

Discussions regarding the aetiology and pathogenic relationship between specific breast implants and anaplastic large cell lymphoma, BIA-ALCL, is on-going nationally and internationally. Based on current scientific evidence, E(A)SAPS stated that the aetiology is multifactorial. A large majority of BIA-ALCL cases had a link to Biocell-type of macrotextured implants. The exposure time elapsed since primary operation is also a factor to consider. Of great importance is the fact that current scientific evidence shows that BIA-ALCL is a rare disease and can be cured by en-bloc capsulectomy if recognized early.

To be able to provide a statistically valid explanation of the relationship between certain types of breast implants and ALCL, a large amount of data is required. An active collaboration with European and international registries is mandatory. This co-operation will provide knowledge on aetiology of the disease as we are able to compare data from a large cohort of patients.

Although the SCHEER report from 2020 was written by a working group that did not represent the entire plastic surgery community, it has pointed out the importance of having quality registers which are independent from the implant manufacturing industry. The main goal of these implant registers is to conduct systematic analyses of the short- and long-term impact of implants on women's health condition (Ref.1).

EASAPS, representing all European national societies of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, trusts and gathers knowledge from European governing health institutions co-working with Board-certified plastic surgeons in their country.

Reference

1. SCHEER (Scientific Committee on Health, Environment and Emerging Risks). Scientific opinion on the safety of breast implants in relation to anaplastic large cell lymphoma, 8 October 2020.

17th August 17, 2021

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