



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. FDA-2019-D-4467]

Breast Implants--Certain Labeling Recommendations to Improve Patient Communication; Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff; Availability

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or Agency) is announcing the availability of a final guidance entitled "Breast Implants--Certain Labeling Recommendations to Improve Patient Communication." This guidance contains recommendations concerning the content and format for certain labeling information for saline and silicone gel-filled breast implants. FDA is issuing this guidance to help ensure that a patient receives and understands the benefits and risks of breast implants. These labeling recommendations are intended to enhance, but not replace, the physician-patient discussion of the benefits and risks of breast implants that uniquely pertain to individual patients.

DATES: The announcement of the guidance is published in the *Federal Register* on **[INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]**.

ADDRESSES: You may submit either electronic or written comments on Agency guidances at any time as follows:

Electronic Submissions

Submit electronic comments in the following way:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments submitted electronically, including attachments, to <https://www.regulations.gov> will be posted to the docket unchanged. Because your comment will be made public, you are solely responsible for ensuring that your comment does not include any confidential information that you or a third party may not wish to be posted, such as medical information, your or anyone else's Social Security number, or confidential business information, such as a manufacturing process. Please note that if you include your name, contact information, or other information that identifies you in the body of your comments, that information will be posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>.
- If you want to submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made available to the public, submit the comment as a written/paper submission and in the manner detailed (see "Written/Paper Submissions" and "Instructions").

Written/Paper Submissions

Submit written/paper submissions as follows:

- Mail/Hand delivery/Courier (for written/paper submissions): Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852.
- For written/paper comments submitted to the Dockets Management Staff, FDA will post your comment, as well as any attachments, except for information submitted, marked and identified, as confidential, if submitted as detailed in "Instructions."

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket No. FDA-2019-D-4467 for "Breast Implants--Certain Labeling Recommendations to Improve Patient Communication."

Received comments will be placed in the docket and, except for those submitted as "Confidential Submissions," publicly viewable at <https://www.regulations.gov> or at the Dockets Management Staff between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, 240-402-7500.

- Confidential Submissions--To submit a comment with confidential information that you do not wish to be made publicly available, submit your comments only as a written/paper submission. You should submit two copies total. One copy will include the information you claim to be confidential with a heading or cover note that states "THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION." The Agency will review this copy, including the claimed confidential information, in its consideration of comments. The second copy, which will have the claimed confidential information redacted/blacked out, will be available for public viewing and posted on <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit both copies to the Dockets Management Staff. If you do not wish your name and contact information to be made publicly available, you can provide this information on the cover sheet and not in the body of your comments and you must identify this information as "confidential." Any information marked as "confidential" will not be disclosed except in accordance with 21 CFR 10.20 and other applicable disclosure law. For more information about FDA's posting of comments to public dockets, see 80 FR 56469, September 18, 2015, or access the information at:
<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2015-09-18/pdf/2015-23389.pdf>.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or the electronic and written/paper comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number, found in brackets in the heading of this document, into the "Search" box and follow the

prompts and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240-402-7500.

You may submit comments on any guidance at any time (see 21 CFR 10.115(g)(5)).

An electronic copy of the guidance document is available for download from the internet. See the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for information on electronic access to the guidance. Submit written requests for a single hard copy of the guidance document entitled "Breast Implants--Certain Labeling Recommendations to Improve Patient Communication" to the Office of Policy, Guidance and Policy Development, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 66, Rm. 5431, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002. Send one self-addressed adhesive label to assist that office in processing your request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Nielsen, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Bldg. 66, Rm. 4608, Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002, 301-796-6244.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Over the past few years, FDA has received new information pertaining to risks associated with breast implants, including breast implant-associated anaplastic large cell lymphoma (BIA-ALCL) and systemic symptoms commonly referred to as breast implant illness (BII) that some patients attribute to their implants. FDA has taken a number of steps to better understand and address risks associated with breast implants, including convening the General and Plastic Surgery Devices Advisory Panel on March 25 to 26, 2019, to discuss the long-term benefits and risks of breast implants indicated for breast augmentation and reconstruction. FDA learned from

presentations at the March 2019 Panel meeting and through comments submitted to the associated public docket that some patients may not be receiving or understanding important information regarding the benefits and risks of breast implants in a format that allows them to make a well-informed decision about whether to have a breast implantation.

For these reasons, FDA is now providing recommendations concerning the content and format of certain labeling information for these devices. Specifically, FDA is recommending that manufacturers incorporate a boxed warning and a patient decision checklist into the labeling for these devices to better ensure certain information is received and understood by patients. This guidance also recommends updated and additional labeling information, including updates to the silicone gel-filled breast implant rupture screening recommendations, inclusion of an easy-to-find description of materials, and provision of patient device cards that were recommended at the March 2019 Panel meeting. The recommendations in this guidance document supplement the recommendations in FDA's guidance entitled "Saline, Silicone Gel, and Alternative Breast Implants."¹

A notice of availability of the draft guidance appeared in the *Federal Register* of October 24, 2019 (84 FR 57028). FDA considered comments received and revised the guidance as appropriate in response to the comments, including revisions to clarify the labeling recommendations regarding the relationship between breast implants and systemic symptoms and certain other risks, to refine the recommendations regarding information on the patient device card to improve clarity and readability, and to provide reference to and information regarding ongoing patient registries in the patient decision checklist.

¹ <https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/saline-silicone-gel-and-alternative-breast-implants>.

This guidance is being issued consistent with FDA's good guidance practices regulation (21 CFR 10.115). The guidance represents the current thinking of FDA on "Breast Implants-- Certain Labeling Recommendations to Improve Patient Communication." It does not establish any rights for any person and is not binding on FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if it satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations.

II. Electronic Access

Persons interested in obtaining a copy of the guidance may do so by downloading an electronic copy from the internet. A search capability for all Center for Devices and Radiological Health guidance documents is available at <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/device-advice-comprehensive-regulatory-assistance/guidance-documents-medical-devices-and-radiation-emitting-products>. This guidance document is also available at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Persons unable to download an electronic copy of "Breast Implants--Certain Labeling Recommendations to Improve Patient Communication" may send an email request to CDRH-Guidance@fda.hhs.gov to receive an electronic copy of the document. Please use the document number 19021 and complete title to identify the guidance you are requesting.

III. Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This guidance refers to previously approved collections of information. These collections of information are subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3521). The collections of information in the following FDA regulations have been approved by OMB as listed in the following table:

21 CFR Part; Guidance; or FDA Form	Topic	OMB Control No.
814, subparts A through E	Premarket approval	0910-0231
812	Investigational Device Exemption	0910-0078

801	Medical Device Labeling Regulations	0910-0485
50, 56	Protection of Human Subjects: Informed Consent; Institutional Review Boards	0910-0755
830	Unique Device Identification System	0910-0720
820	Quality System Regulation	0910-0073

Dated: September 24, 2020.

Lauren K. Roth,

Associate Commissioner for Policy.

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