

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600



██████████ MESH IMPLANTS

Dear Sir or Madam

Early 2000 I was experiencing some discomfort from a prolapse, no doubt caused by birthing three children. Was referred to an appropriate surgeon who diagnosed rectocele and offered a repair which involved inserting a mesh manufactured by ██████████. The doctor was confident that this was my best chance of a successful outcome and offered no warnings of possible unwanted side effects. I consented to the operation which was performed in 2004.

A few years later I was suffering from debilitating pain in the vagina which commenced every night about 8.30 p.m, unpleasant enough to induce tears and certainly to put an end to any thoughts of sexual activity. No doctor, including the aforementioned surgeon could explain where this pain originated from or offer any hope of relief. My G.P. had recently attended a talk by ██████████ concerning possible mesh side effects, and suggested I make an appointment with ██████████. On consultation I decided to have to have the mesh removed, or what could be removed as apparently it becomes imbedded in tissue. This was quite a long operation, performed in 2012, with quite a long recovery but well worth it because the pain I was suffering ceased.

I cannot say I was pressured by either the original surgeon or ██████████ to use or to remove the mesh..

I would like to add (which is probably not relevant) that about three years after my second surgery I was contacted by the Medical Complaints Commission Officers who were investigating ██████████ and his treatment of me (certainly did not originate from me, as I had

no complaint about [REDACTED]). This complaint was dismissed scathingly by the presiding judge. [REDACTED] is an outspoken opponent of transvaginal mesh implants.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

25/4/17

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]