

Authorised representatives, importers and distributors: Obligations of economic operators in Switzerland

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Any person handling **therapeutic products** must take all measures necessary according to the state of the art to ensure that **human** or animal **health** is not endangered.

Disclaimer

- *The applicable provisions of the Therapeutic Products Act (TPA; SR 812.21) and the Ordinance on In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Devices (IvDO; SR 812.219) have been generalised for this presentation.*
- *The current legal provisions apply in all cases.*
- *Specific cases are not covered by this presentation.*

Economic operators (Art. 4 para. 1 let. i IvDO)



Manufacturer

and



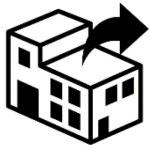
Authorised
representative

Responsible for complying with the general safety and performance requirements



Importer

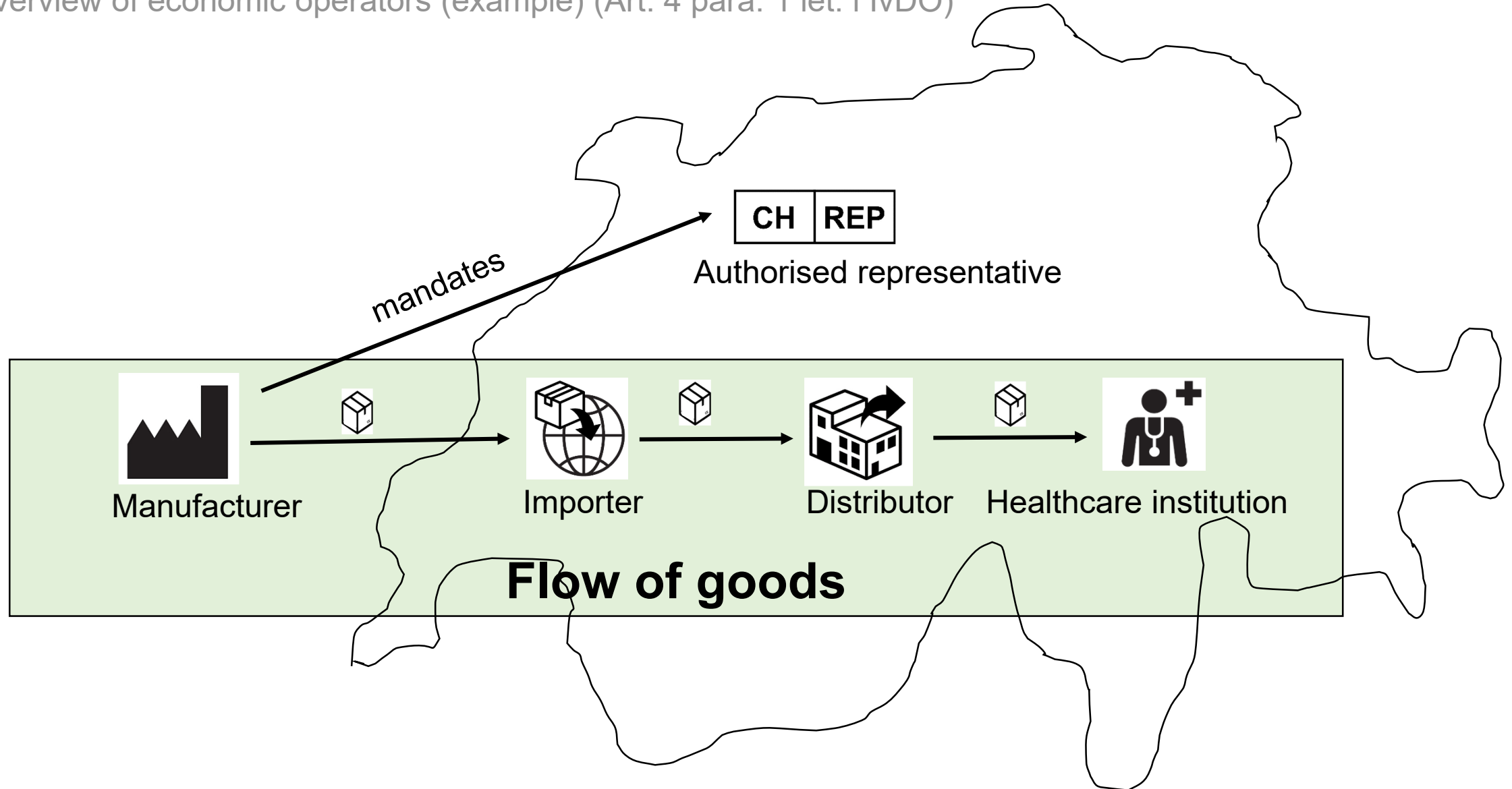
Places devices from abroad on the Swiss market (part of the supply chain)

