Royal United Hospitals Bath
NHS Foundation Trust

Care of Your Breast Prosthesis

Breast Unit Patient Information

Care of your prosthesis

Please care for your prosthesis as you would your skin, wash it daily or as required with a mild soap and water, rinse and pat it dry with a towel.

To help the prosthesis keep its shape we recommend that you use the box to store it, when not in use. When wearing your clothes be aware when using pins or brooches near your prosthesis.

Following your fitting appointment

During your fitting appointment we will spend time making sure we have fitted you with a prosthesis that you are happy with. We appreciate however that sometimes after wearing it for a longer time it may not feel comfortable. If this is the case we can possibly change it for you, but you must contact the breast unit **within 4 weeks** of your fitting for this to be arranged. Please be aware that we are unable to re-cycle your prosthesis if we have to change it. As each prosthesis costs between *£180 - £285*, we want to make sure we get it right as soon as possible and that you are happy with what you are wearing.

Repair and replacement of your prosthesis

If your prosthesis develops a tear or splits, you will feel the sticky gel leaking out. To protect your clothes put a waterproof plaster over the damaged area or wrap the prosthesis in cling film. Sometimes as the prosthesis ages the inside may become bubbly or the outside skin may wrinkle excessively. These are signs of wear and tear and a replacement may be needed.

Your prosthesis is guaranteed to last for 2–3 years, depending on the make, but it needs to be looked after. Very often they last a lot longer than this. If your prosthesis needs replacing before the guarantee is expired then we will need to return it to the supplier.

It may be possible to replace your existing prosthesis for exactly the same. If this is the case we can leave a new one at the Breast Unit reception desk for your collection. However, it may be necessary to have another fitting appointment.

If it is over 5 years since you had your last prosthesis you will need to get a referral from your GP for a new prosthesis.

Please telephone 01225 824057 to discuss your prosthesis needs with the Breast Cancer Support Worker or the Breast Care Nurses who can advise you further and if necessary make an appointment.

Details of your Prosthesis

Date	Make	Code	Size
e.g 10/02/2014	Amoena	395	6

Please keep this information somewhere safe as we will ask you for it when you need your prosthesis replaced.

Websites for lingerie and swimwear

These companies are listed for information only. This does not represent a recommendation or endorsement by the RUH.

www.amoena.co.uk

www.silima.co.uk

www.anita.com

www.trulife.com

www.nicolajane.com

You can also buy lingerie and swimwear in high street stores and some larger supermarkets.

Contact details

Breast Clinical Nurse Specialists Office

01225 824057 (answerphone) Hours of work 9am-5pm

ruh-tr.breastcarenurses@nhs.net

Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust
Combe Park, Bath, BA1 3NG

01225 428331 | www.ruh.nhs.uk

If you would like this leaflet in email form, large print, braille or another language, please contact the Patient Support and Complaints team on 01225 825656.

Date of publication: August 2025 | Ref: RUH BRU/004
© Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust