

Future of Medical Devices- Vision for India

India has a large base of technical manpower and perhaps, the youngest workforce. Over 160,000 engineers graduate every year with nearly 20000 engineers completing their masters program and a reasonable number going on to PhDs. Sound engineering skills form the fundamental basis for good medical device manufacturing and innovations.

In the past, various unfavorable macro conditions led to the medical device industry in India languishing compared to international expectations of innovation and quality. However with the recent developments in the regulatory matters (including GHTF regulations) in the medical device industry, India can certainly become an emerging force for providing international quality innovations at a reasonable cost to the medical device community globally.

Over the last few years, there has been an emergence of a few islands of excellence in practically every branch of medical devices. These companies stand out as those who not only meet internationally recognized quality management practices but further as those who have demonstrated capabilities of innovation. Several have also been approved by international regulatory bodies, notably having the ISO 13485 quality management certification as well as the CE certification.

Depending on need, various international quality engineering services could also be outsourced by the local companies to give holistic service packages.

All the above should result in India being recognized as a good base for manufacturing of medical devices and a place for innovations. The global medical device Industry also acknowledges specific advantages that India has in terms of ease of communication and language as well as being a true democracy with a fair legal system, especially respecting intellectual and general property rights.