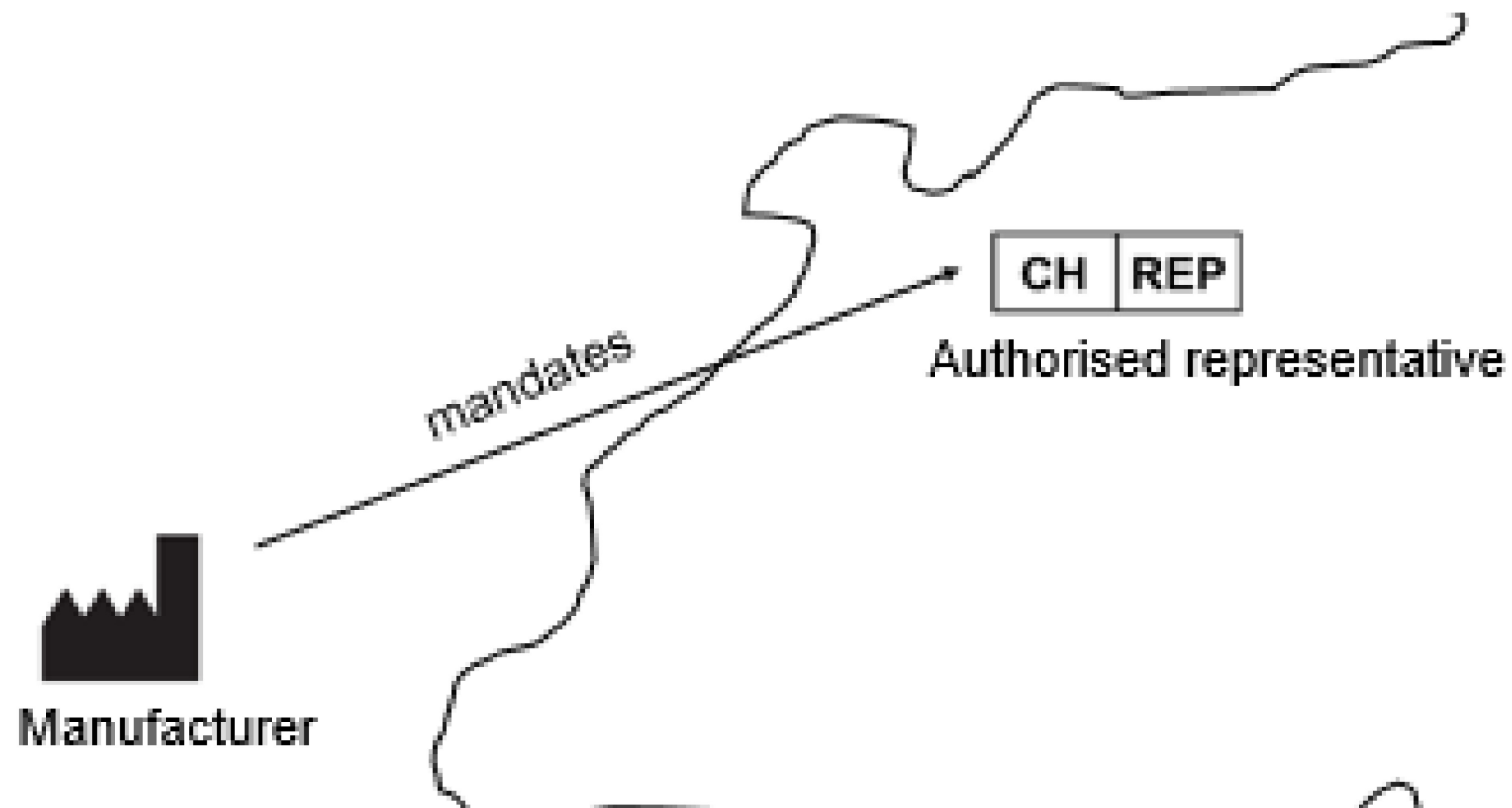


Distributor

Makes devices available on the Swiss market
(part of the supply chain)

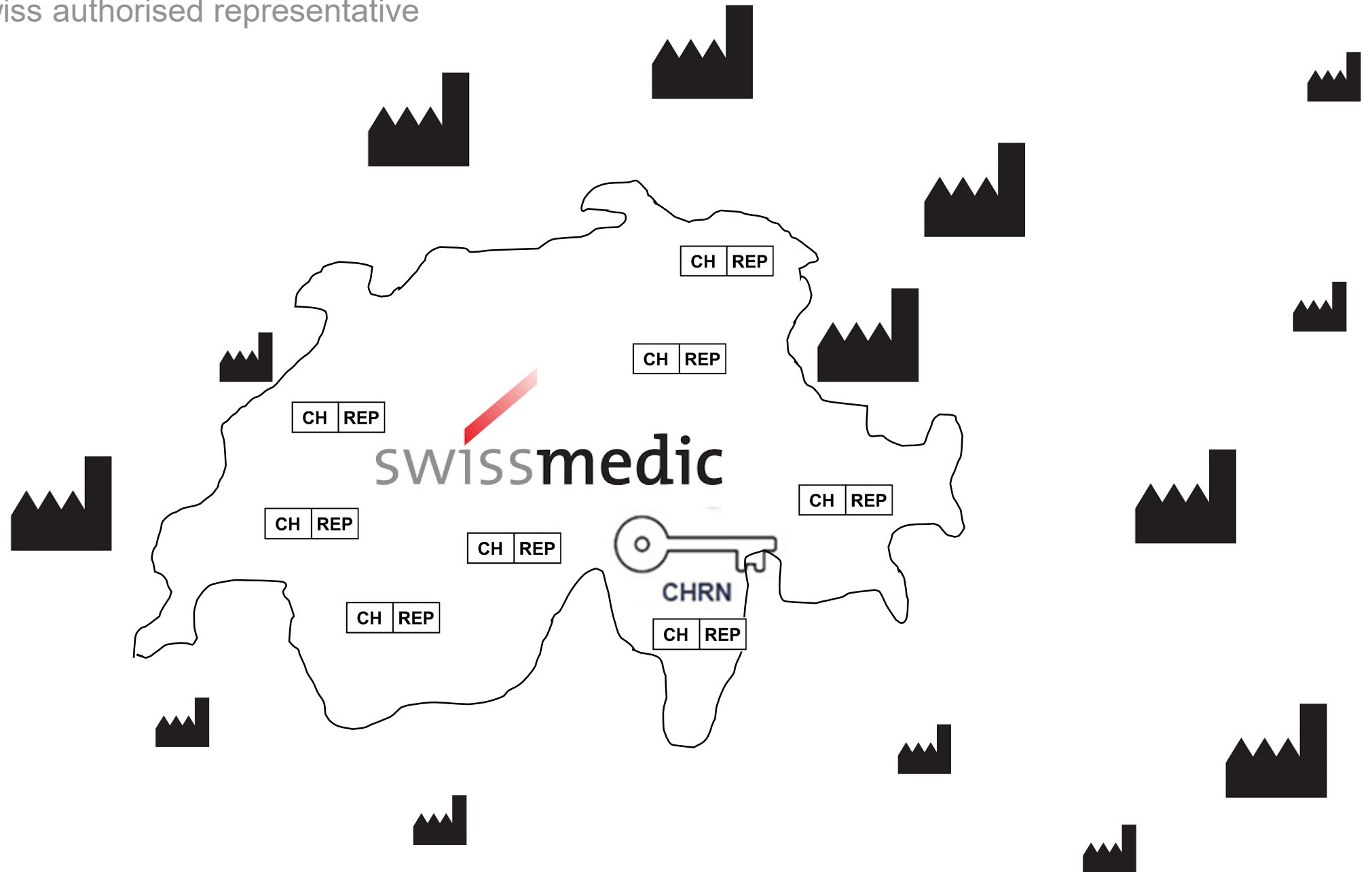
Overview of economic operators (example) (Art. 4 para. 1 let. i IvDO)





CH REP

Swiss authorised representative



Authorised Representative (Art. 44 and 45 IvDO)

