



Your partner  
in progress

# Microbiology and Sterile Medical Devices



# EU Notified Body, UK Approved Body and Auditing Organization Expertise

As a manufacturer of a sterile medical device, you must ensure that you meet the relevant regulatory requirements before placing your product onto the market.

**Europe:** Medical Device Regulation (**MDR**)(**EU**) **2017/745** and In Vitro Diagnostic Regulation (**IVDR**) (**EU**) **2017/746**

**Great Britain:** Medical Devices Regulations (**UK MDR 2002**)

**Global:** Medical Device Single Audit Program (**MDSAP**)

It is critical to work with a trusted EU Notified Body or UK Approved Body or Auditing Organization that understands the industry and has the experience to review and confirm your product's readiness for market - efficiently, promptly and robustly. Our microbiology technical specialists have extensive experience in sterile medical devices and can support you through the process of certifying your device.

**BSI Group The Netherlands B.V. (2797)** is a leading full-scope Notified Body; we review medical devices to ensure that they conform to the requirements of the European Directives and Regulations.

**BSI Group Assurance UK Ltd. (0086)** is a full-scope UK Approved Body that provides Conformity Assessments under the UKCA scheme.

**BSI Group America Inc.** is a recognized MDSAP Auditing Organization.

## Defining microbiology and sterile medical devices

A sterile medical device is a device that must be free from viable bacteria or other microorganisms and their spores. Sterile medical device requirements are defined by national or regional standards and regulations, which detail the level of sterility assurance. Sterilization of a medical device may include exposure to ethylene oxide, gamma irradiation, steam, dry heat, or chemical sterilization under defined conditions, and any necessary post-treatment required for the removal of by-products.

Sterilization of medical devices is a specialized process and requires specific knowledge and expertise.

For more clarity on sterile medical devices and IVDs, please refer to **MDR(EU)2017/745** and to **IVDR(EU) 2017/746**.

# Sterilisation services

BSI maintains a full scope of sterilization modalities including non-standard methods. We are the preferred Certification Body for providers of sterilization and laboratory services under ISO 13485 and ISO 9001. Our management system expertise covers appropriate control of manufacturing processes and work environments, with a view to confirming end to end sterility assurance.



# Preparing for a microbiology assessment

## A microbiology assessment includes:

- ✓ Verification on the efficacy of controls in place for pre-sterilization bioburden, microbiological cleanliness and controls to assure your medical device sterility.
- ✓ Assessment of environmental monitoring and controlled environment.
- ✓ Verification of effective implementation of sterility assurance levels through sterilization and sterile barrier validations.
- ✓ Assessment of suitability and effectiveness of disinfectants and sterilizers.
- ✓ Assessment of suitability and effectiveness of instructions for end user cleaning, disinfection, sterilization and reprocessing.
- ✓ Assessment of product endotoxin testing including source.
- ✓ Verification of Sterile Release processes for all modalities.



# Documentation Completeness Check

During a microbiology audit and assessment, the following documentation may be reviewed for technical content and completeness:

## **Controlled environment procedures and verification data, including:**

- Air quality, including routine viable and non-viable monitoring
- Cleaning, disinfectant usage
- Gowning
- Disaster recovery planning
- Other facilities data as required (e.g., pest control logs/procedures, water system validation)

## **Routine sterilization procedures**

## **Sterile load release records**

## **Sterilization validation protocols, including any technical agreements and contracts**

### **Sterilization validation data, including:**

- Applicable load configurations/dosing maps and supporting data, as required
- Bioburden, bioburden recovery and endotoxin testing
- End-user sterilization instructions (if applicable)
- Sterility, including bacteriostasis/fungistasis
- Sterilant residual testing

### **Packaging equipment qualification and routine packaging procedures, including:**

- Validation of sterile barrier including performance and stability testing

## **Training records as required for the activities previously listed**

### **In addition to ISO 13485, reference to standards include:**

- Controlled Environments: ISO 14644, ISO 14698, EN 17141, ISO 11737
- Sterile Device Packaging: ISO 11607 series
- Sterilization: ISO 11135, ISO 11137, ISO 17664, ISO 17665, ISO 14937, ISO 13408, ISO 10993, ISO 20857, ISO 22441

This is not a complete documentation list.  
Other documents may be identified during the audit.

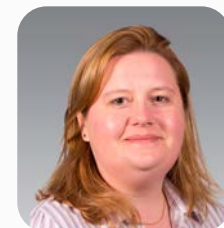
# Meet our Microbiology Team

We are the Certification Body of choice for over 90% of contract sterilization sites worldwide.

With an average of over 20 years of combined experience, our Microbiology team has a broad range of medical, pharmaceutical, industry and regulatory experience, including product design and development, manufacturing, sterilization and product testing.

Our microbiology technical specialists fully understand the scientific aspects of the sterilization process and through their world-leading experience are able to provide expert assessment of controlled environments and medical devices sterility.

