
Breast Implant Dangers

To the Editor:

Your Oct. 25 news article on the statement by the American College of Rheumatology that there is no evidence silicone breast implants caused rheumatic disease is misleading. The statement was made by the directors without endorsement by members. A College of Rheumatology spokesman has said, "There were certainly members that strongly disagreed with the statement."

Furthermore, evidence on the association between rheumatoid disease and silicone implants is not just "anecdotal." A 1993 interim report from the Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, based on the largest cohort studied, 212,500 women, concluded that women with implants have up to a 59 percent increased risk of rheumatoid arthritis.

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BEN LILLISTON

Chicago, Oct. 26, 1995

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