



BSI Standards Publication

# Medical devices — Symbols to be used with information to be supplied by the manufacturer

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Part 1: General requirements

This is a preview of "BS EN ISO 15223-1:20...". Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.

## National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN ISO 15223-1:2021. It is identical to ISO 15223-1:2021. It supersedes BS EN ISO 15223-1:2016, which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee CH/210/3, General terminology and symbols for Medical Devices.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

This publication has been prepared under a mandate given to the European Standards Organizations by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association. It is intended to support requirements of the EU legislation detailed in the European Foreword. A European Annex, usually Annex ZA or ZZ, describes how this publication relates to that EU legislation.

For the Great Britain market (England, Scotland and Wales), if UK Government has designated this publication for conformity with UKCA marking (or similar) legislation, it may contain an additional National Annex. Where such a National Annex exists, it shows the correlation between this publication and the relevant UK legislation. If there is no National Annex of this kind, the relevant Annex ZA or ZZ in the body of the European text will indicate the relationship to UK regulation applicable in Great Britain. References to EU legislation may need to be read in accordance with the UK designation and the applicable UK law. Further information on designated standards can be found at [www.bsigroup.com/standardsandregulation](http://www.bsigroup.com/standardsandregulation).

For the Northern Ireland market, UK law will continue to implement relevant EU law subject to periodic confirmation. Therefore Annex ZA/ZZ in the European text, and references to EU legislation, are still valid for this market.

UK Government is responsible for legislation. For information on legislation and policies relating to that legislation, consult the relevant pages of [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk).

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ISBN 978 0 539 03161 4

ICS 01.080.20; 11.040.01

**Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 30 September 2021.

**Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication**

Date

Text affected

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EUROPÄISCHE NORM

September 2021

ICS 01.080.20; 11.040.01

Supersedes EN ISO 15223-1:2016

English Version

## Medical devices - Symbols to be used with information to be supplied by the manufacturer - Part 1: General requirements (ISO 15223-1:2021)

Dispositifs médicaux - Symboles à utiliser avec les informations à fournir par le fabricant - Partie 1: Exigences générales (ISO 15223-1:2021)

Medizinprodukte - Zu verwendende Symbole mit durch den Hersteller bereitgestellten Informationen - Teil 1: Allgemeine Anforderungen (ISO 15223-1:2021)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 4 June 2021.

CEN and CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN and CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN and CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN and CENELEC members are the national standards bodies and national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre:  
Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

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## European foreword

This document (EN ISO 15223-1:2021) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 210 "Quality management and corresponding general aspects for medical devices" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN-CENELEC/ JTC 3 "Quality management and corresponding general aspects for medical devices" the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by March 2022, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by March 2022.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN-CENELEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN ISO 15223-1:2016.

This document has been prepared under a Standardization Request given to CEN and CENELEC by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association, and supports essential requirements of EU Directive(s) / Regulation(s).

For the relationship with EU Directive(s) / Regulation(s), see informative [Annex ZA](#) and [ZB](#), which is an integral part of this document.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users' national standards body/national committee. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN and CENELEC websites.

This document is an adoption of an International Standard. The definitions in applicable regulatory requirements differ from nation to nation and region to region. As a result, the definitions in this document can differ in wording from those in European Regulations. For use in support of European requirements, definitions in the European regulations for medical devices take precedence.

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. However, for any use of this standard "within the meaning of [Annex ZA](#) and [Annex ZB](#)", the user should always check that any referenced document has not been superseded and that its relevant contents can still be considered the generally acknowledged state-of-art.

When an IEC or ISO standard is referred to in the ISO standard text, this shall be understood as a normative reference to the corresponding EN standard, if available, and otherwise to the dated version of the ISO or IEC standard, as listed below.

NOTE The way in which these references documents are cited in normative requirements determines the extent (in whole or in part) to which they apply.

**Table — Correlations between normative references and dated EN and ISO standards**

Normative references as listed in Clause 2 of the ISO standard	Equivalent dated standard	
	EN	ISO or IEC
ISO 8601-1	--	ISO 8601-1:2019 <sup>a</sup>
ISO 8601-2	--	ISO 8601-2:2019 <sup>a</sup>
ISO 15223-2	--	ISO 15223-2:2010
ISO 3166-1	EN ISO 3166-1:2020	ISO 3166-1: 2020

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland,

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Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

**Endorsement notice**

The text of ISO 15223-1:2021 has been approved by CEN-CENELEC as EN ISO 15223-1:2021 without any modification.

## Annex ZA (informative)

### Relationship between this European standard and the General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/745 aimed to be covered

This European standard has been prepared under a Commission's standardisation request to provide one voluntary means of conforming to the General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/745 of 5 April 2017 concerning medical devices [O] L 117].