- If the manufacturer is **not domiciled in Switzerland**, it must designate an authorised representative by means of a **written mandate** (including manufacturers from the EU/EEA)
- Any natural or legal person **domiciled in Switzerland** can act as an authorised representative
- **The manufacturer's authorised representative is responsible**, in Switzerland, for the safety and performance of the devices on the Swiss market
- It is one of the **most important contact persons** for the authorities in Switzerland
- Authorised representatives must be **registered** with Swissmedic

Manufacturer Incident Report (MIR) for Serious Incidents (MDR/IVDR) and Incidents (AIMDD/MDD/IVDD)

Reporting Template Version 7.2.1
European Union Medical Devices Vigilance System

Import XML

Align form after import

Section 1: Administrative information

1.1 Corresponding competent authority

a	Name of receiving national competent authority (NCA)	
b	EUDAMED number of NCA	
c	Reference number assigned by NCA for this incident	
d	Reference number assigned by EUDAMED for this incident	

1.2 Date, type, and classification of incident report

a	Date of submission (e.g. 2012-10-23)	b	Date of incident (e.g. 2012-10-23) to
d	Type of report <input type="radio"/> Initial <input type="radio"/> Follow up <input type="radio"/> Combined initial and final <input type="radio"/> Final (Reportable incident) <input type="radio"/> Final (Non-reportable incident)	e	In case of initial and follow-up reports, please indicate the expected date of completion (e.g. 2012-10-23)
f	Classification of incident <input type="radio"/> Serious public health threat <input type="radio"/> Death <input type="radio"/> Unanticipated serious deterioration in state of health <input type="radio"/> All other reportable incidents		

1.3 Submitter information

1.3.1 Submitter of the report

a	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Manufacturer <input type="radio"/> Authorised representative <input type="radio"/> Other, please specify
b	Manufacturer's reference number for this incident

SWISSmedic

Form
Field Safety Corrective Action (FSCA) Report

import XML

1 Administrative Information

To which NCA(s) is this report being sent?

Swissmedic

Type of report

- ☐ Initial report
☐ Follow-up report
☐ Final report

Date of this report

Reference number assigned by the manufacturer

FSCA reference number assigned by Swissmedic

When was the decision taken to perform this FSCA

What is the FSCA based on

- ☐ Actual incident(s): Reference number of the earliest (awareness date) incident
☐ Device malfunction found in internal testing
☐ Trend: Reference number of the Trend Report
☐ PMCF/PMPP
☐ PSUR

The transfer of these obligations from the manufacturer to the authorised representative should be agreed in **writing** in the mandate

Manufacturer's Trend Report (TrendR)

Reporting Template Version 1.0

Medical Devices Vigilance System

For initial application all the fields should be completed except 4.2 analysis update.

Section 1: Administrative information

1.1 Corresponding competent authority

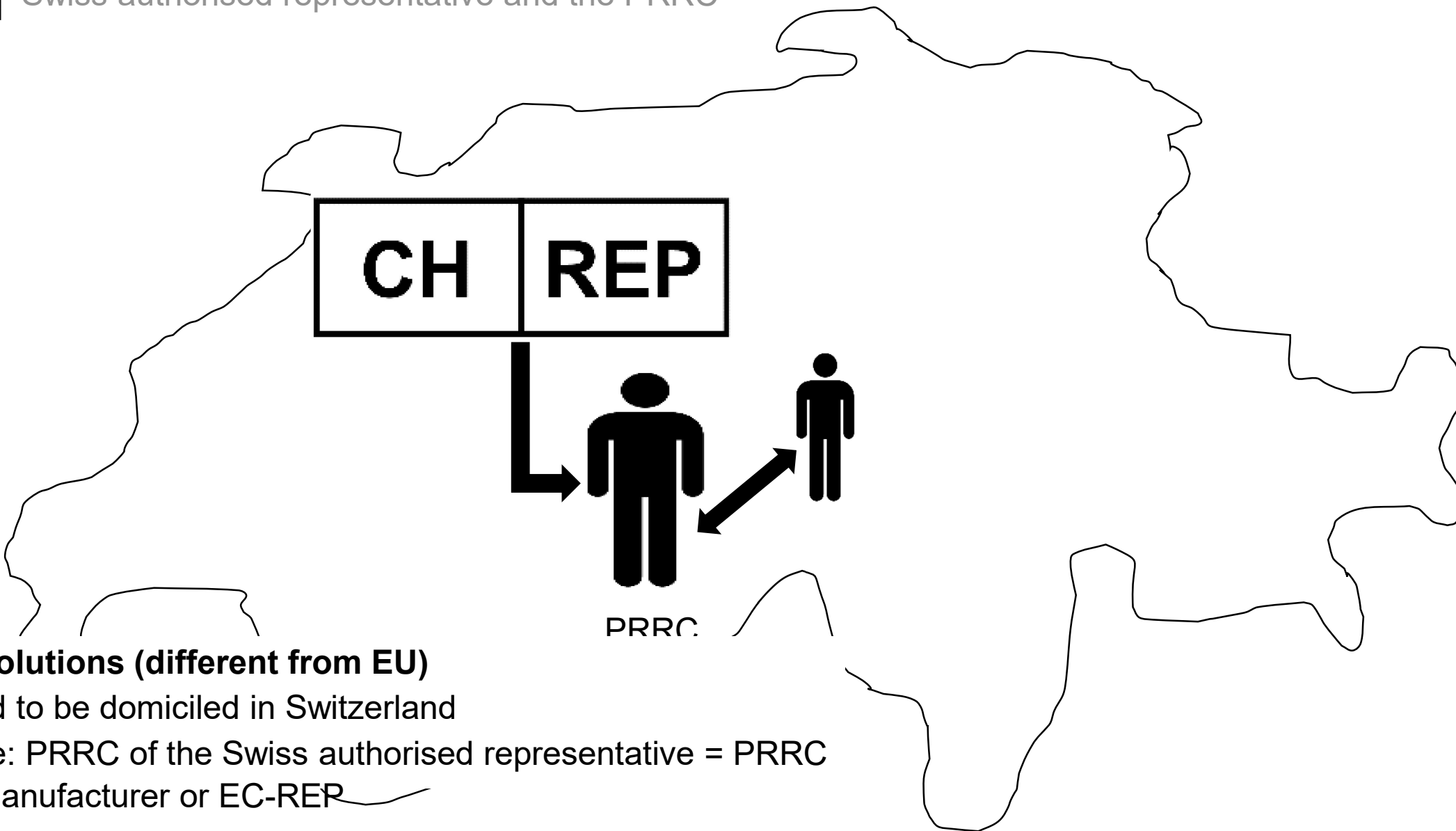
a	To which NCA(s) is this report being sent?
b	Reference number assigned by NCA for this Trend Report

