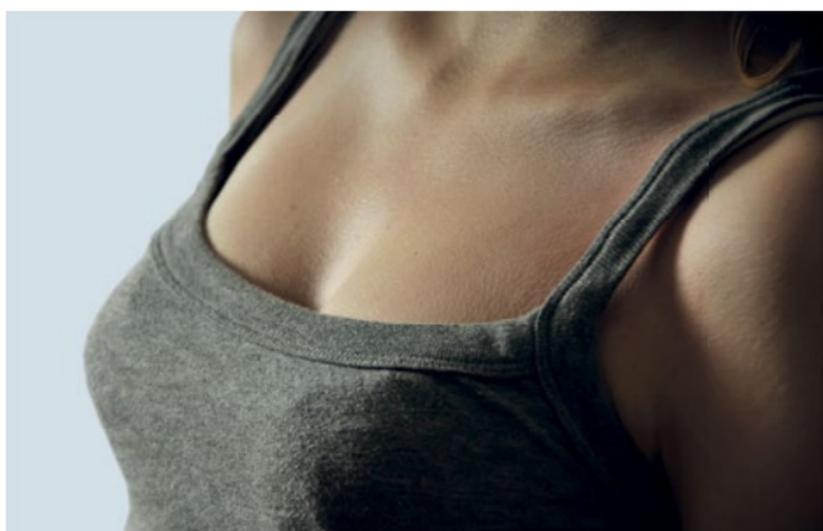




**Breast reconstruction
after cancer –
An issue for women of all ages**

An information by pfm medical

The option of breast reconstruction in the event that breast cancer is diagnosed



Dear Patient,

Following the diagnosis of breast cancer, which again and again leaves women of all ages most deeply shocked, experience has shown that a great many questions are thrown up. One question raised is whether there is a safe option of reconstructing an amputated breast as true to life as possible. It is good to know that medicine has made great progress in this area too. In many cases it is possible to reconstruct the breast appealingly either already in the course of the cancer operation or even later (after the cancer treatment). A breast reconstruction means additional operations and requires a great deal of patience. However, it can be entirely worthwhile if

you think that you will then again feel «more complete» and thus more comfortable in your skin. In addition to boosting self-confidence, possible orthopaedic problems, such as painful tension in the back, which are to be attributed to the imbalance in the breast area, can be avoided with breast reconstruction.

Please talk to your doctor at the earliest opportunity in order to discuss your needs and the individual options. In answering your questions he or she will definitely be able to give you valuable help in making decisions.

There are two methods for breast reconstruction

If the breast is to be replicated after an amputation, this can be achieved - depending on the individual diagnosis - either by using autologous tissue or a silicone implant. The operatively more demanding method with autologous tissue implies that the doctor takes cutaneous tissue, muscle tissue and fatty tissue from suitable sites (such as for example the back, bottom or thigh) in order to use it to render the breast in its original shape. By comparison, using a silicone implant is simpler. In the majority of cases it is placed under the chest muscle for good and unobtrusive support. If the chest muscle is not strong enough, which is relatively common, ultra-light titanium-coated meshes can be used as fixing aids.

TiLOOP® Bra – more support for the implant

The very delicate, biocompatible and flexible tissue TiLOOP® Bra was developed by pfm medical in order to make the use of silicone implants even better and more secure. In place of the chest muscle it takes over stabilisation of the implant. Individually cut to shape, it fits every silicone cushion. TiLOOP® Bra has many advantages. Amongst others, it can

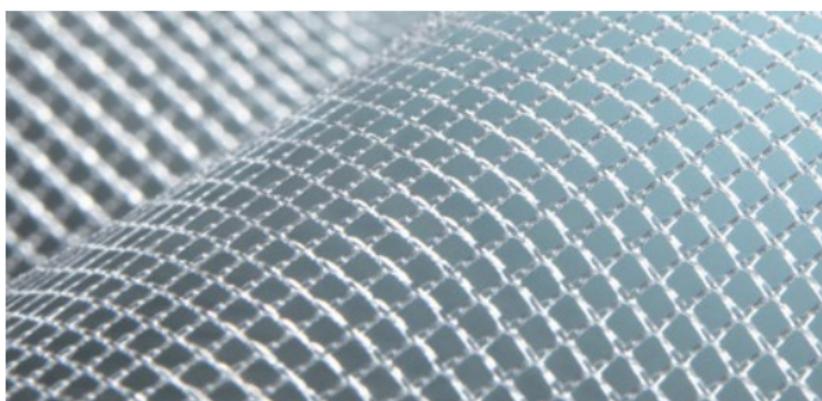
- ▶ support and stabilise the chest muscle in its function,
- ▶ ensure the best possible position of the implant on a permanent basis,
- ▶ and so eliminate slipping or twisting of the silicone cushion and
- ▶ also prevent the risk of capsular fibrosis.

The fine, mesh-like tissue grows in completely and can remain in the body forever. The super-thin titanium coating helps to reduce rejection reactions to a minimum. TiLOOP® meshes are also used successfully in operations on inguinal hernias because of their supportive effect. Simply ask your doctor for further information on breast reconstruction and the advanced combination of implant and TiLOOP® Bra.

Please see the doctor who is treating you in order to find out more about the treatment options available.

TiLOOP[®] Bra

Tissue and muscle supporting, titanized mesh implant for use in breast reconstructions.



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The German family-owned enterprise pfm medical with headquarters in Cologne has worked successfully in medical engineering for 40 years. It distributes both in Germany and worldwide exceptionally high quality products for everyday use in clinics, laboratories and healthcare - some of which it has developed itself. From the beginning the company has stood for responsible action and, thanks to its decades of experience, offers products which are selected for quality, as with the innovative TiLOOP® Bra shown here.

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