Once this standard is cited in the Official Journal of the European Union under that Regulation, compliance with the normative clauses of this standard given in [Table ZA.1](#) confers, within the limits of the scope of this standard, a presumption of conformity with the corresponding General Safety and Performance Requirements of that Regulation, and associated EFTA regulations.

NOTE 1 Where a reference from a clause of this standard to the risk management process is made, the risk management process needs to be in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2017/745. This means that risks have to be 'reduced as far as possible', 'reduced to the lowest possible level', 'reduced as far as possible and appropriate', 'removed or reduced as far as possible', 'eliminated or reduced as far as possible', 'removed or minimized as far as possible', or 'minimized', according to the wording of the corresponding General Safety and Performance Requirement.

NOTE 2 The manufacturer's policy for determining **acceptable risk** must be in compliance with General Safety and Performance Requirements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 of the Regulation.

NOTE 3 This [Annex ZA](#) is based on normative references according to the table of references in the European Foreword, replacing the references in the core text.

NOTE 4 When a General Safety and Performance Requirement does not appear in [Table ZA.1](#), it means that it is not addressed by this European Standard.



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**Table ZA.1 — – Correspondence between this European standard and Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2017/745 [OJ L 117]**

General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/745	Clause(s) / sub-clause(s) of this EN	Remarks / Notes
4 (c)	5.2.6 5.2.7 5.2.8 5.3.1 5.3.2 5.3.3 5.3.4 5.3.5 5.3.6 5.3.7 5.3.8 5.3.9 5.4.1 5.4.2 5.4.3 5.4.4 5.4.5 5.4.6 5.4.7 5.4.8 5.4.9 5.4.10 5.4.11 5.4.12	Partially covered: used to draw user's attention on the label to the safety information such as warnings/precautions/contraindications only for the aspects dealt with by these symbols placed in the instructions for use or accompanying information and of any residual risks and need for training for users.  Not covered: does not provide further information for safety about warning/precautions/contraindications other than the ones dealt with by these symbols, nor training.
10.4.5	5.4.35.4.10	Partially covered: used to draw user's attention on the label to the safety information placed in the instructions for use or accompanying information of the presence of substances that are carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic to reproduction and/or having endocrine-disrupting properties.
11.3	5.2.1 5.2.2 5.2.3 5.2.4 5.2.5 5.2.7 5.2.10	Partially covered: used as part of the label to identify sterile or non-sterile medical devices.  Not covered: Design, manufacture, and packaging.

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General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/745	Clause(s) / sub-clause(s) of this EN	Remarks / Notes
11.8	5.2.1 5.2.3 5.2.4 5.2.5 5.2.7 5.2.10	Covered: used as part of the label to distinguish between identical sterile and non-sterile medical devices.
14.1	5.4.3 5.4.4	Partially covered: used to draw user's attention on the labelling to the safety information in the instructions for use.
22.1	5	Partially covered: used to convey specific label information in a format that is easy for the intended user to understand.  Not covered: the design and manufacture for appropriate performance, taking user's skills into account; the understanding and application of the instructions for use.
23.1 (first sentence)	5.1.1 5.1.3 5.1.5 5.1.6 5.1.7 5.1.10 5.1.11	Partially covered: used to identify the medical device and its manufacturer.
23.1 (a)	5	Partially covered: used to convey label information in a format that is easy to understand.  Not covered: the medium, format, content, legibility and location of the label, instructions for use, and accompanying information; the technical knowledge, experience, and training of the intended user; understanding of the intended use, drawings, or diagrams.
23.1 (b)	5	Partially covered: used to provide label information directly on a medical device in a symbol format that would be otherwise impracticable by use of text.  Not covered: the information that is required on the label and/or medical device, but that can be placed on the medical device or the packaging.
23.1 (c)	5	Partially covered: used to provide label information in a human readable format that would be otherwise impracticable by use of text.  Not covered: machine-readable information.
23.1 (g)	5.4.3 5.4.4	Partially covered: may be used to draw user's attention on the label to the safety information concerning limitation, contra-indications, precautions, or warnings.  Not covered: the residual risks required to be communicated by way of limitations, contra-indications, precautions, or warnings.

