



Food and Drug Administration  
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December 19, 2014

Covidien  
Ms. Sharon McDermott  
Senior Product Regulatory Specialist  
5920 Longbow Drive  
Boulder, Colorado 80301

Re: K143161  
Trade/Device Name: Force FX Generators  
Regulation Number: 21 CFR 878.4400  
Regulation Name: Electrosurgical cutting and coagulation device  
and accessories  
Regulatory Class: Class II  
Product Code: GEI  
Dated: December 4, 2014  
Received: December 5, 2014

Dear Ms. McDermott:

We have reviewed your Section 510(k) premarket notification of intent to market the device referenced above and have determined the device is substantially equivalent (for the indications for use stated in the enclosure) to legally marketed predicate devices marketed in interstate commerce prior to May 28, 1976, the enactment date of the Medical Device Amendments, or to devices that have been reclassified in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Act) that do not require approval of a premarket approval application (PMA). You may, therefore, market the device, subject to the general controls provisions of the Act. The general controls provisions of the Act include requirements for annual registration, listing of devices, good manufacturing practice, labeling, and prohibitions against misbranding and adulteration. Please note: CDRH does not evaluate information related to contract liability warranties. We remind you; however, that device labeling must be truthful and not misleading.

If your device is classified (see above) into either class II (Special Controls) or class III (PMA), it may be subject to additional controls. Existing major regulations affecting your device can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21, Parts 800 to 898. In addition, FDA may publish further announcements concerning your device in the Federal Register.

Please be advised that FDA's issuance of a substantial equivalence determination does not mean that FDA has made a determination that your device complies with other requirements of the Act or any Federal statutes and regulations administered by other Federal agencies. You must comply with all the Act's requirements, including, but not limited to: registration and listing (21 CFR Part 807); labeling (21 CFR Part 801); medical device reporting (reporting of medical

device-related adverse events) (21 CFR 803); good manufacturing practice requirements as set forth in the quality systems (QS) regulation (21 CFR Part 820); and if applicable, the electronic product radiation control provisions (Sections 531-542 of the Act); 21 CFR 1000-1050.

If you desire specific advice for your device on our labeling regulation (21 CFR Part 801), please contact the Division of Industry and Consumer Education at its toll-free number (800) 638-2041 or (301) 796-7100 or at its Internet address

<http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/ResourcesforYou/Industry/default.htm>. Also, please note the regulation entitled, "Misbranding by reference to premarket notification" (21CFR Part 807.97). For questions regarding the reporting of adverse events under the MDR regulation (21 CFR Part 803), please go to

<http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/Safety/ReportaProblem/default.htm> for the CDRH's Office of Surveillance and Biometrics/Division of Postmarket Surveillance.

You may obtain other general information on your responsibilities under the Act from the Division of Industry and Consumer Education at its toll-free number (800) 638-2041 or (301) 796-7100 or at its Internet address

<http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/ResourcesforYou/Industry/default.htm>.

Sincerely yours,

**Binita S. Ashar -S**

Binita S. Ashar, M.D., M.B.A., F.A.C.S.  
Director  
Division of Surgical Devices  
Office of Device Evaluation  
Center for Devices and  
Radiological Health

Enclosure

## Indications for Use

510(k) Number (if known)

K143161

Device Name

Force FX Generators

Indications for Use (Describe)

The Force FX™ Electrosurgical Generator is an electrosurgical generator containing monopolar and bipolar technology. It is intended for use with accessories during surgical procedures where the surgeon requires electrosurgical cutting (resecting, dividing, or separating) and coagulating (hemostasis).

Type of Use (Select one or both, as applicable)

Prescription Use (Part 21 CFR 801 Subpart D)

Over-The-Counter Use (21 CFR 801 Subpart C)

### CONTINUE ON A SEPARATE PAGE IF NEEDED.

This section applies only to requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

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## 510(k) Summary

Date summary prepared: December 18, 2014

### 510(k) Submitter/Holder

Covidien (formerly Valleylab, Inc.)  
5920 Longbow Drive  
Boulder, CO 80301

### Contact

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### Name of Device

Trade Name: Force FX™ electrosurgical generators  
Common Name: Electrosurgical Generator  
Classification Name: Electrosurgical cutting and coagulation device and accessories (21 CFR § 878.4400, class II, GEI)

### Predicate Device

Trade Name: Force FX  
Common Name: Electrosurgical Generator  
Catalog Number: Force FX  
510(k) Number: K944602 (cleared 6/5/1995)  
Manufacturer: Covidien

### Device Description

The Force FX™ Electrosurgical Generators are microcontroller-based isolated output generators that provide power for cutting, desiccating, and fulgurating tissue during bipolar and monopolar surgery. Features included are:

- Instant Response™ Technology - Automatically senses resistance and adjusts the output voltage to maintain a consistent effect across different tissue density.
- Three bipolar modes: precise, standard, and macro - Low voltage, continuous current provides faster desiccation without sparking.
- Three monopolar Cut modes: low, pure, blend - Allows a wide range of power settings necessary to perform diverse surgical procedures.
- Three monopolar Coag modes: desiccate, fulgurate, and spray - Helps control the size of the area and the depth of penetration during tissue coagulation.
- Support for Simultaneous Activation
- Covidien Energy-based Devices REM™ Contact Quality Monitoring System - Monitors the quality of electrical contact between the return electrode and the patient to eliminate risk of pad site burns.
- Handswitch or footswitch activation
- Recall of most recently used mode and power settings

- Adjustable activation tone volume
- An RF activation port, RS-232 serial port, and expansion port

The precise and standard bipolar modes of the Force FX™-8CA(S) models are equipped with an Autobipolar function. The autobipolar feature senses tissue impedance between the two bipolar electrodes and then uses the impedance information to automatically start or stop bipolar RF activation. Optionally, the user may choose between footswitch start and auto start, or program a delay between auto start and RF activation.

### **Indications for Use**

The Force FX™ Electrosurgical Generator is an electrosurgical generator containing monopolar and bipolar technology. It is intended for use with accessories during surgical procedures where the surgeon requires electrosurgical cutting (resecting, dividing, or separating) and coagulating (hemostasis).

### **Technological Characteristics**

The Force FX generators have the same technological and performance characteristics as the predicate, K944602. This Special 510(k) proposes changes to five printed circuit board assemblies (PCBAs), firmware/software, and a minor modification to the simultaneous (coag) activation tone. The function of the devices has not changed.

### **Performance Characteristics**

The modifications made to the Force FX generator were found to not affect safety or performance through design verification testing, which confirmed the continued conformance to applicable technical design specifications and performance requirements, including requirements associated with industry safety and performance standards, as follows:

- Basic safety and essential performance in accordance with IEC 60601-1:2005 and IEC 60601-2-2:2009
- Electromagnetic compatibility in accordance with IEC 60601-1-2:2007
- Design verification testing including application of multiple AC mains voltages and temperatures to ensure the proposed modifications perform within design parameters under varying environmental conditions.
- Software regression/validation

### **Clinical Studies**

This premarket submission did not rely on the assessment of clinical performance data to demonstrate substantial equivalence.

### **Conclusions**

The intended use of the Force FX generator was not altered. In addition, the results of testing demonstrate that the modifications to the Force FX generator do not affect the safety or performance of the generator which is substantially equivalent to the predicate Force FX.