ETHICON AND BOSTON SCIENTIFIC PELVIC MESH SETTLEMENT SCHEMES
UPDATE FOR GROUP MEMBERS — JULY 2026

Why you are receiving this update

On 16 July 2026 the Federal Court of Australia (Justice Lee) held a hearing about the administration of the two pelvic mesh settlement schemes. A number of group members attended and raised concerns with the Court. His Honour asked the Administrators to write to all group members with an update on progress, the steps that remain, and their timing. This notice does that, and answers the questions group members raise with us most often. You can find more detailed information in the **Compensation Handbook** previously distributed to group members, which is also available on the administration website at: meshsettlementadmin.com.au/documents. The content of this notice has been approved by Justice Lee. The Federal Court continues to supervise both schemes, and the Administrators report to the Court regularly.

The schemes at a glance (as at 30 June 2026)

- Both schemes remain on track to be **completed by 30 June 2027** — the timeframe estimated when the Administrators were appointed.
- More than **$122 million has already been paid** to group members across the two schemes, and a further **$53 million** is scheduled to be paid in the coming weeks.
- About **9 in 10** eligible group members in the Ethicon scheme, and about **8 in 10** in the Boston scheme, have received their Notice of Assessment.
- Reviews of assessments will be completed in the **second half of 2026**.
- Approximately $183 million in settlement funds remain securely held on trust and are earning interest — more than $28 million in interest has accrued to date across the two funds, which is more than the entire cost of running the schemes to date.

Compensation assessments — where things stand

Eligibility assessment have been completed for all but a few recent registrants. First interim payments of $4,000 have been made to almost every eligible group member, other than some recent registrants and some group members who are yet to provide us with payment details. **If you have not yet provided your bank details, please contact us so that we can pay you.**

As at 30 June 2026, compensation had been assessed for **4,928 of the 5,371** eligible group members in the Ethicon scheme and **2,238 of the 2,741** in the Boston scheme. We had hoped to complete all assessments by June, and, in relation to the 946 women across the two schemes for whom we are yet to complete compensation assessments:

- for **521 women**, we are still waiting on medical records from hospitals and medical practices. In most cases these are either records for women who registered recently, or additional records that proved necessary — often in the more complex cases — once the first round of records had been reviewed. We request records from every treating provider a group member identifies to us — including the specialist pelvic mesh clinics. On 16 July the Court made orders compelling non-responsive providers to produce the outstanding records, and we expect this to move matters along quickly;
- **127 women** have not yet responded to our request for instructions. If this is you, responding is the single fastest way to progress your own assessment — please call or email us;
- the remainder are being actively worked on now. Many are Individual Assessments — typically the most complex claims (see below).

Earlier this year we prioritised completing as many standard (points) assessments as possible by 30 June, so that the largest number of women would receive their compensation assessment notices and second interim payments as quickly as possible. The standard assessments are generally less time consuming to complete than Individual Assessments which were, for this reason, deferred. **The individual assessments are now a priority.**

Points Assessment and Individual Assessment — what is the difference?

Most group members are assessed under the **Points Assessment** method. Points are awarded for your implant and for each complication and treatment that your medical records show was caused by the mesh, with adjustments for matters such as how long complications lasted and your age at surgery. Each point converts to a fixed dollar amount — $2,000 per point.

A smaller number of group members with more complex claims — typically involving significant loss of income or a need for care — are assessed under the **Individual Assessment** method, which values those losses individually.

Which method applies is determined from your medical records and the nature of your claim, and it can change as your records are reviewed. The eligibility criteria and the way both methods work are explained in pages 6 to 14 of the **Compensation Handbook, which is available** on the administration website at meshsettlementadmin.com.au/documents. How repayments to Statutory authorities and Private Health Insurers are dealt with are explained at pages 14 to 16. If having read the Handbook you are still not sure which method applies to you, or have other questions, please ask us and we will explain your position.

Reviews of assessments

To date, about 180 group members have asked for a review of their compensation assessment. Reviews are decided by a **Review Assessor who is independent of the Administrators** — an experienced personal injury lawyer, with access to the expert medical material from the Ethicon trial and the ability to consult specialist doctors on complex medical questions.

We know the wait for reviews has been frustrating, and we want to explain it. Reviews were deferred while we completed initial assessments, because each review requires us to prepare a file of the group member's records for the independent assessor, and we judged it fairest to complete first-time assessments and payments for the greatest number of women first. Reviews are now underway and are expected to be completed in the **second half of 2026**. In addition, as suggested by Justice Lee at the hearing, the Administrators are endeavouring to appoint additional independent Review Assessors to speed up the review process. If you have sought, or are considering, seeking a review:

- if you have already lodged a review application and have further materials you wish the Review Assessor to consider, **please send them to us as soon as possible** and we will add them to your file. If you intend to seek a review in the future, you can upload additional materials to the portal, or send them to us by email or post;
- if you believe a particular doctor's report or record has not been but should be considered, tell us — we will check what we hold, and on request we will give you a **list of the medical records held on your file**;
- the review may confirm, increase or decrease your assessment, and the outcome is binding. Your second interim payment is made once the review is finished (because the review can change the amount);
- the Scheme allows the Administrators to ask for a bond of up to $500 for a review. That provision was included to protect the funds in case the review process became overwhelmed by unmeritorious applications, increasing costs and reducing the returns to all group members — which has not been our experience. **To date, no group member has been asked to pay a bond, however the Administrators have the discretion to require a bond if they consider it appropriate to do so**;
- if you would like a more detailed breakdown of how the points in your Notice of Assessment were calculated, contact us and we will provide it.

Will the money run out? When will final payments be made?

No — the settlement funds cannot "run out" before assessments are finished. The funds are held on trust for group members in interest-bearing trust accounts. As at 30 June 2026 — after all of the payments and costs to date — the funds held approximately **$124.3 million** (Ethicon) and **$59.1 million** (Boston), about $183 million in total, and had earned more than **$28 million in interest** since the Administrators were appointed. That interest exceeds the entire cost of administering the schemes so far, and administration costs remain below the estimates given when the Administrators were appointed. Since March 2026 the Administrators have also drawn only a reduced proportion of their own monthly fees, to make sure costs stay within those estimates until the work is finished.

Final payments work like this: once every assessment and review is complete and repayments to third parties (such as Medicare) are known, an independent actuary advises what percentage of assessed compensation can be paid to **every** group member from what remains in the funds. Everyone receives the **same percentage** of her assessed compensation — so no one is disadvantaged by having been assessed later, and the final payment cannot be calculated for anyone until the work is complete for everyone. Under the Court-approved Schemes that calculation is made after the schemes close on **30 June 2027**, and final payments will be made as soon as reasonably practicable after that date. Payments have been deliberately staged in this way — a first payment, a substantial second interim payment, and then a final payment — on the advice of the independent Scheme Actuary, to ensure that the funds are distributed fairly and that every group member receives her full entitlement under the Schemes.

Questions or concerns

You can contact the administration team on **07 4158 8772** or at **enquiries@meshsettlementadmin.com.au**. The Compensation Handbook and scheme documents are available at meshsettlementadmin.com.au/documents. The next Court hearing is expected in October 2026, and the Administrators will report to group members again following that hearing.

JGA Saddler, Slater & Gordon and BDO — Joint Settlement Administrators

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