Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU

foi.request@mhra.gov.uk.

MHRA Website

[redacted]

Our Ref: **FOI2026/00889**

10 September 2026

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 12 August. You wrote:

> *Dear MHRA, I am hoping you can provide an update to FOI 24/352 and whether any more incidents relating to the safety of performing MRI scans in patients with embolization coils and vascular plugs since this request was responded to.*
>
> *Could I please add to the request that I would like to request the incident details themselves, not simply the number of incidents up until the current date. I understand these details will have to be anonymised.*

MHRA Response

We confirm that we hold the information you have requested. As of 1st September 2026, the MHRA has received 1 further adverse incident report concerning the interaction of embolization coils/vascular plugs with magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) systems. Please find the data for this report attached in Table 1.

A search was conducted on our database using the using the Global Medical Device Nomenclature (GMDN) Collective Term (CT) codes specified below, in combination with a keyword search of the failure description:

GMDN CT codes:

- CT2480 - Embolization coils
- CT2479 - Embolization plugs

Keywords: *'MRI', 'magnetic resonance imaging', 'magnetic resonance', 'imaging'.*

Further to this, a separate search for the below GMDN CT codes in combination with a keyword search of the failure description was conducted:

GMDN CT codes:

- CT1777 – Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) systems
- CT105 – Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) equipment

Keywords: *'embolization plug', 'embolization', 'embolization coil', 'embolisation plug', 'embolisation', 'embolisation coil', 'vascular plug', 'vascular', 'plug'.*

Finally, a separate search of the failure description containing the following keywords was conducted:

- *'embolisation coil'/ 'embolisation coil' / 'vascular plug' / 'vascular plug/occluder' / 'vascular plugs/occluder' / 'vascular occluder'.*
  AND
- *'MRI' / 'magnetic resonance imaging'.*

We would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of considering the below factors in relation to the data provided in the attached table:

- This information is accurate at the time we conduct the search on our database, changes in the number of adverse incident reports can occur following receipt of additional information.

- The database search encompassed the querying of the failure description, a mandatory free-text field that may not always be fully completed. Therefore, the outcome may vary depending on the availability, and accuracy of the entered text.

- The number of reports received should not be used as a basis for determining the incidence of a health/clinical effect as neither the total number of effects occurring, nor the number of patients using the device is known.

- The inclusion of a report on the MHRA adverse incident database does not necessarily mean that the events described were caused by the device.

- These figures need to be interpreted with caution as they are not the same as complication rates.

As with all medical devices, MHRA continues to monitor their safety and performance and encourages reporting of any adverse incidents through its Yellow Card Scheme. Any emerging evidence relating to possible risks associated with these devices will be carefully reviewed and, if appropriate, regulatory action will be taken if any serious risks are confirmed.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team
Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing foi.request@mhra.gov.uk or by writing to: MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team, 10 South, Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4PU

Any request for an internal review must be received by us within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please note we are not obliged to provide a review if it is requested after more than 40 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.
Website: ICO FOI and EIR complaints or telephone 0303 123 1113.

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