

# 10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BREAST IMPLANTS

## 1. Breast implants are NOT life time devices

That's right! At least 20% of women who have breast implant procedures have to have them removed within 8 to 10 years, according to the FDA.

## 2. Expect ONGOING maintenance costs

Prior to deciding on breast implants women are advised to consider ongoing costs. The FDA website states, 'You should assume that you will need to have additional surgeries (reoperations).'

## 3. Implants can be REJECTED by the body

An estimated 8% of women have a rare HLA-B27 gene which cause the white blood cells to reject any form of foreign body, [www.academic.oup.com](http://www.academic.oup.com). That means implanted device such as silicone and saline implants.

## 4. Silicon is NOT the same as silicone

Silicon is a naturally occurring element which makes up 27.7% of the Earth's crust and is present in sand and glass. By contract, Silicone with an 'e', is a synthetic polymer, generally liquid or a flexible, rubber-like plastic, commonly used as a waterproof sealant.

## 5. Silicone vs. saline

Both types of breast implant, silicone and saline, have associated health risks; silicone implant issues are largely related to immune system diseases, whereas saline is bacterial.

## 6. Increased RISK of auto immune cancer

An announcement sent out by the FDA to healthcare providers dated 6th February 2019, confirms all breast implants can cause BIA-ALCL or anaplastic large cell lymphoma, which is a cancer of the autoimmune system.

## 7. Breastfeeding with implants is NOT recommended

'Breast-feeding by women with silicone implants should NOT be recommended for possible autoimmune disorders in the children.' Report by the Institute of Internal Medicine, Catania.

## 8. Breast Implants and Mammograms

Women with breast implants should be aware of the potential issue when having mammography. According to the FDA, adverse pressure on the breast implant during a mammogram can increase the risk of implant rupture.

## 9. 'En bloc' explant procedure

Women are advised to use an experienced explant surgeon, who has performed a significant number of explant procedures, known as 'en block' or complete capsulectomy. Surgeons such as Dr Lu Jean Feng confirm women rarely recover their health if the surrounding tissue capsule is not removed together with the explanted prosthesis.

## 10. Gel bleeds through the outer shell

A 1992 FDA report to Congress confirms silicone gel bleeds through the silicone elastomer shell and is equivalent to silicone injections over a period. Silicone injections were made illegal because the injections resulted in deaths.