



# BRITISH ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION

*Caring for patients; Supporting surgeons*

06 January 2012

## IMPORTANT – ACTION REQUIRED

Dear Colleague,

**Re: DePuy ASR hip voluntary recall and MHRA Medical Device Alert  
MDA/2010/069 dated 7 September 2010**

- By now, all your ASR patients should have been seen in clinic
- The ASR system includes both the ASR resurfacing and ASR XL heads
- The MHRA advice recommends all patients implanted with ASR hip replacements be followed up with clinical examination at least annually

The BOA is concerned that all patients may not have been followed up in clinic or made aware of the recall. We believe that many more patients have been reviewed than are registered with DePuy, however currently just over one-third of ASR patients are registered with the ASR reimbursement programme.

All patients with an implanted ASR need an annual visit to assess symptoms and, if indicated, have investigations performed. Observing that the alert was circulated in September 2010, the vast majority of patients should have been reviewed by now. We would like to remind you that the MHRA alert (Appendix I) requires surgeons and hospitals to discharge this duty to their patients.

All hospitals that implanted ASR hips were informed about the voluntary recall by DePuy, who will cover reasonable and customary costs of follow up investigation and any revisions for reasons related to the recall. Please find attached a letter from DePuy with further information.

Yours sincerely,

**Professor Joe Dias  
President**

cc: MHRA, Chair – Professor Sir Alasdair Breckenridge  
MHRA, CEO – Professor Sir Kent Woods  
CQC, Chair – Dame Jo Williams

**Appendix I MHRA Alert  
Appendix II DePuy Letter**

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