

# What Does FDA Regulate?

A Guide for Health Professionals



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)



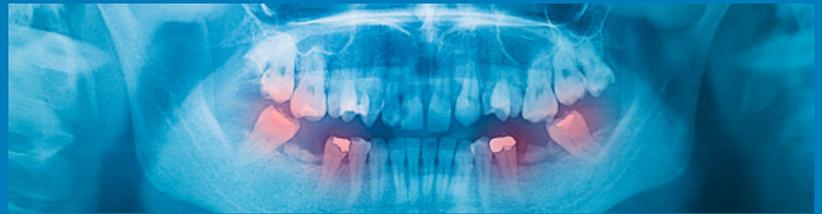
## **BIOLOGICS, INCLUDING:**

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>.