



Dear Member

I have recently replaced Graeme Perks as Chair of the BCIR.

Graeme will be a very hard act to follow and has guided the registry through some difficult negotiations re: funding. His skill of negotiations and expertise in the area of international implant registries will be sorely missed.

I am delighted to inform you that Graeme, together with the NHS Digital Team, have secured funding to support the running of the BCIR in England for 2020/21. It is likely that from April 2021 funding will be provided as part of the work on the all devices registries that has been commissioned to be run by NHS digital.

The Registry is designed to record the details of any individual who has a breast implant operation for any reason so they can be traced in the event of a product recall or other safety concerns relating to a specific type of implant. The data will also allow the identification of possible trends and complications relating to specific implants.

The 3rd publication of data shows an increased number of submissions but is still only capturing around 50% of breast implant operations. Data entry is mandatory and part of the CQC assessment of NHS units and is requested for privately funded patients being treated in any provider. Data entry should also be included as part of the revalidation process with an individual surgeons responsible medical officer for both NHS and private operations.

Trials are undergoing to assess whether scanning of implant barcodes can improve the data entry process and we will keep you informed of any developments.

Although the use of mesh or dermal sheet is not part of the mandatory data collection, its use should be recorded in all cases.

**Lee Martin**  
**BCIR Chair**