



BREAST IMPLANTS Things to know in 2023

1

The FDA issued a **black box warning** for all types of breast implants—including breast implants in the highest risk class of medical devices, meaning the devices can potentially cause serious injury or death.

2

Various **cancers caused by breast implants** have been found in patients, regardless of type—including saline, silicone, textured, and smooth surfaces. Some breast implants have been recently recalled, but many patients have not been made aware. Not all doctors are alerting patients.

3

Breast implants are still **not successfully tracked**, and problems are underreported. Safety studies were never completed, and complications are not well understood. Tests and treatments may be costly. Although highly encouraged, doctors are not required to report problems.

4

Chemicals from all breast implants bleed microscopically and can *leak* into the body even if not ruptured, causing health problems. Patients are reporting experiencing symptoms commonly referred to as **Breast Implant Illness** — the cause and whom it may impact is still unknown. Proper removal may help.

5

Breast implants are marketed by companies and doctors who make a profit, which can create a conflict of interest. The FDA recommends a new **informed consent checklist**, but its use is not enforced. Patients may not be properly informed of all potential risks and complications.

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