



Explant Preparation Checklist

Requests to the Surgeon When Planning Breast Implant Removal

- Remove the implants “En Bloc” / Total Capsulectomy if possible (prevents contamination from leaking or “sweating” silicone).
- Remove all capsules — including old ones (if this is not the first pair of implants) and any secondary capsules that may have formed — leaving no capsule fragments behind.
- Repair the chest muscle if implants were placed under the muscle and repair is necessary.
- Do not use surgical mesh, artificial skin, or any other foreign materials.
- Send the capsule tissue for pathological examination.
- If there is seroma (fluid), collect a sample and send it for CD30 immunohistochemistry testing to rule out BIA-ALCL (Breast Implant-Associated Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma).
- Take a swab of the chest area and send it for pathology testing.
- Photograph my chest cavity to confirm that no capsule remnants remain.
- Photograph the removed implants with my initials written beside them, to confirm they are mine and that a full capsulectomy was performed.
- Photograph the capsules inside out, to show their inner surface.
- Video record the cutting of the capsule and removal of the implant.
- Provide me with photographs and video recordings of the capsules, implants, and chest cavity, sent to my email.
- Safely package my implants and return them to me immediately after surgery.
- Provide a written operative report (detailing what was done during surgery and what was observed visually).
- Register a medical report with the FDA MedWatch (Form 3500):
<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch/index.cfm?action=professional.reporting1>
- Document in my medical file all symptoms I experienced since having breast implants.
- Confirm that I am allowed to share photos of my removed implants and capsules in the Breast Implant Illness women’s forum for education and expert reference.

