

Scientific researcher Henry Dijkman: all women can get sick from silicone breast implants

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Reageren



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"It should be clear: silicone toxicity is a disease"

In recent months, the TV program Radar has paid much attention to the pathogenic effects of implants in the body made of silicone. So also breast implants. We have also been paying attention to this on BeautyJournaal for several years. The complaints were even given a name: ASIA syndrome. And now the fear of lymphoma cancer ALCL has been added. Demonstrable Although the medical world does not yet dare to take a definitive position on the dangers of silicone in the body, because it is not clear whether it is the silicone itself or a runaway immune system that defends itself against foreign materials, scientific researcher Henry Dijkman, who can demonstrate silicone in the body and experience how sick women get, is convinced that every woman with silicone implants will sooner or later get sick. Because more and more silicone molecules are accumulating in vital organs and nerves.



Specific technology

Henry Dijkman has developed a method, the so-called 3-phase technique. With the help of a specific staining and EDX you can detect stored silicone in the body. It is a technique that is very specific for silicones.

Encapsulation

Dijkman explains: "We study capsule formation around breast implants under the microscope. Formation is a way of the body to shield itself from the silicone and the body does that by wrapping it in a kind of membrane, encapsulating.

Full of silicone particles

"The capsule is a kind of film that can vary in thickness. It consists, of connective tissue and fibroblasts, and contains a great many active cells, such as macrophages and immune cells. These capsules also contain silicones.

Silicone implants bleed

How do silicone end up in your body? If the implant is ruptured, this is the most conceivable, but there is more to it. Dijkman: "We have known for a long time that silicone implants are bleeding, we call that gel bleed. They release nano-small particles every day. With the new generation of implants - after the PIP scandal, it is lesser but still going on, so also the latest implants give gel bleed.



Coating/shell

The outside of the implant becomes more permeable in time. "The longer the implants are in your body, the more silicone diffuses because the wall of the prosthesis becomes more and more porous. It reacts with his environment, among other things, due by enzymatic reactions. The capsule that is formed is a sort of scar tissue. The cells in that scar tissue are also active, which again do something with the gel in the prosthesis.

The role of body behavior

"It is difficult to indicate which substances are involved, but we see and know that many cell processes play a role and they change the elastomer of the gel of the implant. As a result, they also become increasingly permeable and can eventually rupture. Normally you should check this with ultrasound after 10 years. The silicones that migrate through the body and accumulate in cells are highly reactive molecules. If they increase in concentration, they eventually cause silicone toxicity and damage the tissue.

Pores in the capsule

"The consensus in the medical world so far has been that it is true that there is gel bleed, but that the capsule wall would stop it. That's not true! It is a connective tissue, and consists of strands that are twisted together. It is very strong, tightly woven, but there are spaces/pores in between that are permeable, so migration of silicone molecules is a fact.

Nano-small

"And those silicone molecules are so small, really at the nanometer level, we can specifically demonstrate that with an electron microscope in combination with X-ray micro analysis (EDX). These nano-small particles diffuse and migrate through everything. In addition, they have a lipophilic character, which means that they are attracted to fat.



Pathological investigation

How do you prove that those nanoparticles of silicone are migrating through the body?
Dijkman: "Migration is difficult to prove because you have to examine tissues for that and you don't just take biopsies in a patient. We finally could examine the body of a deceased patient who was convinced that she had silicone toxicity via silicone breast implants. The patient gave permission for this. We were able to demonstrate it via the 3-phase technique in Kidneys, spleen, liver, pancreas, thymus, lymph nodes, brain and spinal cord.

High quantities

"In 1 ten thousandth of a millimeter we could measure over 30,000 counts of silicone. That is what we saw with the electron microscope in combination with EDX. This lady had silicone implants for twenty years. We could show that bleeding silicone is not arrested in the capsule, but migrated throughout the whole body, even into the spinal cord.

Severe damage

"In the meantime, another patient appeared with silicone suffering. Mrs. Jacqueline Roes, in the meantime two legs have now been amputated.

Toxicity

RIVM is involved in a study of silicone materials in implants and their toxicity. Two years ago, the first details were already revealed: some implants contain highly toxic silicones, and others are said to be harmless. These were the first messages. This investigation came after the PIP scandal. Henry Dijkman, however, is firm, and says: "As far as I'm concerned, all silicone particles are guilty and play a role in silicone toxicity. They all do something and are very reactive. Only one species is much more aggressive than the other.

Who gets complaints and who doesn't

Then the dose response curve is important to understand. At what amount do you already get complaints? Dijkman: "That differs per person. For some women things go wrong after six months, for others only after 30 years. It depends on the concentration of silicones in your body and how sensitive you are to these molecules. But every day the concentration in your body increases via gel bleed.



Be careful with textured implants

Women who wear Monobloc have the lesser problems, Dijkman says. "With these implants, only the outside, the coating/shell, is made of silicone, inside is cellulose or there are also implants with physiological salt. But then we have the next error: When those coatings are textured then be aware. I know a case from a lady who had Monobloc and a textured coating, and she had many complaints! It appeared via microscopic investigation that the texture comes loose. And these silicone particles also started to migrate again in the body.

