

# How does the future look like for Medical Technologies' contribution to a sustainable Transition in Healthcare?

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**PVCMed**  
ALLIANCE

An ecVm platform



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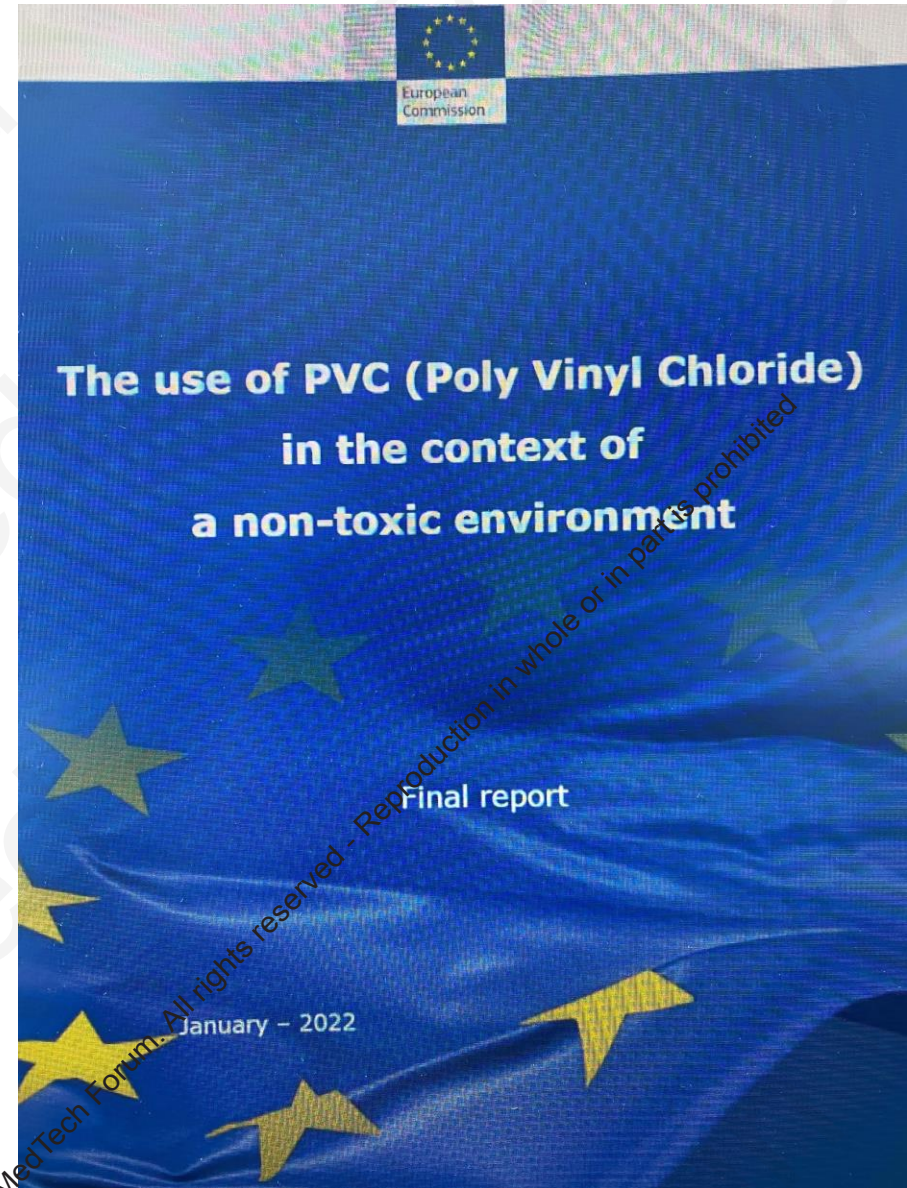
# The main question MedTech industry must ask:

*Can we maintain the advantages of PVC and be sustainable at the same time, or do we have to shift to or develop alternatives?*

# PVC in a non-toxic Environment

Earlier this year, the European Commission published a 450-page long study on PVC

