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Breast Enlargement Using Textured Breast Implants Leads The Way

With the market for breast enlargement procedures set to rise once again, safety considerations involving breast implants are to the fore, and according to a recent study, capsular contracture was found to be significantly more frequent in smooth breast implants compared with textured implants. Dr Allen Rezai, a leading Consultant Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon of Harley Street, London, assesses the study's findings and provides advice to those considering undergoing breast enlargement surgery with implants.

Dateline November 8th 2013, London, UK - According to a report by IMCAS, a French-based forum for plastic surgeons and dermatologists, the scandal last year involving faulty implants made by the French-based Poly Implant Prothese (PIP) company which employed unauthorized silicone filler significantly reduced the growth of breast enlargement procedures, which in 2012 grew only at a modest 1.9% worldwide and declined 9.2% in Europe. However it is anticipated that the market for breast augmentations will recover and post an annual growth of 5.2% between 2013 and 2017.

With this forecast growth in mind, the attention of many potential breast enlargement patients is more than ever focused on safety considerations. And safety is not only impacted by the the quality of the surgery but also by the quality of the breast implant materials themselves. Amongst the foremost considerations when selecting the most appropriate type of breast implant is the issue of capsular contracture.

A recent study presented at the last annual Toronto Breast Surgery Symposium, found capsular contracture to be substantially more frequent when employing smooth implants compared to textured implants. According to a further study, the re-operation rate one year following primary breast enlargement was 14.2%, with the most common complication cited as being capsular contracture.

Capsular contracture is the medical term used to describe an abnormal immune system response to foreign materials introduced into the human body. It describes the formation of capsules of tightly-woven collagen fibers created by the body's immune system in responding to the presence of surgically-installed foreign objects in the body. Capsular contracture in the context of breast implants results when the collagen capsule tightens and squeezes the implant. For the patient the effect can be both uncomfortable and painful, perhaps even distorting the aesthetics of the breast implant and the breast itself.

Although the precise cause of capsular contracture is not known, common associated factors include contamination by bacteria, rupture of the implant's shell, leakage of the silicone filling, and internal bleeding.

One surgical implant method that has significantly reduced the incidence of capsular contracture is implant placement below the muscle, and employing either textured or polyurethane-coated implants.

Dr Rezai, himself an expert in breast and facial plastic surgery, states that he has found that by employing only textured breast implants, a dramatic reduction in the rate of capsular contracture has been observed. And according to another study, the rate of capsular contracture actually reduced to only 1% for textured implants.

For more details concerning breast enlargement surgery and textured breast implants from Dr Rezai of Harley Street, London, UK, refer to his website at <http://www.cosmeticsurgeryspecialists.co.uk>

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