

Humanitarian Use Devices (HUDs) for Clinical Treatment or Diagnosis Procedure

Scope

Applies to personnel of Mayo Clinic and Relying Organizations for which Mayo Clinic is the Reviewing Institutional Review Board (IRB) when employing HUDs in clinical treatment or diagnosis and the use that does not constitute human subject research.

Purpose

To describe the responsibilities of clinicians and the IRB related to use of HUDs in clinical treatment or diagnosis and the use that does not constitute human subject research.

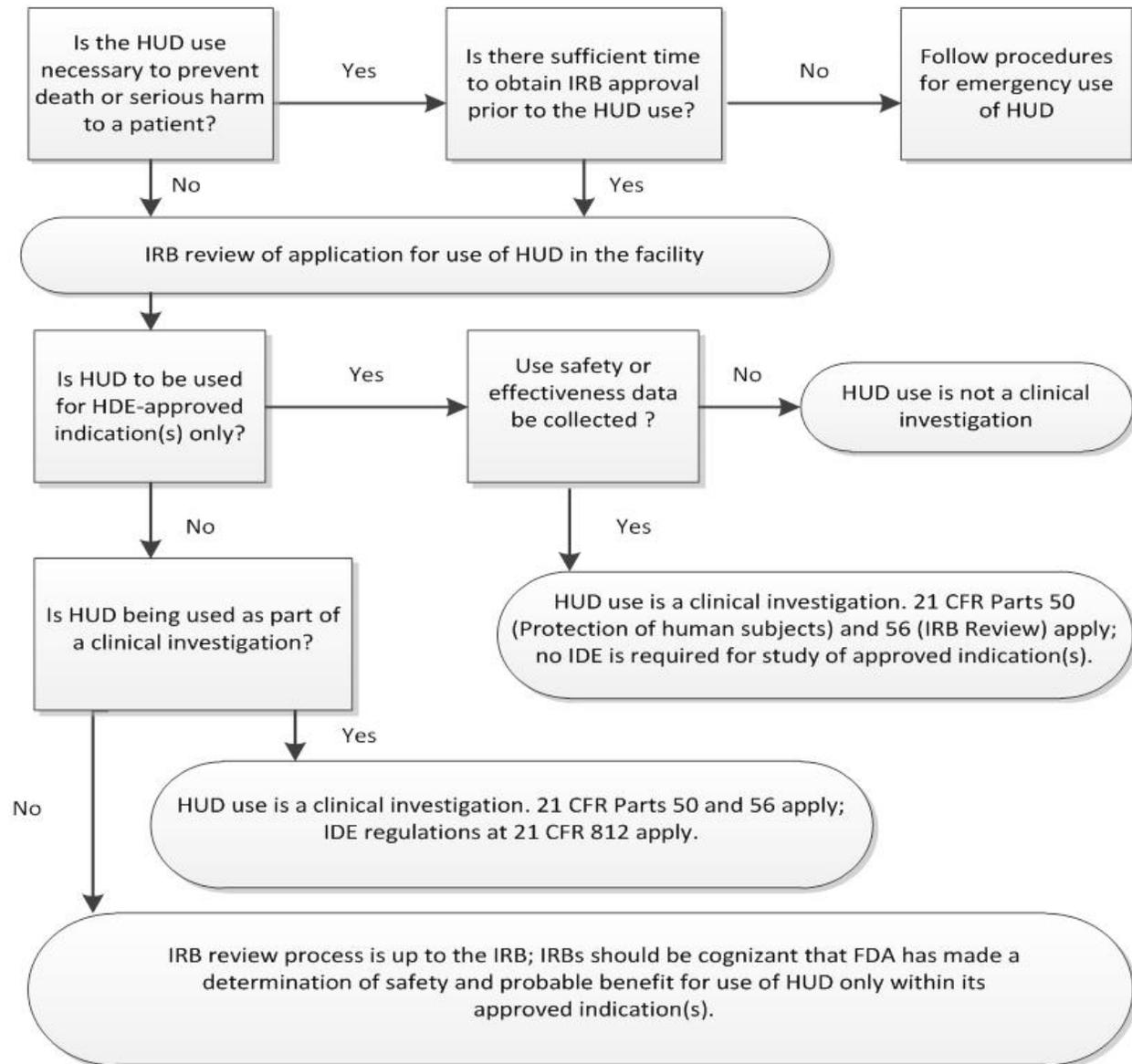
Equipment/Supplies

N/A

Procedure

- The Mayo Clinic IRB requires that clinicians comply with all applicable regulations pertaining to HUDs, and that all uses of HUDs be reviewed and approved by the IRB as defined by Federal regulations.
- Generally, a HUD that has been granted a Humanitarian Device Exemption (HDE) by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may be administered only if such use has been approved by the institution's IRB of record. Once IRB approval is granted, clinical use of the HUD within the approved indication(s), as well as other clinical uses that are intended solely to address the specific needs of an individual patient is allowed. **All** uses of the HUD for clinical treatment and diagnosis at an institution are to be reported to the IRB at the time of continuing review.
- If a clinician in an emergency situation determines that IRB approval cannot be obtained in time to prevent serious harm or death to a patient, a HUD may be administered without prior approval by the IRB. Refer to the Mayo Clinic IRB policy, "Emergency Single-Case Use of an Investigational Device, Drug or Biologic Product" for additional information and instruction. Reporting of the emergency use of the HUD to the IRB is required.