"Surgeons like to use textured implants because they provide good adhesion that makes the breast look natural. But if you are a sensitive patient, you may already have burning breasts after a few weeks. Especially women who are sensitive and quickly allergic must be alert.

Surface

Dijkman explains: " Via Surface extentions/enlargement interaction with the extracellular matrix increases and therefore more irritation.

Mutations (cancer) due to chronic cell stress

If you stimulate a cell chronically, the cell will adapt. It is pure stress and protection, including capsulation. Silicone toxicity in cells can lead to mutations and therefore ultimately to cancer.

"We are seeing more and more cases of breast implants with ALCL, lymphoma cancer. Research shows that women with a breast implant have a 400 times higher risk of getting ALCL, but because the disease is so rare, the chance of receiving ALCL is still very small. But cases increase and many other physical problems. So we have to stay alert. I am convinced that sooner or later all women will experience problems.



Ah, you are stressed

"Chronic fatigue occurs a lot. This problem is very easily whipped away by doctors. They blame the problems on the mental state of the woman due to, for example, a bad relationship, work pressure, transition and family stress.

Could it be that women who do not like themselves and want to do something about it, experience more stress naturally, so they already have an increased immune response?

"Maybe?, but can you prove it? You have to be able to prove everything in science, huh. Yet the evidence of silicone toxicity is piling up worldwide. It is a disease and it is time that all doctors become aware of this and take patients seriously and do something about it.

Safety never demonstrated

"The tricky thing is that we still need more evidence they say, and that is a tough fight. It is indeed time for the safety of these types of products to be demonstrated before they are used in the human body.

How did you end up in this investigation?

"I have been educated to study all kinds of cell processes at the level of cell, tissue, disease and nanotechnology. This is also where my interest and research methodology for silicone particles in the body started.

Twenty years ago I was involved in the silicone suffering together with a plastic surgeon. We both worked at the Radboud Hospital in Nijmegen. At that time she saw problems around silicone breast implants.



Minimal influence of food and cosmetics

The common defense is that silicones are found in many products: in toothpaste, cosmetics, plastic bottles. Is that right? Dijkman: "I know from many measurements that you never get those amounts of silicone in your body through food and cosmetics. I have really seen the differences in amounts of silicone in the body of women with and without silicone implants. In control patients, these quantities are absolutely not to be found.

More research and good advice needed

Henry has now examined hundreds of tissues in recent years. It is time-consuming research, he says, and he deplores the fact that his knowledge and insight are hardly accepted in medical science.

He got a stage on Radar to tell his story, but the establishment rather keep him at a distance and keep saying: it is not clear why women get sick. Is it the silicone or is it a sensitive immune system. There is a fear for claims, and the industry that produces implants is already afraid of the possible storm.



Women don't know what to do

Many women email him personally. They ask for advice, want a physical examination or a second opinion. He is also currently working with plastic surgeon Frank Niessen. They work together on new research and Henry also sends many women to him.

BeautyJournaal also receives hundreds of e-mails every year from concerned women. We also send them to Frank Niessen in our team. In many cases, they have their breast implants explanted via Frank. We also send the women to the research centers for silicone breast implants such as at VUmc in Amsterdam. And we also refer doctors to specialists such as Henry Dijkman.

Prevent storage in tissues

Henry Dijkman emphasizes once again: "Silicone can be detected in the body and we know that all implants show gel bleed and thereafter the silicone molecules migrate. Eventually they end up in the tissue. It is stored there, that is the end station. So you have a delivery point, the circulation system, and the end station - the organs where it ends up and it stays there. And then the irritation/cell stress starts, stress from the environment, increase of the concentration of silicone will eventually lead to silicone toxicity.

