

# *“A Mile in my Shoes”*

Dr Tom Joyce

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14<sup>th</sup> January 2012

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# Update from 1 October 2011

- MetalHip website
- <http://research.ncl.ac.uk/metalhip>

MetalHip



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## Tom Joyce

**@metalhip\_ncl** Newcastle upon Tyne

*Posting news about metal-on-metal hip joint failure. Tom Joyce is an internationally renowned biomedical engineer specialising in artificial joints.*

<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/mech/staff/profile/thomas.joyce>

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Scottish media covers ASR story [goo.gl/Kk4X](http://goo.gl/Kk4X)

6 Dec



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New resources section on website includes a presentation with lots of detail about ASR history and engineering analysis  
[research.ncl.ac.uk/metalhip/resou...](http://research.ncl.ac.uk/metalhip/resou...)

2 Dec



**metalhip\_ncl** Tom Joyce

Invited to speak to ASR patients in Ireland in New Year. Said that I would, awaiting full details of event

27 Nov



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More comment in the Australian media including a DePuy ASR metal-on-metal hip patient's view [goo.gl/sefkA](http://goo.gl/sefkA)

25 Nov

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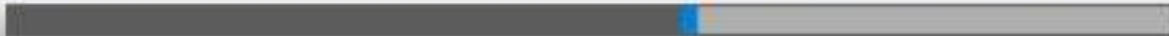
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@metalhip\_ncl



15 November 2011, RTE TV,  
'Prime Time', Ireland



0:21:26 / 0:36:39



# 22 November 2011

- Australian Senate report (142 pages)
- “Many people could have avoided considerable pain, suffering and diminished quality of life if the company had acted in a responsible manner to known problems with these devices”

The Senate

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Community Affairs  
References Committee

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The regulatory standards for the approval of  
medical devices in Australia

# 23 November 2011

- Australia, Sydney Morning Herald
- “Harold, 84, said cobalt produced by the grinding of the metal-on-metal joint had left him with high levels in his body which he believes has caused bouts of memory loss and fatigue”

## Faulty hip implants: senate inquiry wants action on 'ticking time bomb'

Mark Methereil  
November 23, 2011

★ [Read later](#)



Lack of advice ... Harold and Diana, who both had hip replacements, have called for prostheses problems to be better managed. Photo: Ken Irwin

A SENATE committee has expressed shock at the "intolerable and unacceptable" suffering caused to hundreds of patients fitted with faulty hip implants and demanded urgent action from health authorities.



# 2 December 2011, Daily Mail

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## 'I feel robbed of my life': Hundreds of patients seek compensation after faulty hip joints leave them in agony

- NHS patients given faulty hip replacements embroiled in landmark legal battle
- 300 clients seek compensation payments ranging from £25,000 to £1m
- "It's broken up relationships and some clients have said they would consider taking their own life because of the pain"

By [SADIE WHITELOCKS](#)

Last updated at 1:29 PM on 2nd December 2011



# 13 Dec 2011

- Daily Mail
- Not a gender issue!
- Women have smaller pelvises and are fitted with smaller joints
- Smaller diameter resurfacings tend to wear more quickly

## Women left in agony as 'resurfaced' hip joints fall to bits

By JENNY HOPE

Last updated at 1:36 AM on 13th December 2011

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Years as a top-class gymnast and keen skier had left Penny Brown with a painful and stiff right hip.

The cartilage cushioning the joint had been worn away, leaving bone to rub against bone, causing pain and problems with mobility.

Penny, then 43, wanted to avoid a major hip replacement, and her research suggested hip resurfacing, a new 'half-way house' procedure would be a good option.

The existing joint would be, in effect, reconditioned by placing metal caps in the hip socket and on top of the thigh bone — unlike a full hip replacement, which involves cutting off the top of the thigh bone to fit the new joint.

Hip resurfacing was heralded as a way to give new lease of life to young people with worn-out hips, while allowing the option of a full hip replacement later, if needed.

Her procedure was such a success that Penny, an IT consultant, agreed to become a 'poster girl' for DePuy Orthopaedics, the manufacturer.



© David Crump

Penny Brown is now recovering from

# 27 Dec 2011, New York Times

## The High Cost of Failing Artificial Hips



His bills are “five times as much” as he paid for his home.

*Kristen Schmid for The New York Times*

Tom Dougherty of Groveland, Ill., before he received a new hip implant this month. His first replacement failed prematurely.

By **BARRY MEIER**

Published: December 27, 2011

# More quotes, 12 January 2012

■ “The failure of the implant was nothing I had ever seen before ... it is terrible this has taken so long for this to emerge ... by writing it up (in 2006) that was the best way to disseminate the information”  
Consultant Surgeon

■ “I was issuing a warning (in 2007). I am horrified by this. I am amazed it has taken so long to uncover”.  
The problem was the British regulator – then the Medical Devices Agency (MDA) – didn’t seem to care. “It was never very interested in these things”  
Consultant Surgeon

■ <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/health/healthnews/8986746/Breast-implant-scandal-the-whistleblowers.html>



# Another medical device in the news



PIP Breast implant



# Déjà vu?

- FDA did not approve PIP implant, like they did not approve DePuy ASR resurfacing hip
- 21 Dec 2011 - MHRA said: “There is currently no evidence to support routine removal of PIP breast implants”
- 10 Jan 2012 - “Welsh NHS to replace privately-fitted PIP implants”
- 11 Jan 2012 - “the MHRA, their own regulatory authority, has approved these implants and obviously hasn't done their proper checking”
- 12 Jan 2012, The Lancet - “The only reasonable conclusion can be that the MHRA failed to do the job the public expects of it - to protect it from harm”

# 6 January 2012

POLY IMPLANT PROSTHESES (PIP) BREAST IMPLANTS: INTERIM REPORT OF THE EXPERT GROUP

## **POLY IMPLANT PROSTHESES (PIP) BREAST IMPLANTS: INTERIM REPORT OF THE EXPERT GROUP**

*Sir Bruce Keogh, NHS Medical Director*

- Interim report completed in less than two weeks over Christmas and New Year
- <http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/01/pip-implants-interim-report/>

# Quote from the Interim report

- "Whatever the objective evidence on safety, many women with PIP implants will understandably be very worried about the possible implications for their health. In itself, this anxiety is a form of health risk and must be addressed with understanding and compassion by those responsible for their treatment.....The NHS will support removal of PIP implants if, informed by an assessment of clinical need, risk and the impact of unresolved concerns, a woman with her doctor decides that it is right to do so. The NHS will replace the implants if the original operation was done by the NHS.....The group (ie the expert committee) endorses this offer. It expects providers in the private sector to take similar steps.

# Misquote from the Interim report

- "Whatever the objective evidence on safety, many people with ASR implants will understandably be very worried about the possible implications for their health. In itself, this anxiety is a form of health risk and must be addressed with understanding and compassion by those responsible for their treatment.....The NHS will support removal of ASR implants if, informed by an assessment of clinical need, risk and the impact of unresolved concerns, a woman with her doctor decides that it is right to do so. The NHS will replace the implants if the original operation was done by the NHS.....The group (ie the expert committee) endorses this offer. It expects providers in the private sector to take similar steps.



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