Decision Tree



Clinician Responsibilities

- Complete and submit a HUD for Clinical Use Only (Not Research) application using the IRB electronic system (IRBe). Include the following information about the proposed HUD clinical use where indicated in the application form:
 - The FDA HDE (Humanitarian Device Exemption) number and approval order (obtainable from the HDE-holder or the FDA's [website](#)).
 - A description of the device.
 - The product labeling.
 - Informational materials to be provided to the patient(s).
 - A summary of how the clinician proposes to use the device, including a description of any screening procedures, the HUD procedure, potential risks, available alternatives, and a plan for care of patients, including follow-up visits, tests, or procedures.

- Confirm initial Mayo Clinic IRB approval for clinical use of the HUD at the institution.
- Obtain and document clinical informed consent as required by the institution at which the HUD will be used.

Note: Use of a HUD for clinical diagnosis or treatment does not constitute research; therefore, research informed consent and HIPAA authorization for research are not required.

- Provide patient information packets (when available) to patients prior to their receiving the HUD. If no packet is available, the patient should be provided with the following information:
 - An explanation that the HUD is designed to diagnose or treat the disease or condition described in the HDE labeling and that no comparable device is available to treat the disease or condition.
 - A description of any ancillary procedures associated with the use of the HUD.
 - A description of the use of the HUD.
 - All known risks or discomforts.
 - Information reflecting the HUD status of the device including that the effectiveness of the device for this use has not been demonstrated.
- Comply with requirements for continuing review at the intervals determined by the IRB.
- Complete a Reportable Event submission using the IRB electronic system whenever the HUD may have caused or contributed to a death or serious injury, or has malfunctioned and would be likely to cause or contribute to a death or serious injury if the malfunction were to recur. In this context, serious injury means an illness or injury:
 - that is life-threatening,
 - results in permanent impairment of a bodily function or permanent damage to a body structure, or
 - necessitates medical or surgical intervention to preclude permanent impairment of a bodily function or permanent damage to a body structure. Refer to the IRB policy [Submitting a Reportable Event to the IRB](#).

IRB Responsibilities

- Conduct the initial review of the Humanitarian Use Device (HUD) for Clinical Use Only (Not Research) application at a convened IRB meeting. The IRB will have among its members (or consultants) the appropriate experience and expertise to review the proposed use of the HUD.
- Apply the review criteria at 21 CFR 56.111 when reviewing the HUD clinical use application. Neither the Food, Drug, & Cosmetics (FD&C) Act nor FDA regulations require informed consent from patients who are treated or diagnosed with an HDE-approved HUD in the course of their clinical care. The IRB may, however, choose to require that patients receive certain information about the HUD when the IRB approves use of the HUD for clinical care at a facility.

- Ensure that health care providers listed on the application are qualified through training and expertise to use the device.
- The IRB may refer the continuing review of the HUD clinical use application to expedited review procedures because the HDE-approved HUD is a legally marketed device and no safety and effectiveness information is being systematically collected.

Troubleshooting

N/A

Procedural Notes

N/A

Related Documents

[Emergency Single-Case Use of an Investigational Device, Drug, or Biologic Product](#)

[Submitting a Reportable Event to the IRB](#)

[Use of an Investigational Device in Human Subjects Research](#)

Definitions

Clinical Investigation: Collection of safety and effectiveness data pertaining to a Humanitarian Use Device (HUD). **Note:** Clinical investigations are not the focus of this document, however, and are subject to Mayo Clinic IRB and institutional policies applicable to human subject research. Refer to the IRB policy [Use of an Investigational Device in Human Subjects Research](#).

Humanitarian Device Exemption (HDE): A Food and Drug Administration (FDA) premarket approval application (granted to the manufacturer) that allows marketing of a product that is exempt from effectiveness requirements. FDA approval of a HDE authorizes an applicant to market a Humanitarian Use Device (HUD), subject to certain profit and use restrictions.

Humanitarian Use Device (HUD): A medical device that is intended to benefit patients in the treatment or diagnosis of diseases or conditions that affect or are manifested in not more than 8,000 individuals in the United States per year. HUD designations are issued by the FDA.

Use/Clinical Use: The use of a HUD in the course of clinical care to treat or diagnose patients.

References

[21 CFR 56.111 Criteria for IRB Approval of Research](#)

[Humanitarian Device Exemption \(HDE\) Program:](#) Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff (September 6, 2019).

[21st Century Cures Act](#), SEC. 3052. HUMANITARIAN DEVICE EXEMPTION (December 13, 2016).

Owner

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Revision History

Date	Synopsis of Change
10/03/2022	Scheduled review. Updated Owner, added second Contact, updated References, and minor edits.
08/31/2017	Moved content into the procedure template. Changed IRB application type to "Humanitarian Use Device (HUD) for Clinical Use Only (Not Research)"; changed the population estimate required to qualify for Humanitarian Use Device (HUD) designation from "fewer than 4,000" to "not more than 8,000"; added 21st Century Cures Act as a reference; and updated Related Documents list.
04/28/2010	Approval for need to establish document: IRB