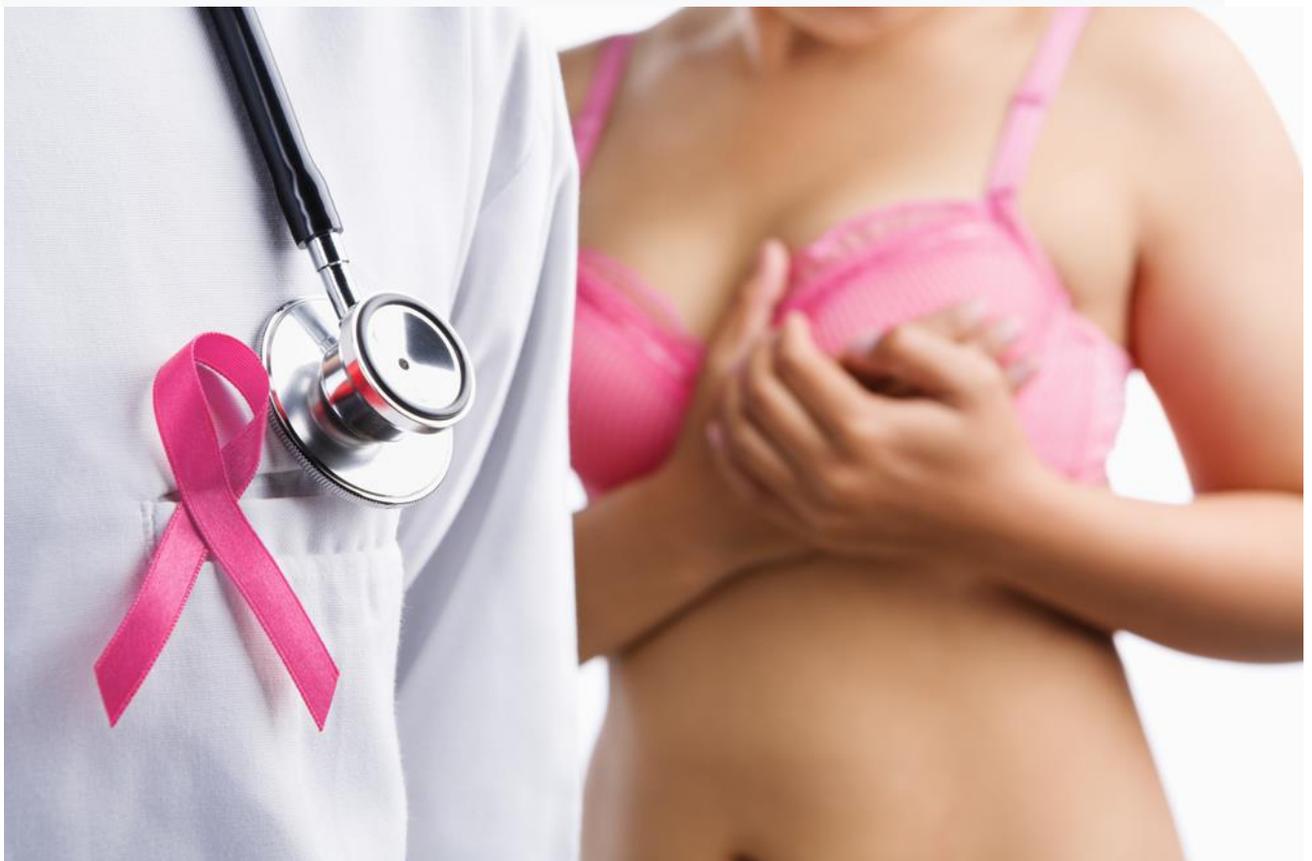
70% recover after explantation

"It depends on the sensitivity of the woman's immune system whether there will be problems or not. Sometimes we see that the irritation is there, but it is protected and there are no complaints. Sometimes we see a large amount of macrophages, and then there are indeed complaints. Always consult your doctor when you have complaints, especially with chest pain. We see that 70% of women recover after explant, do not hesitate!

It's time for a new type of implant, Henry ...

'That would be nice. For the time being, Although the coating is still made of silicone, I would recommend a smooth implant based on cellulose or physiological salt, as long as the safety of silicone implants has not been demonstrated. It is a better alternative.

Lipofilling or DEEP reconstruction with own fat is of course also an very good alternative, especially for women with breast cancer.



Alternatives

"Implants with cellulose and salt water still have a silicone coating. Yet the release in the body is much lesser, because there are no liquid silicones in it. The silicone in the coating of these implants have a different structure. Suppose you get a rupture, then no silicone will leak into your body. Imagine: 200 to 400 milliliters. That can happen with silicone implants. And it will never come out again ... you don't pee it out.

It is still unclear how many women in the Netherlands wear implants, estimates of 200 thousand. Henry picks up rumors that 10 to 50 thousand implants are inserted annually. Fortunately, we now get a real view on this with the new registration law.

Many women recover when the implants are out ...

'That's right. But then you have to be on time. As soon as chest pain occurs, they have to be explanted. Then the source is gone, and about 70% will recover. The body can still handle it. If there are pains in limbs, memory loss, etc., then you are further in the process of silicon toxicity. But then again: always have your silicone implants removed so that the source stops.

"It is terrible to get so many messages from women totally loss, have many complaints but are on a waiting list of sometimes 2 years! And then there is the reimbursement problem, who pays? All these women with problems must be helped quickly without paying the bill, they have already suffered so much.

Dijkman concludes: "If I had enough money, I would today set up an explantation clinic with a team of good surgeons and heart for the patients."

Also read on BeautyJornaal:

- Read all articles about the issues surrounding silicone breast implants here
- Read all articles about ASIA syndrome here
- Read all articles about breast reconstruction here
- Read all about removing implants in exchange for lipofilling (with before and after photos)
- Read all about lipofilling of your breasts here

Do you have complaints? Also report them to www.meldpuntbijvementsimplantaten.nl
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- [Lees hier alle artikelen over de problematiek rond siliconen borstimplantaten](#)
- [Lees hier alle artikelen over ASIA syndroom](#)
- [Lees hier alle artikelen over borstreconstructie](#)
- [Lees hier alles over verwijderen van implantaten in ruil voor lipofilling \(met voor- en nafoto's\)](#)
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