e-IFU: Strategies to implement as general practice





e-IFU Working Group

Problem Statement

 Some countries in LATAM do not accept e-IFU, however, it is a trend adopted for many companies

Main Objective

Provide documents/position that support the strategies to advocate e-IFU adoption across the countries.



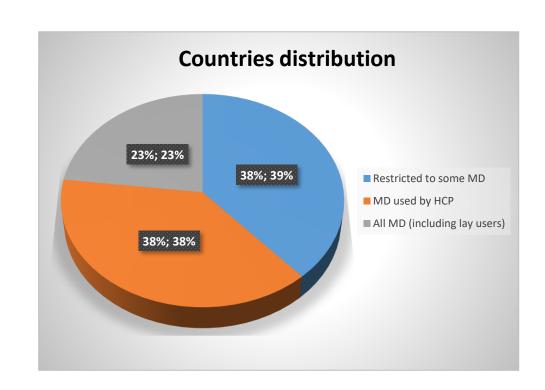
Main Strategy

- ^{1.} Review state of art regarding e-IFU:
 - · International
 - · LATAM countries
- ^{2.} Identify challenges percibed by regulators.
- 3. Address Health Authorities concerns.



International state of art

Iurisdiction	Regulatory Acceptance of Electronic Instructions for	Products scope				
Julisaletion	Use Instead of Paper					
Australia	Expressly Permitted					
Egypt	Expressly Permitted					
European Union	Expressly Permitted	Restricted to some MD				
Turkey	Expressly Permitted					
United Kingdom	Expressly Permitted					
Brazil	Expressly Permitted					
<mark>Canada</mark>	Expressly Permitted					
<mark>Japan</mark>	Expressly Permitted					
Singapore	Expressly Permitted	MD used by HCP				
United States	Expressly Permitted					
China	There is no regulation that prohibits	All MD (including lay				
India	Expressly Permitted	users)				
South Korea	There is no regulation that prohibits					



* Reference countries allow e-IFU for specific products or for products used by HCP.



LATAM State of art

COUNTRY CLASSIFICATON	CHALLENGE	COUNTRIES		
Regulation indicates IFU must be physically with the product, it means a regulatory restriction to adopt e-IFU.	 It is required to advocate for a regulation change Change could take a long time for implementation. 	Colombia - IVD México Paraguay - MD Perú		
Regulation does not mention IFU release method, it generates uncertainty regarding e-IFU adoption	 e-IFU acceptance is not explicit in regulation. Different interpretation from same country regulation that means, there is not a clear guidance. Based on some consultation made by some companies, there are some countries that are open to accept e-IFU. These countries demand to have an official position from regulators to avoid different interpretations. 	Argentina Bolivia Costa Rica Dominican Rep. El Salvador Guatemala Honduras Nicaragua Panama Uruguay		

---- Regulation draft included e-IFU. Awaiting for final regulation to reclasify them.

---- Countries classification under revision



LATAM State of art

COUNTRY CLASSIFICATON	CHALLENGE	COUNTRIES		
Despite regulation includes e-IFU option (Digital IFU), it is not explicit, or regulator do not accept to replace paper IFU by e-IFU	 Regulatory framework support e-IFU, however it is required to advocate for clarifying the rules of e-IFU application and to promote paper IFU remotion. 	Colombia – MD <mark>Ecuador</mark>		
Regulation accept e-IFU for some products, however it is considering the scope is not enough	 These countries already allow e-IFU for some type of products; however, team interest is to cover more products. 	Brazil Chile*		
There is not any challenge (e-IFU already accepted)	 Based on regulation it is already allowed e-IFU for products under regulation, for these countries there are not actions required from this working group. 	Paraguay - IVD		

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e-IFU Advantages and challenges

Advantages

- Information availability
- Environmental sustainability
- Cost-effectiveness
- Pacient safety
- Interactivity
- Durability
- Efficiency

Challenges perceived by HA

- Internet connection and permanent access
- Users do not feel comfortable with e-IFU
- e-IFU version control
- Mechanism to provide paper IFU in case it is required by HCP or patients



