

# Frequently asked questions

## | What does the osmed tissue expander consists of?

The osmed tissue expander is a self-filling device consisting of an osmotic active hydrogel, which main components are Methylmethacrylate and N-Vinylpyrrolidone.

## | Is the material used in the osmed tissue expander also used in other devices?

Yes, the hydrogel used in the osmed tissue expander is commonly used in contact lenses.

## | Is there a risk of uncontrolled oversized swelling?

No, osmed tissue expanders grow 10 to 12 times fold from its original dried, implantation size like declared in the brochure. The special manufacturing procedure gives a memory effect to the material which achieves, that accurately that shape and size will come out in the human body, that has been produced before in the factory.

## | Why is the osmed tissue expander placed in a silicone shell?

The osmed tissue expander comes in a silicone shell with an exact number and size of holes to assure gradual and consistent swelling of the device.

## | What are the indications for use of the osmed tissue expander?

The osmed tissue expander is approved for any tissue expansion without restrictions, e.g. primary and secondary breast reconstruction, breast anomalies and defect coverage such as scars, skin tumors, alopecia and direct closure of the donor defect of the radialis forearm flap.

## | What are the greatest advantages using the osmed tissue expander, especially with regards to children?

No needles! No injections/fillings are required.

## | How well is the osmed tissue expander tolerated in respect to pain?

The osmed expander's constant gradual expansion greatly minimizes the patient's discomfort. Conventional expanders require periodic large volume fillings (needle sticks), which create pressure peaks and are therefore associated with a larger degree of discomfort.

## | Comment the potential infection rates with conventional expanders compared to the osmed tissue expanders?

Since the fill process is automated with the osmed tissue expander, the risk for exterior infection is greatly reduced.

## | Is it possible to stop swelling after implantation?

During implantation the osmed tissue expander just has 1/10 of the final volume. This is quite different to conventional expanders. Therefore the necessity to stop the swelling is considerably reduced. Additionally an overfilling is suspended as the expander swells continuously in very small steps without pressure peaks. However stopping is not possible.

## | What are the main benefits of the osmed tissue expander?

The osmed tissue expander is a self-filling device, therefore -

- ⤿ no injections = no pain
- ⤿ no external fillings = no external complications
- ⤿ small expander = small incisions, less trauma

Fast - simple - reliable