1.2 Date, type, and classification of Trend Report

a	Date of submission YYYY.MM.DD
b	Date the trend was identified YYYY.MM.DD

Vigilance reporting obligation for the CH-REP (Art. 59 IvDO)

- **CH-REP is responsible** for reporting serious incidents as soon as it becomes aware of them, and for the field safety corrective actions (FSCA) undertaken in Switzerland.
- **CH-REP** submits **trend reports** concerning incidents in Switzerland and abroad to Swissmedic without being requested to do so
- **CH-REP** submits final reports on FSCA to Swissmedic
- **The transfer of these obligations** from the manufacturer to the authorised representative should be agreed in **writing** in the mandate



Specific solutions (different from EU)

- No need to be domiciled in Switzerland
- Possible: PRRC of the Swiss authorised representative = PRRC of the manufacturer or EC-REP

Authorised representatives must have permanently and continuously at their disposal a **Person Responsible for Regulatory Compliance** (Art. 45 para. 1 IvDO)



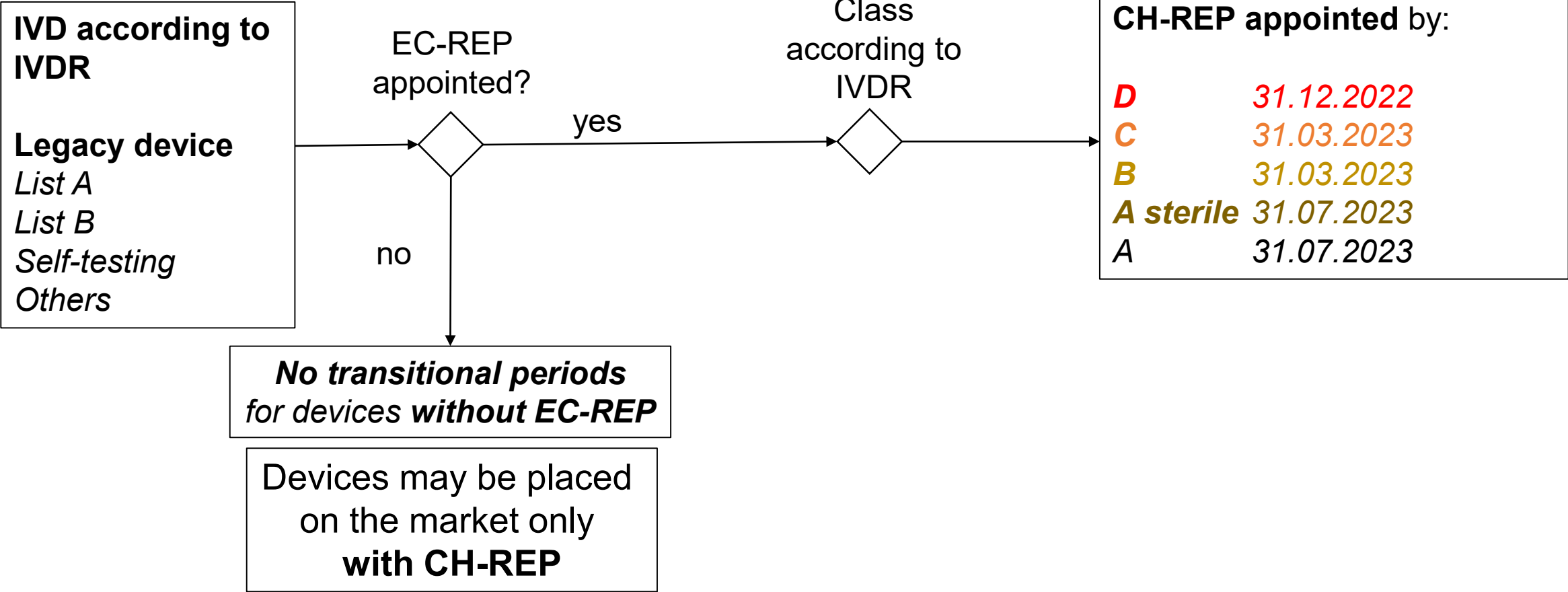
- **A deputy** must be designated
- If several persons are jointly responsible: Establish their areas of responsibility **in writing**

Specific solutions (different from EU)