1. Internet connection

Internet penetration data

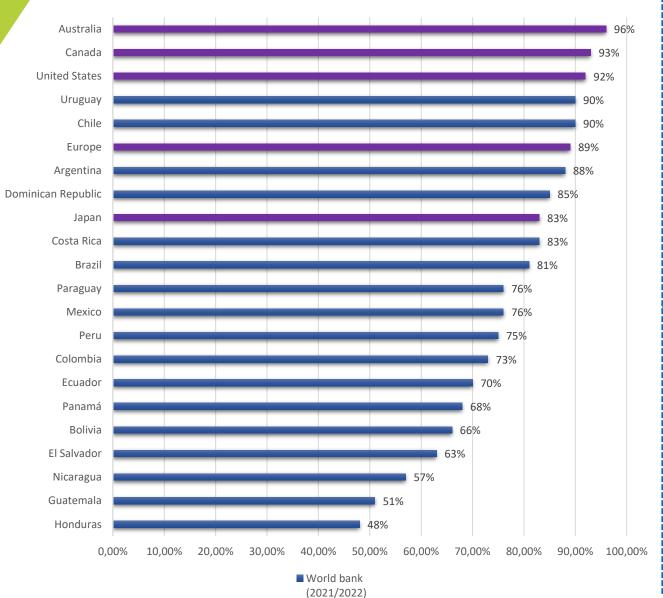
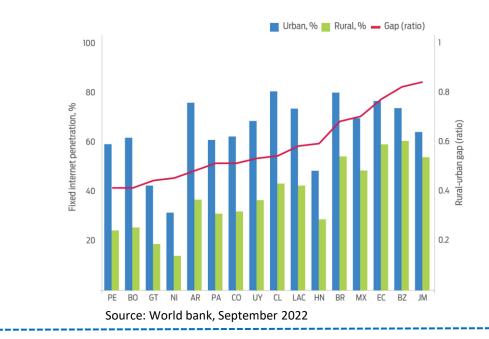


Figure 3: Fixed internet penetration in urban and rural areas (% of households)



Conclusions:

- Despite internet connection is a challenge in some countries, this is also the reality Health care systems are facing daily, so it should not be a restriction for e-IFU adoption.
- Usually, Health care institutions are located in main cities in which internet connection is not a big issue.
- This internet data could represent a challenge for lay user products.



2. Users do not feel comfortable with e-IFU

Product users' perspective regarding e-IFU adoption is not clear, but it is a concern for Health Authorities. With the purpose to map HCP perspective it will be released a survey to capture their preferences regarding IFU.

Methodology					
Audience Health Care professionals					
Scope	LATAM Countries (Except Brazil)				
Distribution strategy	Coalition will send the survey to Health care professional associations (Professionals focus on DM and IVD) identified by the working group.				
Type of questions	Intended to understand what are the preferences of HCP regarding IFU (paper vs. e-IFU).				

- Lay user audience was not considered because it supposed a big complexity to connect with a broad number of patient associations.
- A lot of monthly meetings were focus on discussing the questions included in the survey.
- It was run a pilot with HCPs into the companies to validate the survey.
- There are other surveys released or in progress to identify HCP position regarding e-IFU:

*MedTech Europe *European union *TGA- Australia



3. e-IFU version control

It should cover to different scenarios:

- Countries in which IFU versions/changes required approval.
- Countries that do not require approval.

After several discussions, it was defined the best approach could be each company define the mechanism to control it by QMS and focus our defense in this proposal.

4. Mechanism to provide paper IFU in case it is required by HCP or patients

Initial proposal focus on having a customer service line to request it, however, not all companies could ensure it. Topic already under discussion.



General schedule

	Activity	Estatus	jul-24	Aug-24	sep-24	oct-24	nov-24	Dec-24	Jan -25	feb-25	mar-25
1	1 Compiling state of art										
2	Discussion position papers available	Completed									
3	Main concerns of Health Autorities	In progress									
3.1	Internet connection	Completed									
3.2	Users do not feel comfortable with e-IFU (Survey	In progress									
	Define audience (HCPs, HC Institutions, HCP										
	associations) and ways to contact them	In progress									
	Survey question	In progress									
	Pilot of the survey	In progress									
	Survey release	Not started									
	Data collection	Not started									
	Data analysis	Not started									
3.3	IFU printed on demand	In progress									
3.4	version control	In progress									
4	Position document to recommend e-IFU	Not started									
	General Strategy to negociate with Health										
5	Authorities	Not started									