The report concluded that there are technically available alternatives to most PVC medical applications





# PVC in a non-toxic Environment

However, a substitution is not without technical drawbacks and healthcare costs will increase

In addition, the report concluded that it is not certain that alternatives would be better from an environmental and health perspective

According to the report, there two main concerns linked to the use of PVC in healthcare:  
the presence of hazardous plasticizers and incineration



**NO MORE TIME TO WASTE:  
WE NEED A  
NON-TOXIC ENVIRONMENT**

# Concern I: The use of hazardous plasticisers

The chemical industry has succeeded in developing safe alternative plasticizers for the med tech industry

Four of these new plasticizers are now listed in the European Pharmacopeia and the Medical Devices Regulation (MDR) will speed up substitution

Herewith, the biggest concern related to the use of PVC in medical devices has disappeared



## Concern II: Incineration

Incineration of PVC medical waste has been a concern for many years

In the past, dioxins and hydrochloride acid were released into the environment

The installation of smoke purification systems in incinerators solved this problem

However, neutralization residues are formed and must be disposed of as hazardous waste

Technological breakthroughs have now shown that hazardous residues can be turned into useful products



# Another question the MedTech industry must ask:

*What can we do to increase the recycling rate of medical devices?*

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# Design for Recycling

Avoid the presence of substances of concern *in REACH*

For PVC, MDR and REACH make sure that in future, justification and authorization are needed to use DEHP in medical devices

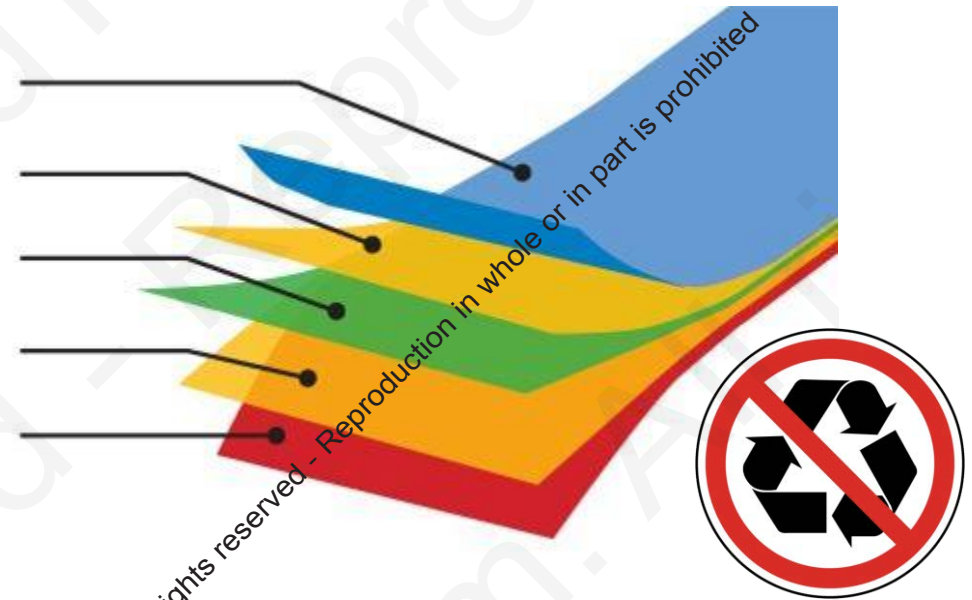




# Design for Recycling

**Monomaterial designs:** PVC is ideal for designing devices including soft and rigid parts. If non-PVC parts are unavoidable, they should be easily dismantled.

**Monolayer designs:** Multilayers are not needed with PVC and therefore PVC is ideal for recycling.



# Design for Recycling

**Use complete labelling**



**Indicate polymer type on devices (QR codes, color codes..)**



# Support Existing Recycling Schemes

**Recycling is not for free.**

**Costs should be fairly shared between all stakeholders in the medical technology value chain.**



THANK YOU!

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