

## Public announcement

# The magnets in certain masks for the treatment of sleep disorders from Philips Respironics can cause serious injuries in some individuals.

Philips, a manufacturer of devices for the treatment of sleep apnea, announced in September 2022 an update to the existing contraindications and warnings related to sleep therapy masks containing magnetic harness attachments.

This update aims to inform **individuals who have implanted metal devices or metal objects in their bodies that may be affected by magnets, as well as people in close proximity to them.**

**For individuals who are not affected by such devices, there is no risk with the masks, and patients can continue to use them.**

*The masks from the companies Resmed and Fisher & Paykell are not affected by this recall.*

According to this update, the use of these masks is contraindicated for:

### Patients

- Family members
- Healthcare personnel
- Bed partners

If they are in close proximity and have implanted devices that could be affected by magnets, such as:

- Cardiac pacemakers
- Implantable cardioverter-defibrillators
- Neurostimulators
- Magnetic/metallic implants/electrodes/valves placed in the upper limbs, torso, or higher (neck and head)
- Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) shunts (e.g., VP shunt - ventriculoperitoneal shunt)
- Aneurysm clips

- Embolization coils
- Devices for intravascular flow interruption in intracranial aneurysms
- Metallic cranial plates, screws, burr hole covers, and bone substitute devices
- Metallic foreign bodies in the eye
- Ocular implants (e.g., implants for glaucoma, retinal implants)
- Certain metal contact lenses
- Implants intended for hearing or balance restoration with magnets (such as cochlear implants, implanted bone conduction hearing devices, and brainstem auditory implants)
- Magnetic attachments for dental prostheses
- Metallic gastrointestinal clips
- Metallic stents (e.g., aneurysm, coronary, tracheobronchial, biliary)
- Implantable ports and pumps (e.g., insulin pumps)
- Hypoglossal nerve stimulators
- Devices indicated as unsafe for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- Unlabeled metallic magnetic implants for MRI or those whose safety in a magnetic field has not been evaluated.

‘Health Canada advises patients that the masks mentioned in the notice should not be used by patients if they, or if a person near them (e.g., household member, caregiver, or bed partner), have any of the listed implanted medical devices or metallic objects below. For patients who have other implanted medical devices or metallic objects not listed below that could be affected by magnets, the manufacturer warns that the targeted masks should be kept at a distance of at least six (6) inches (approximately 15 cm) from any medical device or metallic object.’

Health Canada: <https://recalls-rappels.canada.ca/en/alert-recall/magnets-certain-philips-respironics-sleep-therapy-masks-may-cause-serious-injury-some>