We have been made aware of an issue with Philips Bi-Level Positive Airway Pressure (Bi-Level PAP), Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP), and mechanical ventilator devices.

We are writing to you as you have one of these devices.

Philips has issued a [Field Safety Notice](https://mhra-gov.filecamp.com/s/I4vCm4uz85degfVb/fo/OEoLyCO1WyGjNlO1/fi/WlCKUSbDtrJsqwD0). This notice says that under certain conditions the foam part of the machine can be damaged. This notice has been issued globally, so it is not specific to the UK. These conditions; very high temperatures, high humidity and the use of a non-approved cleaning solution, are rare in the UK.

The NHS has been working closely with Philips and the Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) who are responsible for patient safety. There have been no known safety issues related to these products reported in the UK. No adverse events in the UK in relation to these devices have been reported to the MHRA.

For most patients the risk of stopping using these devices is far greater than the risk from the issue that Philips has reported. The [MHRA has advised](https://www.gov.uk/drug-device-alerts/national-patient-safety-alert-philips-ventilator-cpap-and-bipap-devices-potential-for-patient-harm-due-to-inhalation-of-particles-and-volatile-organic-compounds-natpsa-slash-2021-slash-005-slash-mhra) that **patients should continue to use these devices.**

Some patients with certain very rare forms of occupational asthma related to isocyanates will need to be moved onto an alternative device. If this applies to you, please notify us at the earliest opportunity. If you are not contacted by your clinician, you do not need to change devices and you can continue to use your device as normal.

Philips will be gradually replacing the devices. The notice that they have issued asks patients to register their devices. However, the NHS will do this on behalf of patients, so please contact us at XXX and we will be able to register the device on your behalf.