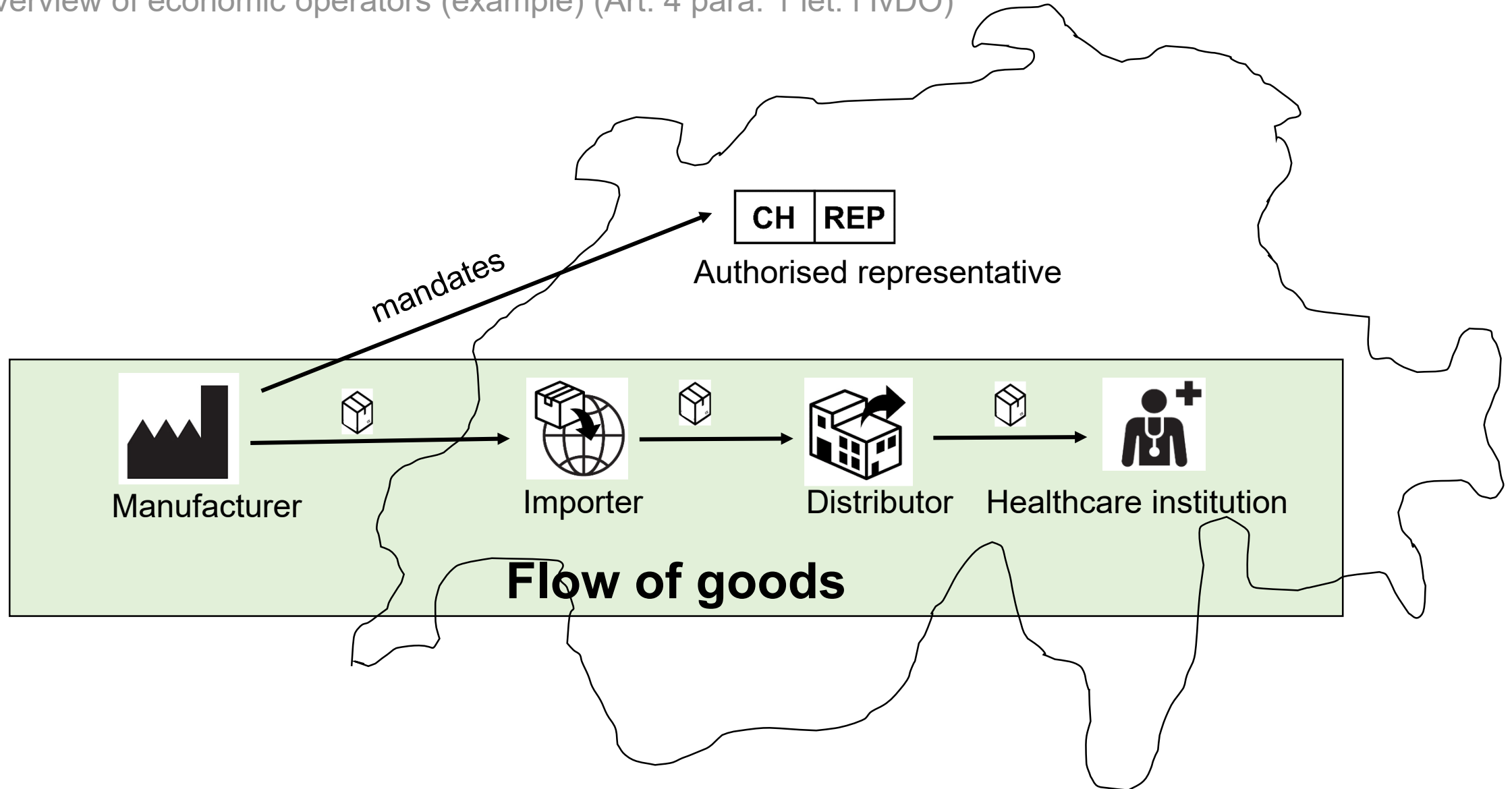
- No need to be domiciled in Switzerland
- Possible: PRRC of the Swiss authorised representative = PRRC of the manufacturer or EC-REP

General qualifying requirements for the PRRC

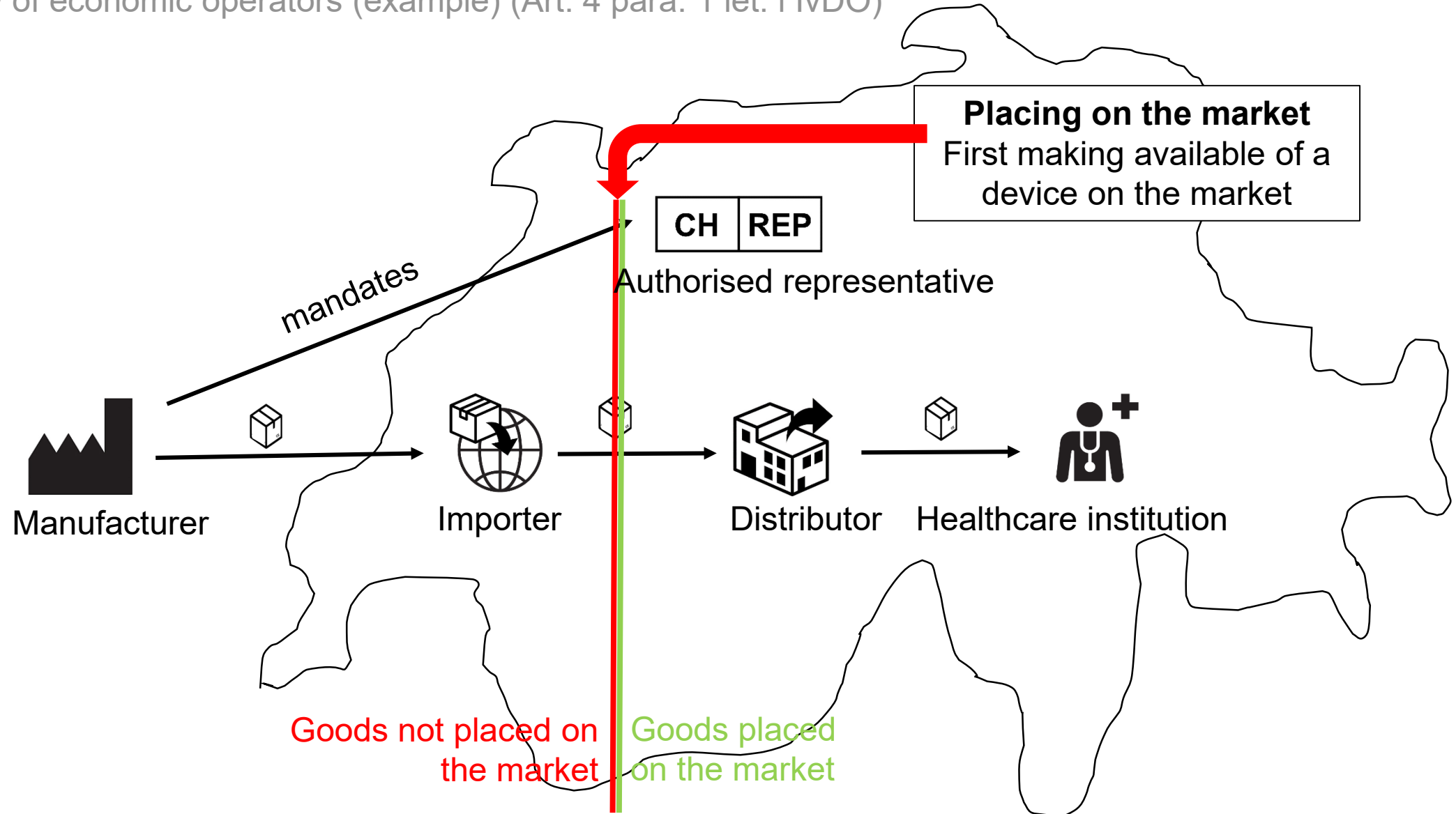
- a) Either a diploma, certificate or other evidence of formal qualification, awarded on completion of a university degree [...] in **law, medicine pharmacy, engineering** [...] and **at least one year of professional experience** in regulatory affairs or in quality management systems relating to in vitro diagnostic medical devices;
- b) Or **four years of professional experience** in regulatory affairs or in quality management systems relating to in vitro diagnostic medical devices



