Review of regulation of cosmetic interventions

Members

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Terms of Reference

Taking into account the government's Better Regulation framework and the concurrent review by the EU of current arrangements for the regulation of medical devices:

1. To review the current arrangements for ensuring the quality and safety of cosmetic interventions posing a potential risk to physical or psychological health, and in particular to consider:

    i whether the regulation of the products used in such interventions is appropriate;
    ii how best to assure patients and consumers that the people who carry out procedures have the skills to do so;
    iii how to ensure that the organisations which deliver such procedures have the clinical governance systems to assure the care and welfare of people who use their services;
    iv how to ensure that people considering such interventions are given the information, advice and time for reflection to make an informed choice;
    v whether there should be a statutory requirement for such organisations to offer redress in the event of harm, and if so how this could be funded;
    vi what improvements are needed in systems for reporting patient outcomes, including adverse events, for central analysis and surveillance.

    The review will consider issues of governance, data quality, record keeping and surveillance, as well as ensuring that sufficient information is provided to secure patients' informed consent. It will include consideration of the feasibility of an outcomes-based register of commonly implanted devices.

2. To make recommendations to ministers, including interim recommendations if appropriate, and to inform the UK contribution to the EU review.

The interventions to be considered for the purpose of this review could potentially include

a. the surgical insertion of a medical device or prosthesis, or other surgery intended to change the appearance of the body
b. injection with any product, whether medicinal or otherwise
c. any other form of intervention at the discretion of the review team

where the intervention is not clinically indicated to safeguard or improve the physical health of the recipient.