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General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/745	Clause(s) / sub-clause(s) of this EN	Remarks / Notes
23.1 (h)	4.2 5	Covered: symbols used to convey information in combination with risk management. Symbols addressed in 5 are used on labels without a description of the symbol required in the instructions for use or accompanying information to convey information.  Not covered: the use of other symbols will require a description of the symbol in the instructions for use or accompanying information.
23.2 (b)	5.1.65.1.10 5.7.10	Partially covered: used as part of the label information to identify the medical device and the packaging contents.  Not covered: the intended purpose of the medical device.
23.2 (c)	5.1.1	Partially covered: used as part of the label information to identify the manufacturer and registered place of business (address).  Not covered: the trade name or registered trademark.
23.2 (d)	5.1.2	Covered: used as part of the label information to identify the authorised representative and registered place of business (address).
23.2 (e)	5.4.6 5.4.7 5.4.8 5.4.9	Covered: used as part of the label information to identify that the medical device contains or incorporates a medicinal substance, including a human blood or plasma derivative; or tissues or cells, or their derivatives, of human origin; or tissues or cells of animal origin, or their derivatives.
23.2 (f)	5.4.35.4.10	Partially covered: used to draw user's attention on the label to the safety information placed in the instructions for use or accompanying information of the presence of substances that are carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic to reproduction and/or have endocrine-disrupting properties.
23.2 (g)	5.1.5 5.1.7	Covered: used to replace the words 'LOT NUMBER' and 'SERIAL NUMBER'
23.2 (h)	5.7.10	Partially covered: symbol used to indicate the UDI carrier
23.2 (i)	5.1.4	Covered: used to indicate the time limit for use or implant of the medical device, accompanied by the date (to include at least year and month).
23.2 (j)	5.1.3 5.1.11	Covered: used to indicate the date of manufacture for the medical device, accompanied by the date (to include at least year and month).

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General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/745	Clause(s) / sub-clause(s) of this EN	Remarks / Notes
23.2 (k)	5.3.1 5.3.2 5.3.3 5.3.4 5.3.5 5.3.6 5.3.7 5.3.8 5.3.9	Covered: used to indicate information that the medical device is: fragile. restricted for safety by exposure to the indicated lower limit temperature value. needs protection from sunlight and other light sources, or heat and radioactive sources, or moisture. Partially covered: used to indicate that for safe use and effectiveness the medical device has: an upper limit of temperature accompanied by the temperature value. upper and lower limits of temperature accompanied by the upper and lower temperature values. upper and lower limits of humidity accompanied by the upper and lower humidity values. upper and lower limits of pressure accompanied by the upper and lower pressure values.
23.2 (l)	5.2.1 5.2.2 5.2.3 5.2.4 5.2.5 5.2.10	Covered: used on the label to specify an indication of the medical device's sterile state and the method of sterilization. If symbol 5.2.1 is used, the GSPR is only partially covered as this symbol does not indicate the method of sterilization.
23.2 (m)	5.2.6 5.2.7 5.2.8 5.3.1 5.3.2 5.3.3 5.3.4 5.3.5 5.3.6 5.3.7 5.3.8 5.3.9 5.4.1 5.4.2 5.4.3 5.4.4 5.4.5 5.4.10	Partially covered: used to draw user's attention on the label to the more detailed warnings or precautions found in the instructions for use or accompanying information.
23.2 (n)	5.4.2	Covered: used to specify on the label that the medical device is intended for single use.

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General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/745	Clause(s) / sub-clause(s) of this EN	Remarks / Notes
23.2 (q)	5.7.7	Covered: used to specify on the label that the device is a medical device. Not covered: for labelling of devices intended for clinical use only.
23.2 (s)	5.1.5 5.1.7	Covered: used to replace the words 'LOT NUMBER' and 'SERIAL NUMBER'
23.3 (a)	5.2.11 5.2.12 5.2.13 5.2.14	Covered: used to specify on the label of the medical device that the packaging is sterile packaging (sterile barrier system).
23.3 (b)	5.2.1 5.2.2 5.2.3 5.2.4 5.2.5 5.2.10	Covered: used as part of the label to identify the medical device is sterile.
23.3 (c)	5.2.2 5.2.3 5.2.4 5.2.5 5.2.10	Covered: used to specify on the label the method of sterilization.
23.3 (d)	5.1.1	Covered: used as part of the label information to identify the manufacturer and registered place of business (address).
23.3 (h)	5.1.3 <b>5.1.11</b>	Covered: used to indicate the date of manufacture for the medical device, accompanied by the date (to include at least year and month).
23.3 (i)	5.1.4	Covered: used to indicate the time limit for use or implant of the medical device, accompanied by the date (to include at least year and month).
23.3 (j)	5.2.8 5.4.3	Covered: used to draw user's attention on the label to the more detailed warnings or precautions found in the instructions for use or accompanying information if the packaging is damaged or opened.

