

# **Common Symptoms of Breast Implant Illness (BII)**

Breast Implant Illness encompasses a wide range of symptoms that can vary among individuals. Commonly reported symptoms include:

- Chronic Fatigue
- · Joint and Muscle Pain
- Cognitive Difficulties (Brain Fog)
- Dry Skin, Eyes, and Mouth
- · Hair Loss
- Weight Changes
- Anxiety and Depression
- Rashes and Skin Issues
- Gastrointestinal Problems
- Headaches
- Temperature Intolerance
- Low Libido
- Easy Bruising and Slow Healing
- · Heart Palpitations
- Autoimmune-like Symptoms
- · Dizziness and Vertigo
- Tinnitus (Ringing in the Ears)
- · Respiratory Issues
- Sleep Disturbances
- Frequent Infections
- Thyroid Dysfunction
- Swollen Lymph Nodes
- Numbness and Tingling in Extremities
- Vision Changes
- · Metallic Taste in Mouth

- Chronic Inflammation
- Mood Swings
- · Difficulty Swallowing
- Chest Pain

**Note:** This list is not exhaustive, and symptoms can vary among individuals.

## What Makes Breast Implant Illness Difficult to Diagnose?

- 1. Lack of Specific Testing:
- There are no definitive tests to confirm BII. Standard bloodwork, imaging, and scans often show normal results, even when symptoms persist.
- Mimics Other Conditions:
- BII symptoms overlap with autoimmune diseases, chronic fatigue syndrome, and mental health conditions, leading to misdiagnoses.
- 3. Toxic Composition of Implants:
- Silicone and saline implants contain heavy metals, neurotoxic chemicals, and other harmful substances that can disrupt the immune system, hormones, and gut health.
- 4. Biofilm and Infections:
- Implants can harbor biofilm (a thin layer of bacteria) or mold, which may trigger chronic inflammation and immune dysfunction.

## **Resources for Further Information:**

- 1. Breastcancer.org
- Article: What is Breast Implant Illness (BII)? Symptoms & Treatment (<a href="https://www.breastcancer.org/treatment/surgery/breast-reconstruction/types/implant-reconstruction/illness/breast-implant-illness">https://www.breastcancer.org/treatment/surgery/breast-reconstruction/types/implant-reconstruction/illness/breast-implant-illness</a>)
  - Overview: Provides detailed information on BII symptoms and treatment options.

## 2. Cleveland Clinic

- Article: Breast Implant Illness (BII): What It Is, Symptoms & Treatment (https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/23366-breast-implant-illness)
  - · Overview: Discusses the symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of BII.

- 3. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
  - · Article: Systemic Symptoms in Women with Breast Implants

(https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/breast-implants/medical-device-reports-systemic-symptoms-women-breast-implants)

• Overview: Provides information on systemic symptoms reported by women with breast implants.

#### 4. Health Canada

· Article: Breast Implant Illness

(https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-medical-devices/breast-implants/illness.html)

Overview: Offers insights into BII and associated symptoms.

## 5. The Aesthetic Society

Resource: Breast Implant Resources

(https://www.theaestheticsociety.org/medical-professionals/patient-safety/breast-implant-resources)

Overview: Provides resources to help patients navigate findings on BII.

## 6. American Society of Plastic Surgeons

Article: Breast Implant Safety

(https://www.plasticsurgery.org/patient-safety/breast-implant-safety)

• Overview: Discusses safety information related to breast implants.

## 7. Executive Plastic Surgery

· Checklist: BII Signs and Symptoms Checklist

(https://executiveplasticsurgeon.com/bii-signs-and-symptoms-checklist/)

• Overview: Offers a checklist of common BII symptoms.

## 8. UT Southwestern Medical Center

- Article: Breast implant illness: Diagnosing and treating its many complex symptoms (<a href="https://utswmed.org/medblog/breast-implant-illness/">https://utswmed.org/medblog/breast-implant-illness/</a>)
  - · Overview: Discusses the complexities of diagnosing and treating BII.

## 9. Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE)

Article: Breast Implant Illness

(https://www.facingourrisk.org/privacy-policy-legal/laws-protections/womens-health-cancer-rights-act/complications-revisions/breast-implant-illness)

Overview: Provides information about BII and related surgery or treatment.

## 10. Dr. Raja Mohan

Article: Know These 6 Breast Implant Illness Symptoms

(https://www.rajamohanmd.com/know-these-6-breast-implant-illness-symptoms/)

· Overview: Highlights common symptoms associated with BII.

- 11. National Center for Health Research
  - Website: Breast Implant Safety (<a href="https://www.center4research.org">https://www.center4research.org</a>)
- Nonprofit organization providing research-backed information on the risks of breast implants.
- 12. FDA Breast Implant Safety
  - Website: FDA Information on Breast Implants
    <a href="mailto:(https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/breast-implants">(https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/breast-implants)</a>
  - Details the risks, complications, and regulatory updates related to breast implants.
- 13. Mentor Implant Manufacturer Warnings
  - Website: Mentor Implants (https://www.mentorwwllc.com)
  - Provides official information on implant risks and their black box warnings.
- 14. The Implant Truth Survivors Committee (ITSC)
  - Website: The Implant Truth (https://www.theimplanttruth.org)
  - · Advocacy group sharing personal stories, research, and support for women with BII.
- 15. Breast Implant Victim Advocacy (BIVA)
  - Website: Breast Implant Victim Advocacy (https://www.breastimplantvictimadvocacy.com)
  - Focuses on raising awareness about the risks of breast implants.
    - → For more personal stories and experiences related to BII, consider exploring online support groups and forums where individuals share their journeys and insights.
    - → Thank you for taking the time to read this document. We hope it provides valuable insights into Breast Implant Illness. Stay informed, stay healthy.
    - → Remember, if you are experiencing any of these symptoms and have breast implants, it's important to consult with a healthcare professional to discuss your concerns and explore appropriate diagnostic and treatment options. Stay informed and proactive about your health.
    - → This document is provided as a resource and does not endorse any specific treatments or medical advice.
    - → Always seek the guidance of a qualified healthcare provider with any questions you may have regarding medical conditions.

- → Your health and well-being are important. Don't hesitate to reach out for support and information.
- → For additional resources, visit the websites listed above or contact relevant healthcare organizations.
- → This document is subject to updates as new information becomes available.
- → Last updated: December 17, 2024
- → This document is intended for educational purposes only.
- → Please consult with a healthcare professional for medical advice. Your journey to health and wellness is important. I'm here to support you, and appreciate your commitment to understanding Breast Implant Illness. Together, we can raise awareness and support those affected.
- → This document is a collaborative effort to provide accurate and helpful information.

"For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." (Psalm 139:13-14)

This Scripture reminds us that our bodies are intricately designed by God, and He calls us to honor and care for them. I am grateful for the Holy Spirit's guidance through my husband, who led me to uncover the truth about BII. God's wisdom helped me seek healing and embrace my natural design.

Disclaimer: This document is for informational purposes only and should not replace professional medical advice. Consult with a healthcare provider for personalized guidance.

Note: The above information has been compiled from various reputable sources to provide a comprehensive overview of Breast Implant Illness symptoms and resources.