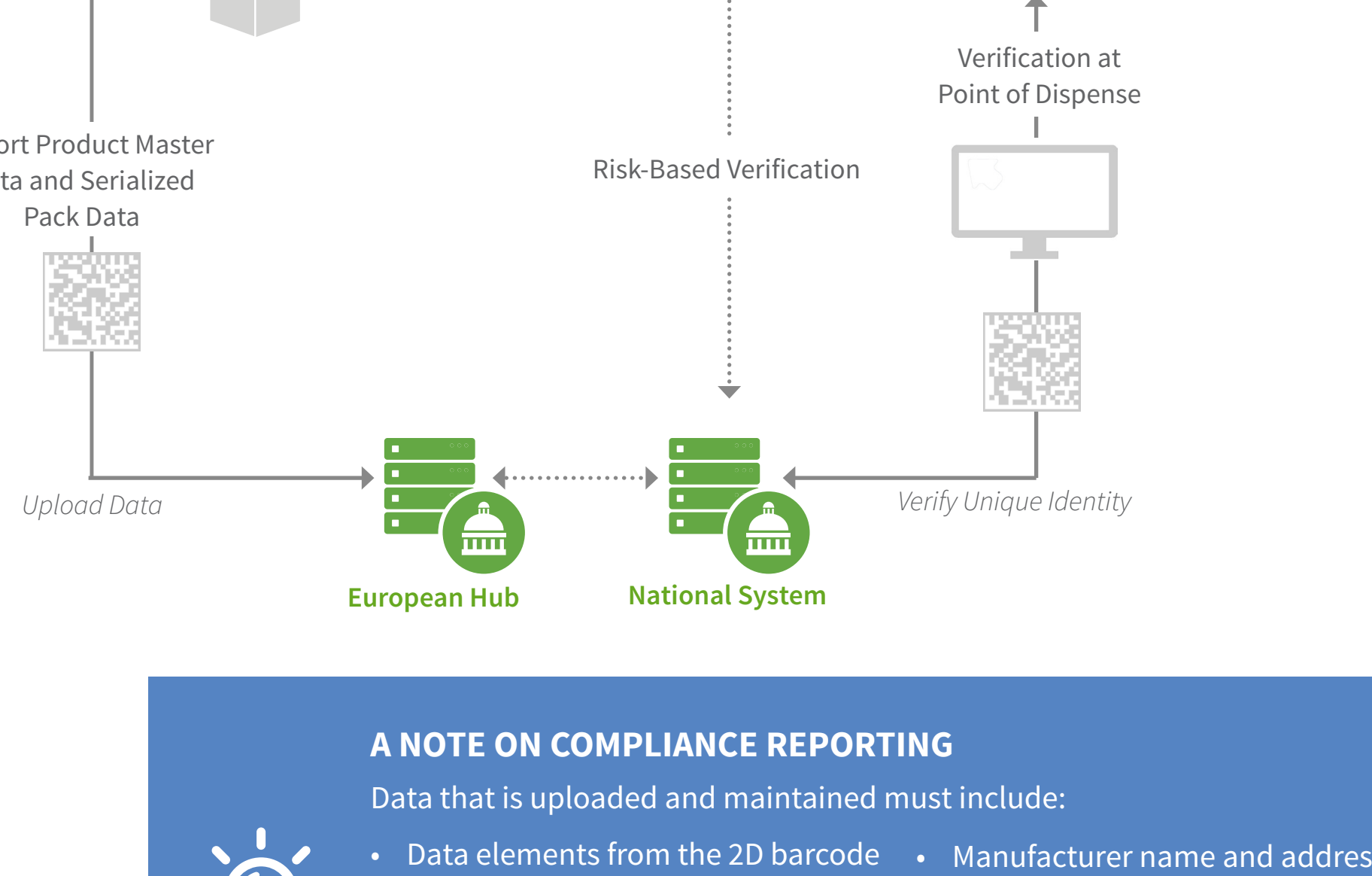
A NOTE ON COUNTRIES WITH DEFERRED DEADLINES

Belgium, Italy, and Greece have an additional 6 years to comply.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The European Medicines Verification System:

Note: Represents one of many potential compliance information flows.



A NOTE ON COMPLIANCE REPORTING

Data that is uploaded and maintained must include:

- Data elements from the 2D barcode
- Code scheme used
- Name of medication
- Common name
- Form and strength
- Package size and type
- Member state(s) for distribution
- Manufacturer name and address
- Marketing authorization holder (MAH) name and address
- List of wholesalers, designated by the MAH through contract, to distribute products on MAH's behalf

THE MOST PROVEN TRACK AND TRACE SOLUTION FOR EU FMD

TraceLink is already helping more than 700 customers across the supply chain achieve compliance in the U.S., EU, and other markets around the world.



Completed product master data and product pack data upload certification tests with the EMVO, for connection to the European hub, nearly three years in advance of the deadline.

260,000+

Serial numbers already commissioned for live customers to upload to the EU hub.



Country-specific compliance software for more regulated geographies than any other provider.

69%

Current TraceLink Pharma and CMO customers that must comply with EU FMD requirements.



TraceLink was the first external OBP connection provider to be certified by the EMVO.

BENEFITS

Reduce the time, cost, and risk of achieving compliance



An out-of-the-box, integrated suite of comprehensive solutions.



Elastic scalability to meet massive transaction processing required for serialization.



Tested integration with the European hub.



Continuous compliance monitoring and updates.



No need to verify and certify point-to-point connections to each government system.

LOCAL SUPPORT

Located near you, speaking your language



80

Team members in the EU - with 400 worldwide - dedicated to track and trace.



20

Languages spoken by our service specialists.



European data residency will be hosted by Amazon Web Services and deployed in Germany across multiple availability zones.

PARTNERS

Our partnerships with industry leaders extend the value of the solutions we provide



Services



Line Management



Solutions

