

Threat of cancer-risk implant ban 'overreach'

By **SEAN PARNELL**, HEALTH EDITOR
12:00AM AUGUST 15, 2019 •  1 COMMENT

The Therapeutic Goods Administration has sought more information from companies responsible for breast implants associated with an increased risk of cancer.

It comes as some surgeons warn of regulatory overreach, with the TGA threatening to ban or suspend a broader range of products than its overseas counterparts.

Fears of breast implant-associated anaplastic large cell lymphoma prompted the TGA to propose wide-ranging restrictions last month. Two weeks later, the US Food and Drug Administration revealed an increase in cases and one manufacturer, Allergan, announced a voluntary recall.

A TGA spokeswoman yesterday said the regulator was assessing the evidence. "The TGA has - received responses from sponsors of textured breast implants and in some instances has sought additional information," she said.

However, the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons and the Australasian College of Cosmetic Surgery are concerned the TGA's proposed crackdown is too broad. ACCS chair Daniel Fleming has written to Health Minister Greg Hunt to question why some products are being banned based on a single cancer case, demanding the TGA engage more openly with the working group about the evidence.

SEAN PARNELL

SEAN PARNELL, HEALTH EDITOR

Sean Parnell is Health Editor and FOI Editor at The Australian and was a political reporter for 10 years. Sean is a member of the Open Government Partnership Media Council, has been interviewed for various TV a... [Read more](#)

