



**Association of Breast Surgery**  
at The Royal College of Surgeons of England  
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PE  
Telephone 020 7869 6853  
[www.associationofbreastsurgery.org.uk](http://www.associationofbreastsurgery.org.uk)

**Statement from the Association of Breast Surgery in relation to the *Report of the Independent Inquiry into the issues raised by Paterson*, published 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

The Association of Breast Surgery welcomes the *Report of the Independent Inquiry into issues raised by Paterson*.

The Association of Breast Surgery continues to express its sympathy to the patients who have suffered as a result of Mr Paterson's actions.

Although Mr Paterson has never been a member of the Association of Breast Surgery, the organisation has taken the incident very seriously. We have reviewed the events that have occurred and identified lessons that can be learnt, both general and those specific to breast surgery. We have endeavoured to disseminate these to our members and those involved in breast care. We will similarly review the report of the Independent Inquiry and act accordingly.

We would like to reassure patients that this incident reflects the actions of a single individual surgeon working outside acceptable standards of care and does not represent the current standard of breast care in the UK. The first priority of our members is always the health, wellbeing and safety of patients.

The Association of Breast Surgery constantly endeavours to raise the already high standards of breast surgery by providing members with ongoing education and training and support for research and national audits. These collectively aim to ensure the delivery of a high standard of breast surgery care throughout the UK.