“ I am incredibly proud to lead an exceptional team of global experts in the field of Microbiology, with many years of experience collectively gained through industry, research and compliance. The BSI model is unique in its approach, providing a robust end-to-end review of the device dedicated to ensuring microbiological quality and device safety. BSI remains at the forefront of new and emerging sterilization modalities and continues to support our customers and patients both now, and into the future.



**Gillian Cairns**  
Global Head of Microbiology, BSI



# Why choose BSI



## Experience and product expertise

In the complex and ever-changing medical device industry, support from experienced, professional and well qualified technical specialists is critical.

BSI Medical Devices consists of a team of over 1000 professionals including technical experts and internal clinicians with expertise encompassing the full range of medical devices and management system standards.

## Committed to patient safety

Our mission is to ensure patient safety while supporting timely access to global medical device technology. We strive to set the global standard in thorough, responsive and robust conformity assessments, evaluations and certifications.

## Thorough and responsive service

We truly understand the challenges medical devices manufacturers face in bringing compliant products to market efficiently and safely.

We offer standard and dedicated review services providing you with the efficient pathways to bring your device to market.

## Global market access

We are a global organization, trusted and recognized around the world.

BSI The Netherlands (2797) is a leading Notified Body. We review medical devices to ensure that they conform to the requirements of the European Directives and Regulations.

BSI UK (0086) is a UK Approved Body able to provide conformity assessments under the UKCA scheme.

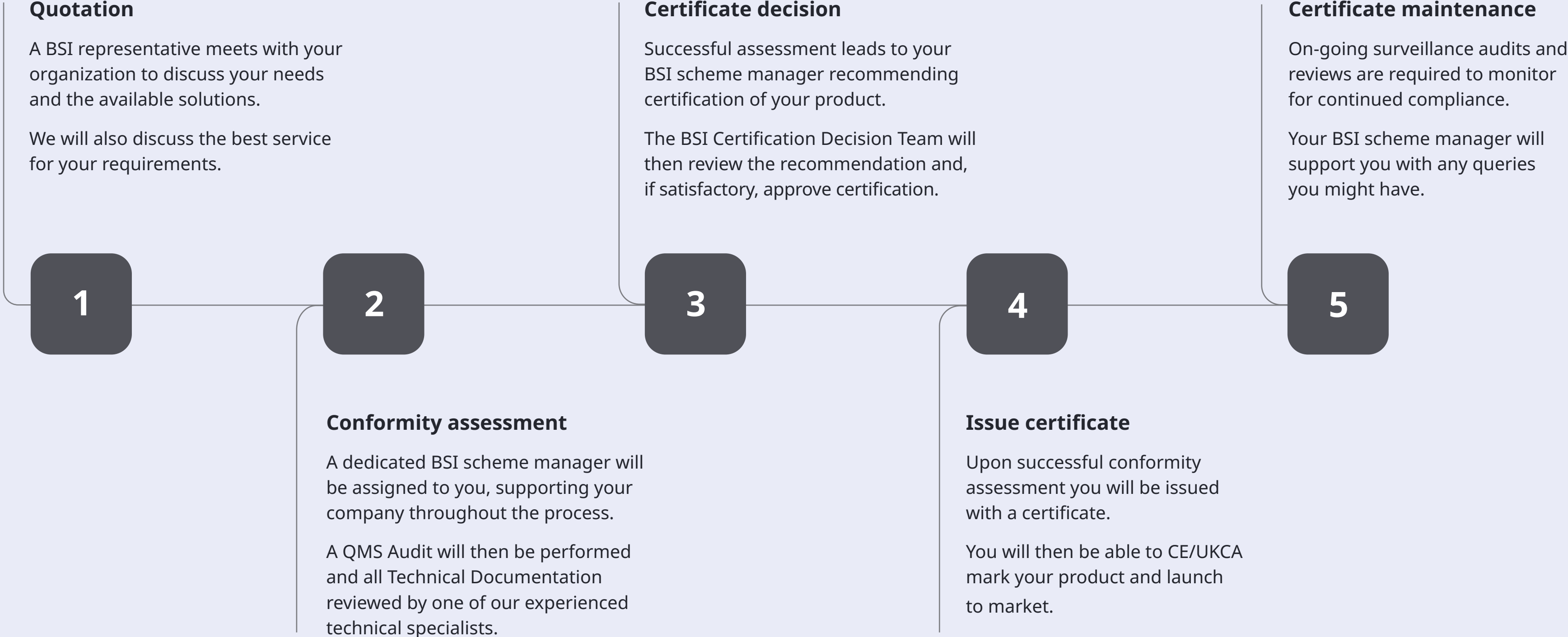
BSI is a recognized Auditing Organization, providing Quality Management System certification through Medical Device Single Audit Program (MDSAP).

BSI is a Conformity Assessment Body for EN ISO 17021-1 (EN-ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 13485) as accredited by the Dutch Accreditation Council (RvA) and the UK Accreditation Service (UKAS).