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General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/745	Clause(s) / sub-clause(s) of this EN	Remarks / Notes
23.4 (a)	5.1.1 5.2.1 5.2.2 5.2.3 5.2.4 5.2.5 5.2.10 5.3.1 5.3.2 5.3.3 5.3.4 5.3.5 5.3.6 5.3.7 5.3.8 5.3.9 5.4.2 5.4.3 5.4.4 5.4.6 5.4.7 5.4.8 5.4.9 5.4.10	<p>Covered: used as part of the label information to identify that the medical device contains or incorporates:</p> <p>a medicinal substance, including a human blood or plasma derivative (23.2 (e)).</p> <p>tissues or cells, or their derivatives, of human origin (23.2 (e)).</p> <p>tissues or cells of animal origin, or their derivatives (23.2 (e)).</p> <p>Covered: used to indicate information that the medical device is:</p> <p>fragile (23.2 (k)).</p> <p>restricted for safety by exposure to the indicated lower limit temperature value, (23.2 (k)).</p> <p>needs protection from sunlight and other light sources, or heat and radioactive sources, or moisture (23.2 (k)).</p> <p>intended for single use (23.2 (n)).</p> <p>Covered: used on the label to specify an indication of the medical device's sterile state and the method of sterilization (23.2 (l)).</p> <p>Partially covered: used to indicate that for safe use and effectiveness the medical device has:</p> <p>an upper limit of temperature accompanied by the temperature value (23.2 (k)).</p> <p>upper and lower limits of temperature accompanied by the upper and lower temperature values (23.2 (k)).</p> <p>upper and lower limits of humidity accompanied by the upper and lower humidity values (23.2 (k)).</p> <p>upper and lower limits of pressure accompanied by the upper and lower pressure values (23.2 (k)).</p> <p>Partially covered: used as part of the label information to identify the manufacturer and registered place of business (address) (23.2 (c)).</p> <p>Partially covered: Symbol 5.2.1 is used to indicate that a medical device is sterile but does not indicate method of sterilization (23.2(l)).</p> <p>Partially covered: used to draw user's attention on the label to the safety information placed in the instructions for use or accompanying information of the presence of substances that are hazardous, carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic to reproduction and/or have endocrine-disrupting properties (23.2 (f)).</p> <p>Not covered: the trade name or registered trademark (23.2 (a)), (23.2 (c)).</p> <p>Not covered: the method of sterilization is not specified in symbol 5.2.1 so cannot be used to meet 23.2(l) (see symbols 5.2.2, 5.2.3, 5.2.4, 5.2.5).</p>

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General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/745	Clause(s) / sub-clause(s) of this EN	Remarks / Notes
23.4 (l)	5.2.8 5.4.3	Partially covered: used on the label to draw user's attention to the more detailed warnings or precautions found in the instructions for use or accompanying information if the packaging is damaged or opened.  Not covered: instructions in the event of damage or unintentional opening.
23.4 (p)	5.4.2	Partially covered: used on the label to specify that the medical device is intended for single use.  Not covered: information and technical factors that could pose a risk if re-used.
23.4 (aa)	5.1.1 5.1.5 5.1.7 5.1.10 5.7.3 5.7.4 5.7.5 5.7.6 5.7.7 5.7.10	Partially covered: used on information provided to the patient to draw attention to the more detailed information regarding the implanted medical device.  Not covered: specific information regarding the implanted medical device.

**WARNING 1** Presumption of conformity stays valid only as long as a reference to this European standard is maintained in the list published in the Official Journal of the European Union. Users of this standard should consult frequently the latest list published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

**WARNING 2** Other Union legislation may be applicable to the product(s) falling within the scope of this standard.

## Annex ZB (informative)

### Relationship between this European standard and the General Safety and Performance Requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/746 aimed to be covered

This European standard has been prepared under a Commission's standardisation request to provide one voluntary means of conforming to the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2017/746 of 5 April 2017 concerning in vitro diagnostic medical devices [O] L 117].

Once this standard is cited in the Official Journal of the European Union under that Regulation, compliance with the normative clauses of this standard given in [Table ZB.1](#) confers, within the limits of the scope of this standard, a presumption of conformity with the corresponding General Safety and Performance Requirements of that Regulation, and associated EFTA regulations.

NOTE 1 Where a reference from a clause of this standard to the risk management process is made, the risk management process needs to be in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2017/746. This means that risks have to be 'reduced as far as possible', 'reduced to a level as low as reasonably practicable', 'reduced to the lowest possible level', 'reduced as far as possible and appropriate', 'removed or reduced as far as possible', 'eliminated or reduced as far as possible', 'prevented' or 'minimized', according to the wording of the corresponding General Safety and Performance Requirement.

NOTE 2 The manufacturer's policy for determining **acceptable risk** must be in compliance with General Safety and Performance Requirements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 of the Regulation.

NOTE 3 This [Annex ZB](#) is based on normative references according to the table of references in the European Foreword, replacing the references in the core text.

NOTE 4 When a General Safety and Performance Requirement does not appear in [Table ZB.1](#), it means that it is not addressed by this European Standard.