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## Medical and Legal Aspects of Serious Implant Failure

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### Strategy of the Company

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*Preservation in motion*

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### A surgeon with a clinical problem

- Did I make a stupid mistake?  
Better not talk about it.
- It will go wrong again  
if I don't report it




**ISO 14971: Risk Management**  
„reasonably foreseeable misuse“

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### Topics

1. How can we **prevent** serious incidents?
2. What do we expect from **you surgeons** when an incident occurs?
3. What does the **company** do after an incident?

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Ti/CaP-coating

ceramys®

vitamys®

RM-coating




**Smart design**      **New material technologies**

→ Innovative new implant solutions

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### The Importance of Vigilance Reporting



European Commission  
**Medical Device Regulation (MDR, May 2020)**

**Risk Management (ISO 14971)**

Active and continuously

**Clinical Evaluation**

**Vigilance Data & PMS**

In case of deviation:

Benefit-Risk-Assessment

Corrective Actions (CAPA, etc.)

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### Risk Management based on Experience

Design Risk

← Engineering experience

Usability Risk

Manufacturing Risk

← Manufacturing experience

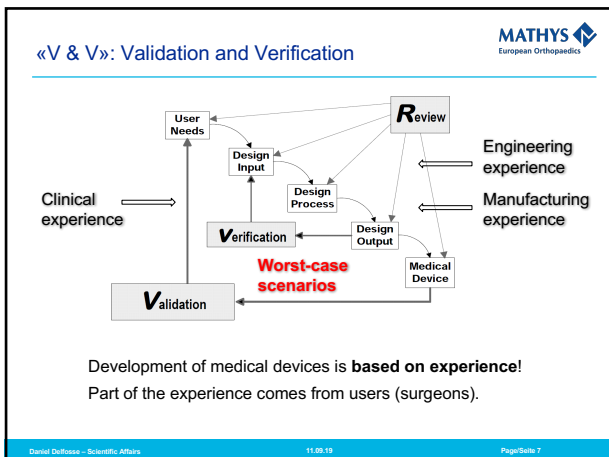
**Risk Management**

Clinical Evaluation

Vigilance Data & PMS

**Worst-case scenarios**

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## Medical and Legal Aspects of Serious Implant Failure

### What to do after a serious adverse event

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### Examples of Incidents

- Inaccuracy in **labelling**, instructions for use and promotional materials
- Damage** detected in instrument or implant prior/after surgery
- Malfunction** of an instrument during surgery
- Difficulties with the **Surgical Technique** during surgery
- Clinically relevant increase (> 10 min.) in the **duration** of a surgical procedure
- Premature revision** of an orthopaedic implant ("premature" = shorter than the expected useful life, i.e. <10 years after implantation)
- A condition that requires significant prolongation of **hospitalisation**

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### Complaint Handling by Surgeon

- Notify your sales rep immediately!**  
OR
- Notify the Vigilance Department of Mathys Ltd Bettlach ([vigilance@mathysmedical.com](mailto:vigilance@mathysmedical.com))  
OR
- Notify the Competent Authority

- Provide information** for the vigilance form
  - Description of incident (when, where, how)
  - X-Rays or photos (anonymised)
  - Surgical report
  - Damaged device or explant → Patient consent! (art.nr., lot nr. etc.)

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### Explant Handling

- Polymer**
  - Mechanical cleaning** in an automatic cleaning and disinfection unit (without manual steps, do not remove evidence!)
  - Disinfection in 70% alcohol** solution during one hour (e.g. 70% isopropyl (IPA) or ethanol solution)
- Metal**
  - For metal & ceramic:
    - Sterilisation in autoclave permitted**
- Ceramic**
  - Shipping to Mathys (individually packed) or collection by sales rep.

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### Complaint Handling by Company

- Open **vigilance case «PSxxxx»** (anonymised)
  - Check if information is sufficient
- Assess incident and find **root cause**
  - Perform additional analyses if needed
- If **patient harm** cannot be ruled out:
  - Perform a HHE (Health Hazard Evaluation)
  - Decide on CAPA and/or FSCA (Field Safety Corrective Action)
- Write **final report**
- Give **feed-back** to surgeon (if demanded)

**Legal obligation**

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**Report to Authorities by Company**

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- In case of **serious incident**
  - IF: Event led, or might have led, to **death or serious health deterioration** of patient or user (permanent impairment of body function, serious patient harm, revision surgery)
  - AND: Manufacturer's device is suspected to be contributory **cause** of the event
  - **NOT IF: expected side-effects which are clearly documented in the product information**
- In case of **FSCA** (recall or field safety notice)

famhp  
Federal agency for medicines and health products

SWISSmedic

European Commission  
Medical Device Regulation  
(MDR, May 2020)

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**Take-home Message**

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**Conclusions**

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1. An incident is – although not desired – **an important source of information to improve quality of care.**
2. Vigilance data allows us to:
  - Recognise trends
  - Take corrective actions
  - Initiate FSCA (recall or safety notice)
  - Improve products
  - Increase safety for users & patients
3. **The more you report, the more we learn.**  
Explants are a valuable source of information about the function of the implant.



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