



Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons

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Plastic Surgeons call for urgent government funding for Breast Device Registry in wake of latest overseas implant recall

The recall in France of French-manufactured, Cereform, silicon gel-filled breast implants highlights the urgent need for Government funding for a Breast Device Registry to ensure women are offered the best possible protection, according to the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons.

“A world-class registry has been developed in Australia and is ready for national roll-out pending Government funding. In light of the Dow Corning recall, and the PIP breast implant crisis, this latest recall only reinforces the need for a Breast Device Registry in Australia to provide an early warning system and the opportunity to take timely action, should problems be identified,” said Dr Geoff Lyons, President of the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons.

The TGA today advised that the French Government has withdrawn Cereform breast implants due to regulatory non-compliance. The TGA has not ordered their recall in Australia, but as a precautionary measure the Australian distributor (Medical Vision Australia Plastic & Cosmetic) contacted surgeons who have been supplied with the implants and arranged for any planned implant surgeries to be postponed.

To date there have been no reports of adverse health reactions to the implants.

Approximately 4800 of the implants have been sold in Australia since 2009, and the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons advises women who may be concerned to speak with the surgeon who provided their implants.

Further supply of the implants has been suspended until the TGA has finalised its investigation and determined the implants are safe for use or whether a recall is necessary.

“Our Society will maintain a watching brief. While women will understandably be concerned, we advise them that, at this point, there is no cause for panic as there is no evidence of any adverse reaction to the implants,” says Dr Geoff Lyons, President of the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons.

“However, in light of the Dow Corning recall in the 1980s and the more recent PIP breast implant crisis, this latest recall only reinforces the urgent need for a Breast Device Registry in Australia to provide an early warning system and the opportunity to take timely action, should problems be identified,” said Dr Lyons.

“Over the last two years, in partnership with Monash University and with support from the Department of Health, we have developed a world-class breast device registry which is op-out, uses a simple collection tool but captures powerful data that can track results and outcomes.

The Registry is currently being piloted but requires Government funding for a rapid, national roll out. “Our primary concern is patient safety and we urge the government to commit to funding this registry as a matter of priority and to provide peace-of-mind for Australian women,” said Dr Lyons.

Further information: www.tga.gov.au

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Founded in 1970, the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons Inc (ASPS) is the peak body for Specialist Plastic Surgeons (both reconstructive and cosmetic). The Society’s main role is to protect the integrity of plastic surgery as a specialty.