



7

Ways to Simplify Blister Packaging

From FDA Clearance to Market

TOMMY NIELSEN




Introduction

Securing FDA clearance is a major milestone – but it's only the beginning. Once approval is in place, the pressure shifts to getting packaging ready and products into the market. Timelines are tight, compliance remains critical, and every week counts.

Packaging doesn't have to be a bottleneck. With the right setup, it becomes a driver of speed, reliability, and confidence. It's about planning smarter, reducing unnecessary steps, and making sure packaging supports your FDA-cleared product all the way to launch.

In this guide, we'll explore seven ways to make packaging simpler, faster, and more adaptable after FDA clearance. Each item shows how small shifts in approach can deliver big impacts, from reducing delays to streamlining compliance and keeping production ready for what's next.



1 Shorter Lead Times. Faster Product Launches.

By the time FDA clearance is secured, the last thing you need is another six months of waiting for packaging. Yet with many traditional setups, that's the reality – machines, tooling, and materials take months before they are ready to run. By then, deadlines slip, costs increase, and launches risk falling behind schedule.

With solutions delivered in just six weeks, you gain more control and flexibility. Validation starts earlier, products reach the market sooner, and your team avoids the pressure of last-minute delays.

The result is packaging that moves with your business. It keeps things simpler, faster, and ready when you need it. Designing the blisters in parallel with the completion of the final product design ensures that one shortens the time to product launch even further.

2 Fast Changeovers. Continuous Flow.

In many blister packaging setups, changing tooling for different product lines can take up to 7–8 hours. That's a full workday lost – time that slows schedules, raises costs, and keeps production standing still.

With changeovers completed in under 15 minutes, packaging becomes agile. You can switch quickly between sizes, shapes, or multiple devices without long delays or complex setups.

That way, production stays agile, ready to keep pace with customer demands and helping you maximize output without sacrificing reliability.

3 One Platform. Multiple Solutions.

Packaging needs are often very different, especially when it comes to low volumes. One run requires sealing, another forming, and the next a complete form, fill, and seal cycle. Having separate machines for each can be space-consuming, inefficient, costly, and inflexible.

With a holistic platform, you can bring everything together. The same machine can form, fill, and seal in a single cycle – or handle sealing alone for shorter runs and prototyping. You could also use the machine for just forming – in cases of needing pre-formed blisters at low volumes.

It can also adapt to different materials like PVC, PETG, or Tyvek, and scale with your production needs without requiring additional equipment.

The outcome is complete blister packaging made simpler and smarter. One machine, one workflow, and the flexibility to meet new demands as they arise while keeping costs and space under control.

4 Smart Supply. Less Stock.

Large minimum order quantities (MOQs) often mean tying up capital in packaging materials you don't yet need. Warehouses fill up with stacks of pre-formed blisters and lids, and if product designs or requirements change, much of that stock risks going to waste.

With the option to source input materials as pre-cut and pre-punched flat sheets in low volumes, you keep inventory lean and costs under control. Packaging becomes a flexible resource instead of a burden on your storage and your budget.

The benefit is twofold: you cut waste and free up space while ensuring your packaging always matches your FDA-cleared product as requirements evolve.

5 One Partner. Complete Packaging.

After FDA clearance, every supplier you involve adds another layer of documentation, contracts, and audit requirements. Managing one partner for machines, another for tooling, and a third for materials can quickly complicate compliance – and increase the risk of inconsistencies.

With one partner handling everything from machines to tooling and cleanroom-prepared materials, you simplify your setup. Fewer contracts, fewer touchpoints, and solutions designed to work together from the start.

The result is packaging that's easier to manage, smoother to audit, and fully aligned with regulatory expectations – supporting your FDA-cleared product without unnecessary complexity.

6 Quality Assured. Compliance Secured.

In medical packaging, quality isn't optional – it's the foundation. Every blister and every lid has to meet the strictest standards to protect both your product and your patients. That's why input materials need to be prepared, documented, and delivered with full traceability.

With ISO 8 cleanroom production and certified materials, you get exactly that. Every sheet and foil is processed under controlled conditions and comes with the documentation you need for audits and regulatory approval.

The outcome is blister packaging you can trust. It's clean, compliant, and ready to support even the most demanding applications.

7 Experience That Builds Confidence

In medical packaging, choosing the right partner is about more than machines and materials. It's about having someone you can trust – especially when compliance, audits, and patient safety are on the line.

With the right guidance, packaging becomes simpler to manage and easier to rely on. It minimizes uncertainties in daily operations and leads to more confidence when requirements get tough.

That's why experience matters. Choosing a partner with the right knowledge and experience helps you build a packaging setup you can trust – one that supports both your operations and your long-term goals.

Curious which machine is right for you?

The way you approach blister packaging can shape how quickly and reliably your products reach the market. By rethinking traditional processes, you open the door to shorter lead times, smoother operations, and more control over your resources.

Now it's about turning those possibilities into a concrete plan. Use our configurator to explore which machine is the best fit for your production and get an idea of the investment required.

[Try our configurator >](#)



Your Partner in Medical Packaging

For more than 40 years, Tommy Nielsen has specialized in blister packaging. Our solutions are designed to combine speed, flexibility, and reliability – giving companies the tools they need to move quickly and adapt with confidence.

From six-week delivery times to 2–5 minute changeovers, we make packaging a driver of efficiency rather than a barrier. And with proven experience supporting FDA Class II and III devices, we bring the knowledge and guidance needed in the most demanding applications.

At Tommy Nielsen, it's about more than machines. It's about being a partner you can trust. We are ready to support your packaging needs today and in the future.

The logo graphic consists of a vertical orange line on the left and a horizontal orange line at the top, forming an L-shape.

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