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To the EFORT National Member Societies

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European Commission Fact Sheet on Metal on Metal hip replacements

Dear Presidents, dear Delegates,
dear colleagues and friends

The European Commission has recently released a fact sheet on Metal on Metal hip replacement, which I enclose as an attachment. It is also available in German, French and Spanish.

I am delighted to see that the recommendations of the Commission are essentially that utilisation of this articulation is safe, but it should be avoided in those patients that would be classified as high risk.

I also point out that all patients receiving such an implant should have regular check-ups, including not only radiography, but also haematological checks on serum levels of metal ions. The fact sheet does not specify which ions should be monitored or for what length of period other than 'the first post-operative years.'

With best wishes

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