

## **IMPLANON : STATEMENTS FROM KEY ORGANISATIONS IN THE SEXUAL HEALTH FIELD**

### **STATEMENT FROM MSD, MANUFACTURERS OF IMPLANON**

#### **Implanon statement**

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#### **For email response**

MSD is confident in the efficacy and safety of Implanon. Since its initial approval in September, 1999 over 1.3 million units have been prescribed in the UK. Although no contraceptive is 100% effective, Implanon is more than 99% effective. A review of nine years of data has indicated 0.049 pregnancies per 100 implants sold (i.e. 5 per 10,000).

The basis for successful use of Implanon is a correct and carefully performed subdermal insertion of the implant in accordance with the product instructions.

MSD encourages women to speak with their healthcare providers if they have any questions about contraceptive options and to report any adverse experience associated with any MSD medication.

### **STATEMENT FROM THE FPA**

#### **FPA reacts to failures of contraceptive implant**

Commenting on reports on the contraceptive implant, Natika H Halil Director of Information for FPA, said:

“Naturally, women hearing this will be worried, but it’s important to stress that this is an issue for a small number, and the vast majority of women with an implant shouldn’t have cause for concern. No contraception is 100% effective but implants remain a popular, safe and effective method.

Any problems seem to have resulted from the insertion method rather than the implant itself and so FPA is pleased that a new insertion device has been launched. If women can feel the implant and there have been no issues until now, there shouldn’t be any problems. Nevertheless if women are worried they can contact the FPA helpline or they can talk to whoever fitted it. The FPA helpline number is 0845 1228690.

This case demonstrates the importance of continued training for healthcare professionals and the funding of high quality contraceptive services.”

## **STATEMENT FROM BROOK**

### **Statement: Implanon**

Responding to news coverage today (5 January 2011) about Implanon, Jules Hillier, Brook’s Director of Communications, said:

*It is important that any young people who are using a contraceptive implant do not panic – it remains a very safe and effective form of contraception.*

*If a young woman using Implanon has concerns, either about pregnancy or that the implant has not been fitted correctly, she should go to her nearest Brook Centre, family planning clinic or to her GP. Young people can find their nearest service by contacting Ask Brook on 0808 802 1234 or going to [www.brook.org.uk](http://www.brook.org.uk)*

*Correct fitting of implants is vital. All professionals fitting implants in women of all ages, but particularly in young women, must make sure they have the time, skills and experience with young people to ensure clients are able to make, exercise and understand the contraceptive choices which are best for them.*