

# Safety Notice

## Medical Devices

### Taperloc Lateralised PC Stem

**Priority 2 – Warning**



**HPRA Safety Notice:  
 SN2016(19)**

**Issue Date: 05 July 2016**

MANUFACTURER / SUPPLIER	HPRA CASE REFERENCE
Biomet UK Ltd. (Zimmer Biomet)	V28211

#### ISSUE

Biomet UK Ltd have found that the packaging for two lots of TAPERLOC HIP LATERALISED PC STEM is mismatched between the product label and the product identification, resulting in the actual size of the product being incorrectly identified by the packaging.

As a previous distributor of this has entered into liquidation, Zimmer Biomet does not have full traceability for these devices.

#### ACTION OR RECOMMENDATIONS

The HPRA advises that users:

- 1 Be aware of the information in the attached field safety notice (FSN).
- 2 Please withdraw from use all affected products identified at your facility as soon as possible.
- 3 Complete the response form attached to the FSN and return to your local Zimmer Biomet distributor.
- 4 Please pass this notice on to all those who need to be aware within your organisation or to any organisation / persons where the potentially affected devices have been transferred.

- 5 Report any adverse events / incidents associated with these devices to the manufacturer and the HPRA.

#### TARGET GROUPS

Orthopaedic surgeons  
Orthopaedic theatre staff  
Orthopaedic registrars

Risk managers  
Hospital CEOs  
Public and Private Hospitals

#### BACKGROUND

A Biomet UK Ltd investigation found that the packaging for a TAPERLOC LAT PC 17.5mm 12/14 stem, product code 650-0353, lot 1463373, contained an item with the product code 650-0352, lot 1466692 which is a TAPERLOC LAT PC 15.0mm 12/14.

The hip stem's lot number and size are etched on the top of the stem taper trunion, which would be checked by the theatre staff on opening the box and reviewing the component. This would identify a mismatch between label and product identification (Refer to attached FSN for images).

If the condition was not identified upon opening the box and if the surgeon had planned for a 17.5mm stem but used a 15mm stem, the stem would be undersized and sit obviously lower in the prepared femur. It is likely that the surgeon would identify the mismatch in size, because the smaller hip stem implanted would not achieve sufficient press-fit and would likely move. If the surgeon had planned for a 15mm stem but used a 17.5mm stem, given the wedge shaped design of the stem, it would sit obviously proud of the resection level in the prepared femur.

#### MANUFACTURER / AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE/ DISTRIBUTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Enquiries to the **manufacturer / supplier** should be addressed to:

Biomet UK Ltd.  
Waterton Industrial Estate  
Bridgend  
South Wales  
CF31 3XA  
United Kingdom

Telephone: +44( 0) 1656 655221  
Fax: +44 (0) 1656 645454  
E-mail: [grayham.burnell@zimmerbiomet.com](mailto:grayham.burnell@zimmerbiomet.com)  
Website: [www.zimmerbiomet.com](http://www.zimmerbiomet.com)

## HPRA CONTACT INFORMATION

All **adverse incidents** relating to a medical device should be reported to:

Health Products Regulatory Authority  
Kevin O'Malley House  
Earlsfort Centre  
Earlsfort Terrace  
Dublin 2

Telephone: +353-1-6764971  
Fax: +353-1-6344033  
E-mail: [devicesafety@hpra.ie](mailto:devicesafety@hpra.ie)  
Website: [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie)