DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA-2016-D-3275]

Product Labeling for Certain Ultrasonic Surgical Aspirator Devices; Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff; Availability

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of the guidance entitled “Product Labeling for Certain Ultrasonic Surgical Aspirator Devices.” FDA is providing a specific labeling recommendation in this guidance to promote the safe and effective use of ultrasonic surgical aspirator devices. The labeling recommendation is being made in light of the risk of tissue dissemination and relates to use of these devices in the removal of uterine fibroids.

DATES: The announcement of the guidance is published in the Federal Register on [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: You may submit either electronic or written comments on Agency guidances at any time as follows:

Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: https://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to https://www.regulations.gov will be posted to the docket unchanged.
Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else’s Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on https://www.regulations.gov.

- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see “Written/Paper Submissions” and “Instructions”).

**Written/Paper Submissions**

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- Mail/Hand delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions): Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

- For written/paper comments submitted to Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in “Instructions.”

**Instructions:** All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA-2016-D-3275 for “Product Labeling for Certain Ultrasonic Surgical Aspirator Devices; Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff.” Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as “Confidential Submissions,” publicly viewable at
https://www.regulations.gov or at Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

- Confidential Submissions--To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states “THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.” The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on https://www.regulations.gov. Submit both copies to Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as “confidential.” Any information marked as “confidential” will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA’s posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at: https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to https://www.regulations.gov and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the “Search” box and follow the
prompts and/or go to Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

An electronic copy of the guidance document is available for download from the internet. See the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for information on electronic access to the guidance. Submit written requests for a single hard copy of the guidance document entitled “Product Labeling for Certain Ultrasonic Surgical Aspirator Devices” to the Office of the Center Director, Guidance and Policy Development, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 66, Rm. 5431, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Trisha Eustaquio, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 66, Rm. 1529, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, 301-796-5214.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

FDA is issuing this guidance to recommend the addition of a specific safety statement to the product labeling of certain ultrasonic surgical aspirator devices. This guidance applies to ultrasonic surgical aspirator devices with indications for use in laparoscopic surgery, open surgery, or gynecologic surgery, as such surgeries can include gynecologic procedures. Ultrasonic surgical aspirator devices are surgical tools intended to fragment, emulsify, and aspirate hard and soft tissue. However, the mechanism of action of ultrasonic surgical aspirator devices creates the potential for tissue dissemination. In light of this risk, FDA is providing a
specific labeling recommendation in this guidance regarding use of these devices in the removal of uterine fibroids.

FDA is aware that ultrasonic surgical aspirator devices are sometimes used to treat advanced malignancy through cytoreduction (also known as debulking). When used in advanced cancers, the risk of adverse clinical effects from tissue dissemination may be small compared to the device’s potential benefits. In certain clinical circumstances, however, the unintended dissemination of cancerous cells may have a significant adverse effect that outweighs any demonstrated benefits. Specifically, use of an ultrasonic surgical aspirator device during treatment for symptomatic uterine fibroids on a woman with an occult uterine sarcoma could result in dissemination of this cancer. Therefore, FDA recommends that manufacturers of ultrasonic surgical aspirator devices with indications for use in laparoscopic surgery, open surgery, or gynecologic surgery prominently include a specific contraindication in their product labeling that the device is not indicated for and should not be used for the fragmentation, emulsification, and aspiration of uterine fibroids.

In the Federal Register on November 10, 2016 (81 FR 79028), FDA announced the availability of the draft guidance and interested parties were invited to comment by January 9, 2017. FDA has considered all of the public comments received prior to finalizing this guidance.

II. Significance of Guidance

This guidance is being issued consistent with FDA’s good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The guidance represents the current thinking of FDA on “Product Labeling for Certain Ultrasonic Surgical Aspirator Devices.” It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it
satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. This guidance is not subject to Executive Order 12866.

III. Electronic Access

Persons interested in obtaining a copy of the guidance may do so by downloading an electronic copy from the internet. A search capability for all Center for Devices and Radiological Health guidance documents is available at https://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/GuidanceDocuments/default.htm. Guidance documents are also available at https://www.regulations.gov. Persons unable to download an electronic copy of “Product Labeling for Certain Ultrasonic Surgical Aspirator Devices; Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff” may send an email request to CDRH-Guidance@fda.hhs.gov to receive an electronic copy of the document. Please use the document number 1500072 to identify the guidance you are requesting.

IV. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This guidance refers to previously approved collections of information found in FDA regulations. These collections of information are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520). The collections of information in 21 CFR part 807, subpart E have been approved under OMB control number 0910-0120 and the collections of information in 21 CFR part 801 have been approved under OMB control number 0910-0485.


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