

# **Press release: All types of metal-on-metal hip implants need regular review**

MHRA updates guidance for healthcare professionals.

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) as a precautionary measure has today issued updated guidance for healthcare professionals who manage patients implanted with metal-on-metal hip replacements.

Previous guidance was issued to ensure appropriate followup to monitor the potential for the already well-known risks of soft-tissue reactions. This updated guidance replaces the previous advice provided in 2012.

The key changes include additional recommendations regarding monitoring patients and are designed to ensure longer term followup is undertaken for all patients with these implants. Details of the changes are in the Medical Device Alert issued today.

Dr Neil McGuire MHRA's Clinical Director of Medical Devices said:

We have updated the current advice to ensure patients with metal on metal hip implants continue to receive appropriate follow up to detect emerging complications should they arise.

Hip implants have positively transformed the lives of many patients who in the past were subject to increasingly severe pain and progressive disability. These use a variety of metal, plastic and ceramic components.

Although the majority of patients with these metal on metal devices have well-functioning hips, it is known some may develop soft tissue reactions related to their implant. The clinical advice we have received indicates patients will likely have the best outcomes if these problems are detected early, monitored and treated if necessary.

If you have any questions about your hip replacement, speak with your GP or implanting surgeon.

ENDS

## **Notes to editor**

1. Please find the [link to the latest Medical Device Alert](#)

## 2. [Medical Device Alert issued in 2012](#)

3. MHRA is responsible for regulating all medicines and medical devices in the UK. All our work is underpinned by robust and fact-based judgments to ensure that the benefits justify any risks. MHRA is a centre of the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency which also includes the [National Institute for Biological Standards and Control \(NIBSC\)](#) and the [Clinical Practice Research Datalink \(CPRD\)](#). The Agency is an executive agency of the Department of Health. [www.mhra.gov.uk](http://www.mhra.gov.uk)

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# [Sturgeon owes Holyrood an explanation over CAP cover-up](#)

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- Sturgeon owes Holyrood an explanation over CAP cover-up

29 Jun 2017



Nicola Sturgeon owes the Scottish Parliament an explanation after failing to disclose that her government had sought an extension on farming payments.

Last week, the First Minister refused to say whether the Scottish Government had made the request to Europe for paying Common Agricultural Policy cash to farmers.

It has since emerged she and her cabinet had been informed such an extension would be sought days earlier, and today was put under pressure as to why she pleaded ignorance.

At First Minister's Questions, the Scottish Conservative leader said having apologised to farmers for botching the CAP payments process for the second year on the trot, she should now say sorry to Holyrood for not being up front last week.

Instead, Ms Sturgeon said farmers across the country were happy with the SNP's performance on CAP, despite the fact just 82 per cent of the cash has been paid ahead of tomorrow's deadline.

Audit Scotland have said, if the Scottish Government misses the deadline, it could be fined up to £60 million.

**Scottish Conservative leader Ruth Davidson said:**

"Last week I asked the First Minister three times if her government had contacted the EC to seek an extension, and three times she refused to answer.

"We subsequently found out the extension had been requested, and she had been informed.

"That's why Nicola Sturgeon has to explain why she tried to hide this from the Scottish Parliament.

"People watching will have rightly wondered if this was a case of misleading parliament.

"Farmers have been badly let down by the SNP, and it's no wonder they've turned their back on the nationalists.

"But parliament needs an explanation too, because the ministerial code is clear about ministers providing accurate and truthful information.

"The SNP fell far below those standards in recent weeks."

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It emerged yesterday that the Scottish Government had been told of the CAP delay, prior to both Nicola Sturgeon and Fergus Ewing denying it:

<http://www.scottishconservatives.com/2017/06/scottish-government-cabinet-was-told-about-farm-payments-delay/>

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## **News story: Defence Secretary steps up UK commitments to NATO**

At a meeting of NATO Defence Ministers today, the Defence Secretary confirmed:

- The Royal Navy will take the lead of half of NATO's maritime forces for a year.
- Offensive cyber support to NATO operations.
- Increased UK support for advising the Afghan Government, and its defence and security forces.
- Strengthened cooperation on Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

The meeting also confirmed that Britain continues to meet its commitment of spending 2% of GDP on defence, as well as meeting the target of 20% defence spend on equipment and capabilities.

## **Leading NATO's maritime forces**

HMS Duncan, a state of the art Type 45 Destroyer, will lead NATO's Standing Maritime Naval Group 2 (SNMG2), providing reassurance and deterrence in the Black Sea, as well as commanding NATO's counter migration activity in the Mediterranean. The naval force will also exercise together to improve the Alliance's readiness and ability to work together on operations, as well as conducting port visits in the region, including to Ukraine.

HMS Enterprise will also lead Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group 2 (SNMCMG2) from July this year. The Mine Countermeasures Group is a multinational, integrated maritime force, made up of vessels from a number of NATO countries. The group is mainly based in the Mediterranean and is capable of searching for and disposing of explosive ordnance. HMS Enterprise will be the flagship for the force, and will be joined by HMS Pembroke in the second half of 2017.

Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon said:

As part of our leadership within the Alliance, we're stepping up our NATO commitments. Whether it's in the cyber domain, where I'm committing UK support to NATO operations, or on the high seas with HMS Duncan and HMS Enterprise leading half of the Alliance's maritime forces in the Mediterranean, the Aegean and the Black Sea, Britain is playing its full part.

## **Strengthening cooperation on Maritime Patrol Aircraft**

On the margins of today's meeting, Sir Michael signed a Statement of Intent on North Atlantic Maritime Patrol with his US and Norwegian counterparts. The agreement enhances collaboration on each nation's P-8A Maritime Patrol Aircraft programmes and will provide NATO Allies with multiple benefits in the maritime reconnaissance and anti-submarine areas.

Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon said:

The P-8A aircraft will play a vital role in protecting the UK's nuclear deterrent, the two new Queen Elizabeth Class carriers and supporting our NATO Allies.

By investing in these aircraft, as part of our £178 billion defence equipment programme, we're showing that we're serious in tackling the threats on NATO's North Atlantic flank.

And in stepping up our cooperation with the US and Norway on maritime patrol around our shores, we will help keep Britain safer

and more secure.

## **Stepping up to counter terror around the world**

The Defence Secretary also confirmed today that Britain is stepping up its support to Afghanistan, with around 85 extra service personnel to support NATO's mission in the country.

Britain has an enduring commitment to Afghanistan, and supporting the Government and the Afghan National Security and Defence Forces (ANDSF) helps to prevent the country from becoming a safe haven for terror.

The increase of UK personnel comes in response to a NATO request, which was made to all partner nations, for additional troops to support the Alliance's train, advise and assist mission in the country.

The additional troops will continue to work in non-combat roles mentoring the Afghan Army and Police, the Afghan Air Force, and will provide further support to the ANDSF in training and leadership development.

Underlining Britain's leadership within NATO, the uplift will add to the already significant contribution of 500 troops the UK already makes to NATO's Resolute Support Mission.

## **Endgame for Daesh in Mosul**

Three years on since the start of the so-called caliphate was proclaimed in Mosul, Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon underlined that Daesh faces its endgame in the city where it originally launched its ideological campaign of terror and violence.

Sir Michael said that the terrorist group faces irreversible momentum and progress from local forces on the ground, and UK and Coalition aircraft in the skies. UK aircrew have now hit over 700 targets in support of operations to liberate Mosul since last year. In addition to operations over Mosul, the RAF has so far struck 69 targets in and around Raqqa in support of Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) advancing on the city from the north, east and west.

With Daesh losing ground on two fronts in Mosul and Raqqa, around 70% of territory once controlled by the terror group in Iraq and 51% in Syria, has now been liberated. This amounts to over 4 million Iraqis and Syrians who have been freed from Daesh tyranny.

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**[News story: Defence Secretary steps up](#)**

# UK commitments to NATO

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## **Bill lodged to make Frank's Law a reality**

29 Jun 2017



A bill to introduce Frank's Law – a guarantee that under 65s with conditions like dementia receive free personal care – has been officially lodged.

Shadow health secretary Miles Briggs was joined in Holyrood today by Amanda Kopel, the wife of former footballer Frank, who died three years ago having been diagnosed with dementia at the age of 59.

The member's bill will allow MSPs to vote on introducing the legislation, which is now supported by all opposition parties.

Some SNP MSPs – including former health secretary Alex Neil – are also keen on the move, even if the party itself has refused to offer support generally.

The bill will open for consultation next week.

Earlier this year, Miles said he would launch the bill if the Scottish Government failed to act.

### **Scottish Conservative shadow health secretary Miles Briggs said:**

"I was delighted to welcome Amanda Kopel to the Scottish Parliament today to mark the lodging of my Member's Bill proposal to implement Frank's Law.

"Amanda's passionate and dedicated campaigning on this issue has been inspirational.

"The consultation on the bill proposal will go live next week and I hope that as many organisations and individuals as possible will take part to demonstrate the level of support for Frank's Law.

"The aim is simple: to end the age discrimination that currently exists

whereby under 65s with life limiting conditions do not qualify for free personal care but over 65s do.

“April 16 marked the third anniversary of Frank Kopel’s death.

“It is a shocking indictment that in some parts of Scotland today, terminally ill patients under the age of 65 are being charged for the help they need with basic things like washing, dressing and feeding themselves.

“We want to see this change and I am pleased that all opposition parties in this parliament have committed to supporting the policy meaning there is a majority in Holyrood for Frank’s Law.”

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The Scottish Conservatives have consistently supported the campaign for Frank’s Law:

<http://www.scottishconservatives.com/2017/03/franks-law-members-bill-to-launch-in-summer/>

<http://www.scottishconservatives.com/2017/01/bill-on-franks-law-to-be-brought-forward-if-snp-drags-heels/>

<http://www.scottishconservatives.com/2016/12/sharp-rise-in-u65s-with-dementia-shows-need-for-franks-law/>