## Trusted and robust reviews

Our comprehensive review process combined with our world-leading experience as a Notified Body and UK Approved Body will ensure that your conformity assessment path is efficient and robust.

# Five steps from product-to-market



# How BSI supports your market readiness

## Readiness

In the competitive medical device marketplace, ensuring that product development meets all regulatory requirements is essential. We support you through the application and certification process.

## Worldwide Access

We offer a wide range of regulatory and quality management programs that work cohesively for international compliance. BSI is an accredited Conformity Assessment Body for Quality Management Systems against ISO 17021-1 with ISO 13485, ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 in its scope.

BSI Group The Netherlands B.V. (2797) is a leading Notified Body achieving full-scope designation under MDR and IVDR.

We are a recognized certification body in Japan, Malaysia, Singapore. BSI Group The Netherlands B.V. (2797) is a recognized "Notified Body partner" in Taiwan's Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP), and a recognized MDSAP auditing organization for all participating regulatory authorities.

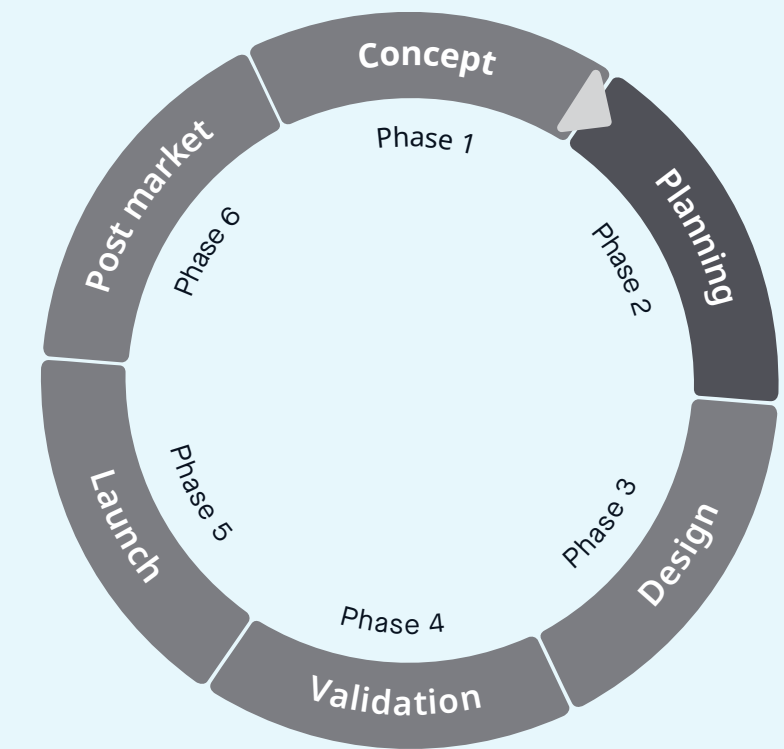
## BSI Transfer

We offer a seamless transfer to our services providing comprehensive support to ensure minimal disruption to your company.

## Additional Services

- **Access to more than 34,000 standards** and related products, as well as online guidance documents
- **Expert training** online or face-to-face through our public training courses
- **Regulatory updates and newsletters** focusing on industry changes, helping you to plan for the future
- **Webinars** delivered by our experts on regulatory issues
- **Comprehensive whitepapers** providing the latest insights on key industry topics

## The product lifecycle



## Considering clinical and regulatory requirements

An understanding of the complex clinical and regulatory requirements early in the product lifecycle could ensure you gain the competitive advantage needed to bring your product to market.

Our consolidated clinical and regulatory planning will support you in maximizing resources and reducing the risk of costly redevelopments later in the lifecycle.

Visit our **website** for more information about the product lifecycle

# Navigating your compliance to the regulations



**From the experts**

The process of CE or UKCA marking for sterile medical devices can be challenging. The implementation of the appropriate sterilization technique is essential for the successful outcome of your application.

- MDR and IVDR**  
Best Practices Guidelines to support you
- MDR and IVDR**  
Conformity Assessment to meet MDR and IVDR requirements
- Continued access to our technical experts throughout your submission

Manufacturers of medical devices and IVDs have to ensure their technical documentation and processes meet MDR and IVDR requirements before placing their products on the EU Market.

Manufacturers are invited to apply to a Notified Body as soon as possible to ensure compliance with the Regulations.

## CE/UKCA Excellence

Technical Documentation Review Services deliver the efficiency you need to be competitive in the market and maintain trust.

### Standard

Access to technical review timeline after Technical Documentation submission.


### Interactive Dedicated

Technical review planned up-front to Technical Documentation submission.

### Talk to BSI today and start your journey

**Get in touch**

Whether you are starting the certification process, looking to transfer or need to discuss your options, we can guide you through the process.

**Talk to us** 





Your partner  
in progress

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