Overview of economic operators (example) (Art. 4 para. 1 let. i IvDO)

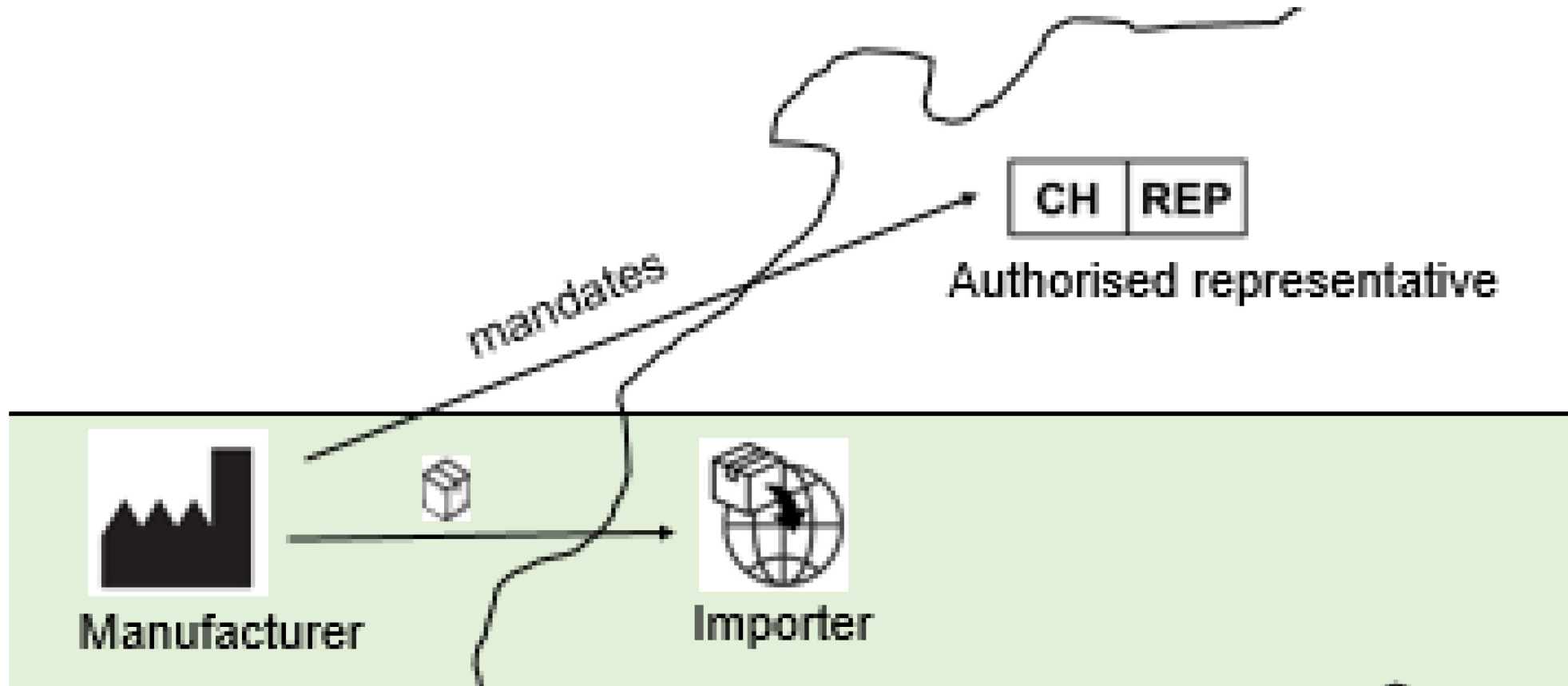


Overview of economic operators (example) (Art. 4 para. 1 let. i IvDO)





Importers





Importers (Art. 46 IvDO)

- Natural or legal person that **places** a device **from abroad** on the Swiss market
 - **Placing on the market:** first making available of a device on the Swiss market
- Before placing on the market, check that:





Importers (Art. 46 IvDO)

- Natural or legal person that **places** a device **from abroad** on the Swiss market
 - **Placing on the market:** first making available of a device on the Swiss market
- Before placing on the market, check that:
 - The **conformity marking** is present
 - The **declaration of conformity** exists
 - The **manufacturer is known**
 - An **authorised representative** is appointed
 - **Trilingual labelling:** the device is labelled in all three languages and the instructions for use are available in all three languages
 - Where required, a **UDI** is assigned



Importers

Importers (Art. 46 IvDO)

