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2014

document version

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citation for published version (APA)

Maijers, M. C. (2014). *Safety & imaging of modern silicone breast implants: The PIP recall placed in perspective*. [PhD-Thesis - Research and graduation internal, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam].

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SAFETY & IMAGING OF MODERN SILICONE BREAST IMPLANTS

The PIP recall placed in perspective

SAFETY & IMAGING OF MODERN SILICONE BREAST IMPLANTS



Marike Maijers was born on 23 December 1977 in Waalwijk and raised in Kaatsheuvel, a village in the south of the Netherlands. After graduating high school with a gymnasium degree from Dr. Mollercollege in Waalwijk, she started studying medicine at the University of Maastricht. During her studies she became interested in different medical fields and international health care and followed internships in Greece, Mexico and South Africa. After having obtained her medical degree she found her first clinical jobs in the departments of neonatology, pediatrics and pediatric surgery. As tropical medicine, surgery and gynecology fitted more with her practical skills and interests she started her training to become a tropical (surgical) doctor in Lelystad under the supervision of Gijs Algie (surgeon) and Kees de Boer (gynecologist). After specializing as a tropical doctor in 2008 she and her boyfriend Eelko lived and worked in Mwanza, a small town in Malawi for two years. She worked as a surgeon, gynecologist, pediatrician, and at times as a manager and supervisor. She started and managed local projects such as the introduction of a medical library and a burn unit financed by VSO and private donations to charity organization FO4R Mwanza Malawi. In Malawi she became fascinated by the beauty and fine surgery of plastic and reconstructive surgery and decided to return to the Netherlands to explore the possibilities to be trained as a plastic surgeon. She started working at various surgical departments at Daniel Den Hoed in Rotterdam. At the same time she started collecting data on women who were recalled with PIP silicone breast implants at Medical Center Jan van Goyen in Amsterdam, the start of the studies described in this thesis. In 2013 she was offered a PhD research job for a few months at the department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Hand Surgery of VU Free University Medical Center in Amsterdam and left her full-time job in Rotterdam. When clinical work and performing procedures is part of your routine, it appears difficult to leave it behind. Therefore, she worked part time at the department of Plastic Surgery at Sint Lucas Andreas Hospital in Amsterdam. She has continuing interest in research in breast reconstructive surgery and she is co-founder and co-owner of a social business performing research and consultation in innovative projects in health care since 2013. She lives in Amsterdam together with Eelko and their son Pieter.

Marike Maijers

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