

SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
The Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees  
On Community Affairs  
PO BOX 6100  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
CANBERRA ACT 2600



27<sup>th</sup> July 2011

Dear Sir/Madam

REF- REGULATORY STANDARDS FOR THE APPROVAL OF SUB MEDICAL DEVICES  
WITH REFERENCE TO THE JOHNSON & JOHNSON DEPUY ASR HIP REPLACEMENT

My name is Therese Wood In September 2007 I was a recipient of a Depuy metal on metal  
Total hip replacement At the time I was 45 years of age with two sons aged 6 and 12 respectively

You would be aware through the media coverage that this hip replacement system has failed on a  
significant number of patients and I was in this category. Needless to say, due to the apparent failure  
of my hip replacement, and my endurance over 3 years of bouts of horrific pain, my life has become  
a difficult journey, let alone the serious consequences for my long term health and well being.

Naturally, given my relatively young age having this procedure done and with all the day to day  
responsibility I carry, it is obvious what a tremendously detrimental impact this failed ASR Hip  
replacement has had on my life.

This problem severely affected my children, my husband, my personal life and my financial situation  
as I was unable to gain much needed employment.

Thus the point of my letter is to Question Why this ASR Device was not adequately tested especially  
when it was apparent Worldwide that from 2006 it was failing patients at an alarming rate. Who  
should be held responsible for such an incredibly traumatizing in justice?

The surgeons and the patients alike should have been made well aware of the huge failure rate of  
the ASR hip system and I'm sure that there would not have been so many of these devices  
implanted.

I, for one would never have agreed to the ASR Hip Replacement had I known the extreme risk  
involved as my life and time at that stage with a young family was just too valuable- Indeed I'm sure  
all of the ASR Hip recipients would be a similar opinion

I would greatly welcome a Senate Inquiry in to the standard of Medical Device Testing in Australia so  
an injustice like this would never happen again.

Yours faithfully

Therese Wood