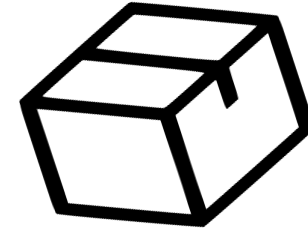
- Traceability in the market



on



or



or



- Gatekeeper for the Swiss market

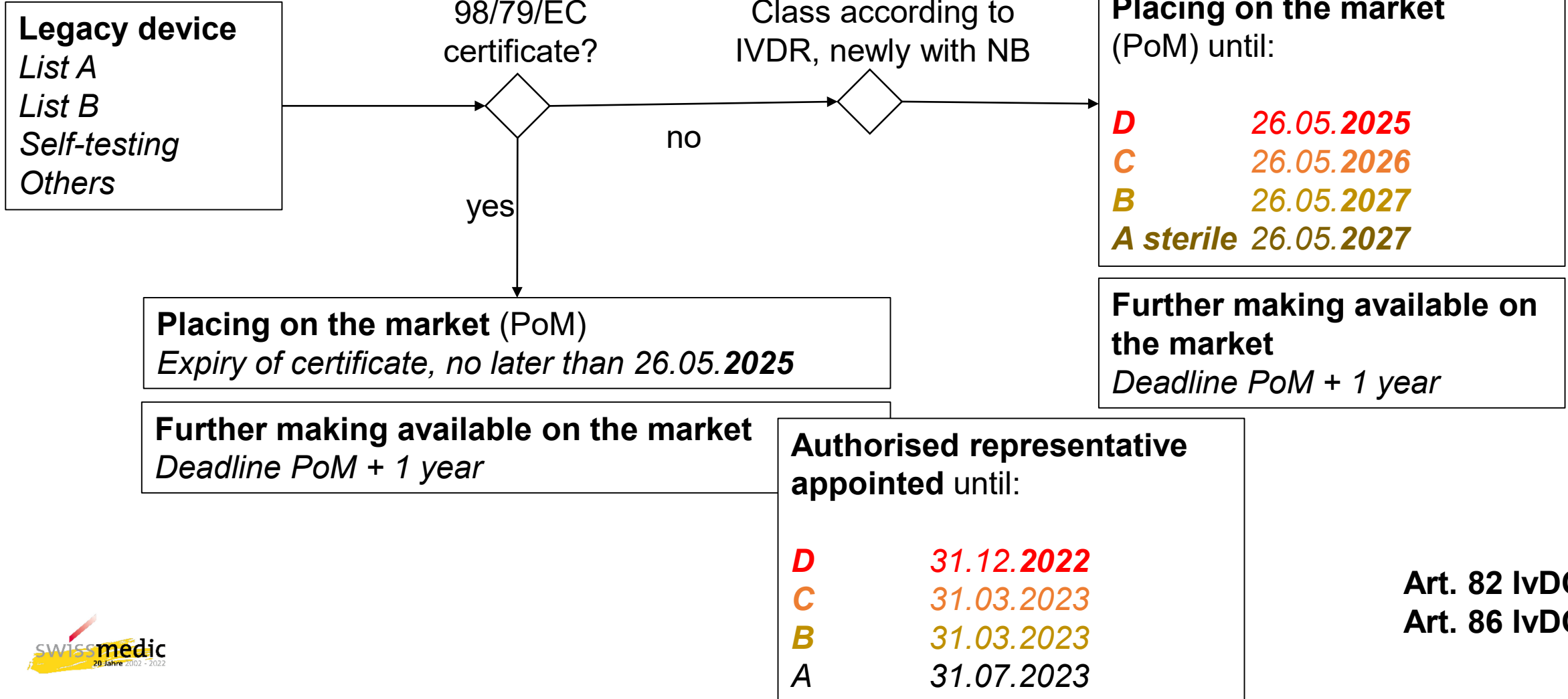
If the importer has doubts about its conformity, the device may **not** be placed on the market

- Registration obligations

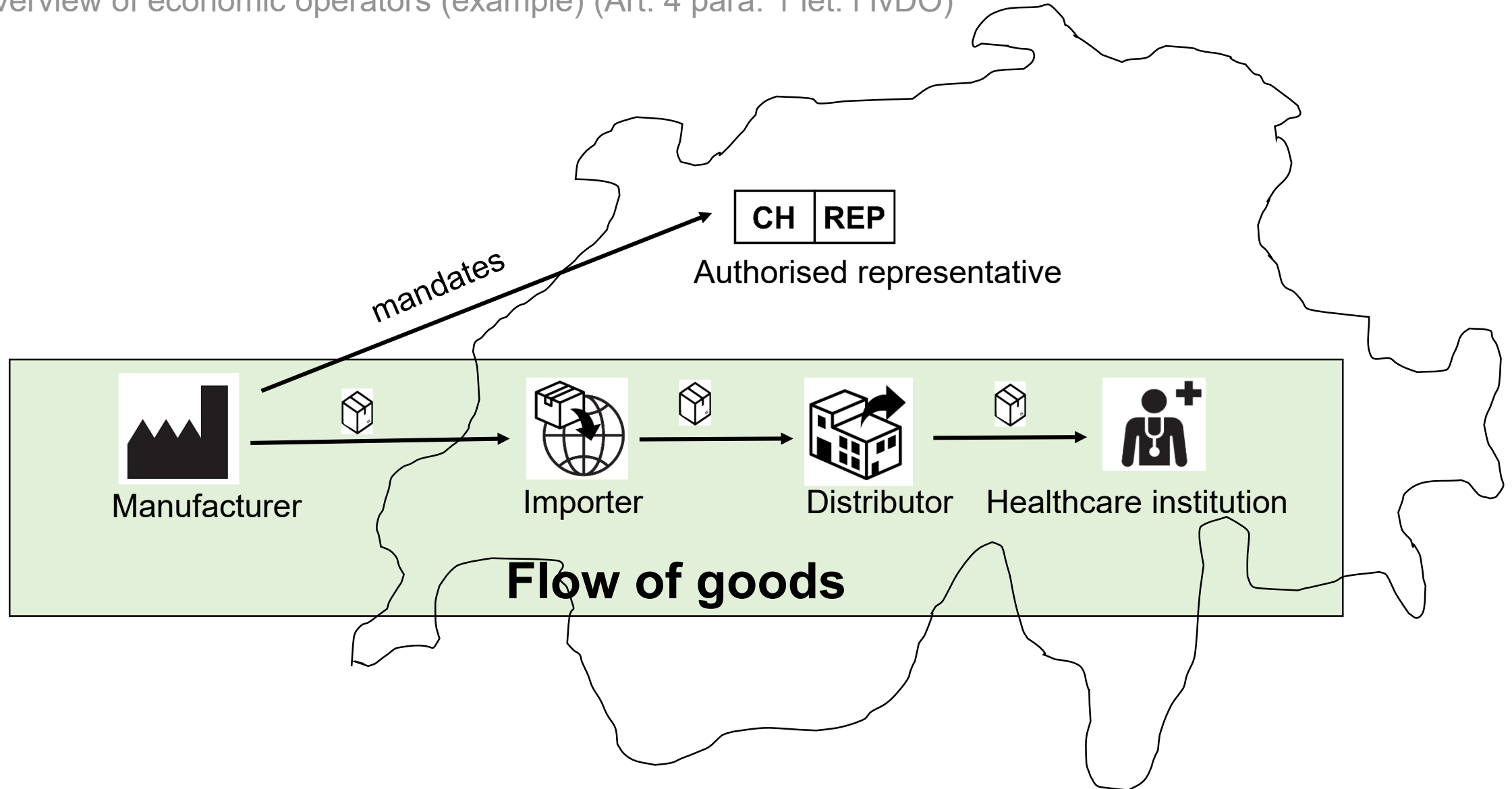




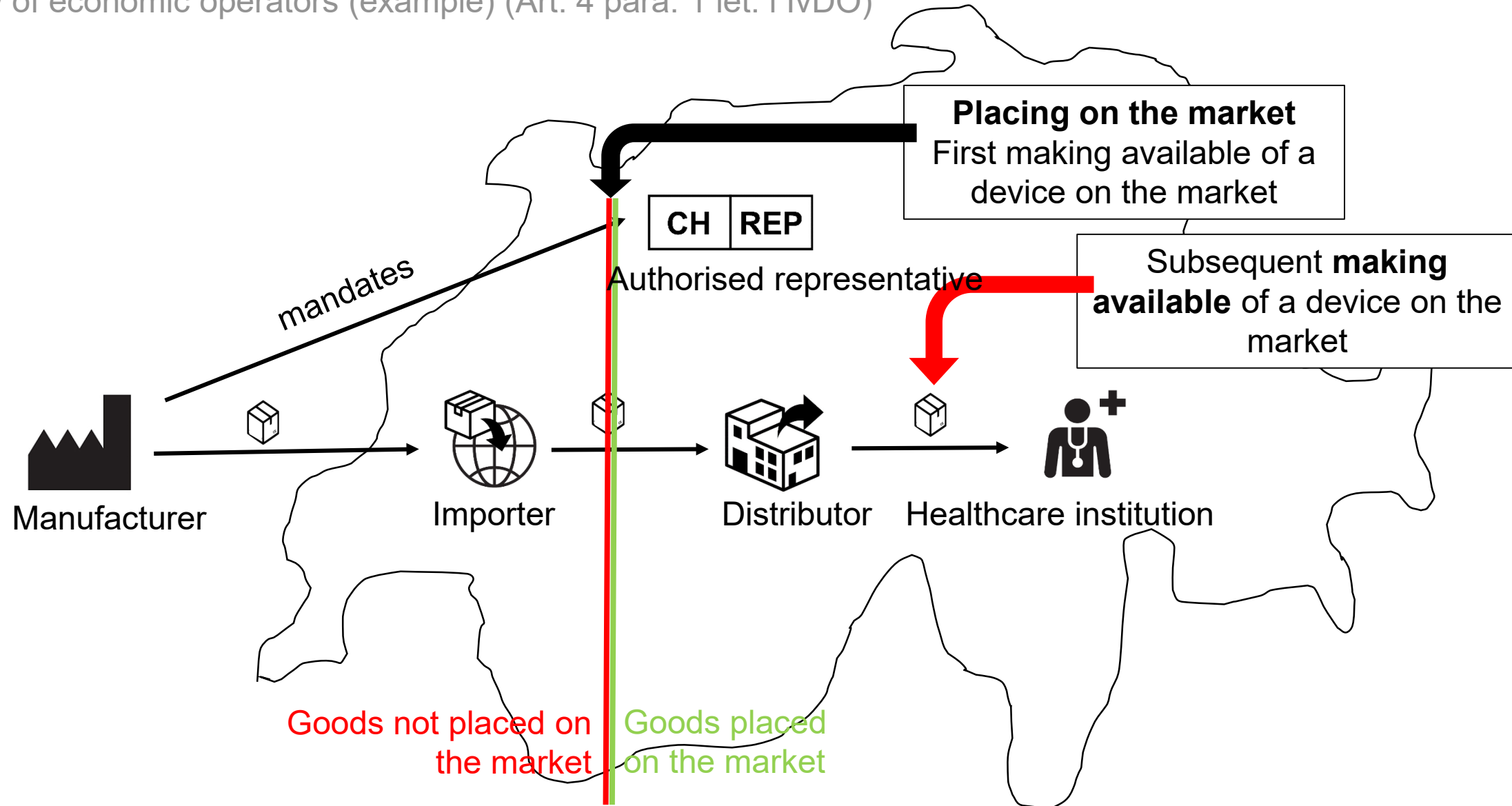
Importers



Overview of economic operators (example) (Art. 4 para. 1 let. i IvDO)



Overview of economic operators (example) (Art. 4 para. 1 let. i IvDO)

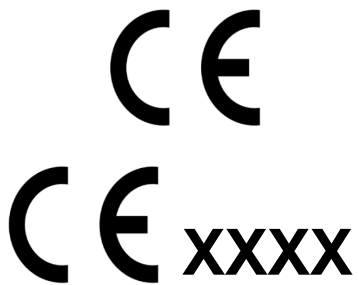




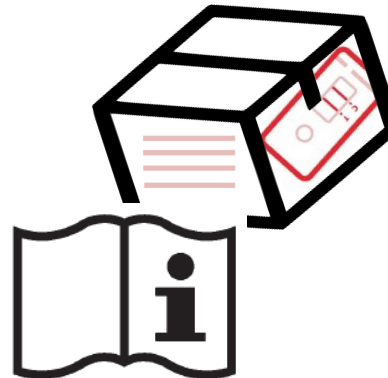
Distributor

Distributor (Art. 74 IvDO)

- Natural or legal person that **makes a device available on the Swiss market** up until the point of putting into service
 - **Making available:** transfer or cession of a device for distribution, consumption or use on the Swiss market in the course of a commercial activity
- Before making available on the market, check that:



DE / FR / IT





Distributor

Distributor (Art. 74 IvDO)

- Natural or legal person that **makes a device available on the Swiss market** up until the point of putting into service
 - **Making available:** transfer or cession of a device for distribution, consumption or use on the Swiss market in the course of a commercial activity
- Before making available on the market, check that:
 - The device carries the conformity marking
 - The declaration of conformity exists
 - The product information exists
 - For imported devices: Importer is noted
 - Where required, a UDI is assigned



Distributor

Distributor (Art. 74 IvDO)

- Traceability in the market

General principle: Devices must achieve an appropriate level of traceability

- Economic operators shall disclose the following to Swissmedic on request:

- All economic operators from whom they have acquired a device and
 - All economic operators, healthcare institutions and healthcare professionals to whom they have supplied a device.

- Duty of care

If the distributor has doubts about its conformity, the device may **not** be made available on the market

- Registration obligations

Distributors do **not** need to register.

Due diligence (Art. 3 para. 1 Therapeutic Products Act)

Any person handling **therapeutic products** must take all measures necessary according to the state of the art to ensure that **human** or animal **health** is not endangered.

Further information on our website and especially in the information sheets

- **for economic operators**

<https://www.swissmedic.ch/swissmedic/en/home/medizinprodukte/marktzugang/pflichten-bevollmaechtigte.html>

- **for healthcare institutions**

<https://www.swissmedic.ch/swissmedic/en/home/medical-devices/reprocessing---maintenance/beschaffung.html>