



Cochlear Americas

# Audiologist appointment guide

Visiting a Hearing Implant Specialist is critical to learning about hearing treatment options. Preparing for the appointment is key in helping you to get the most from the meeting so you leave feeling confident about the journey ahead. Before the appointment, think about what you or your loved one's hearing priorities are and what questions to ask during your visit. Use this guide to find out what to expect during the appointment and to ask the important questions to choose the best treatment option.



What to expect



Questions to ask

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## What to expect

Knowing what to expect at the first appointment will allow you to get the most out of the visit.

### Creating a case history

The audiologist will ask questions about you or your loved one's medical history, recent hearing loss symptoms and general physical health to build a detailed case history.

### Testing hearing

To determine the type and degree of hearing loss, the audiologist will perform a number of simple tests.

### Reviewing results

The results of the hearing tests are mapped onto a chart called an audiogram, which gives a visual overview of hearing loss. This typically takes 20 to 30 minutes to complete.

### Discussing treatment options

After reviewing results, the audiologist can recommend the treatment options best suited for you, your loved one or child.

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## Questions to ask

It's crucial that you use the appointment to ask all the questions you need to. You will want to think about factors such as lifestyle and life stage (school, work, retirement) when considering options. This will help you get a clear understanding of the type of hearing loss and choose the treatment that is right for you, your loved one or child.

- 01 **What are the benefits of implantable hearing solutions over hearing aids? How does it work?**

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- 02 **How do I know I could benefit from an implantable hearing solution?**

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- 03 **How will it look? (Is it behind-the-ear or off-the-ear?)**

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- 04 **How will this solution fit into my lifestyle? (Provide examples of your lifestyle such as listening to music, talking on the phone, swimming in the pool or meeting friends at a noisy restaurant.)**

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- 05 **Can an implantable hearing solution provide me with a hands-free streaming experience?**

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- 06 **How long will an implantable hearing solution last? What can you tell me about reliability?**

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- 07 **Can I speak to someone who has an implantable hearing solution?**

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- 08 **What happens during the implant surgery? Can you implant both ears during the same surgery?**

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- 09 **How long is recovery? What does the recovery process look like?**

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- 10 **What can I expect after my implant or my child's implant is turned on?**

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- 11 **How will hearing implants help with speech? Do you have recommendations for hearing therapy?**

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- 12 **How will this solution grow with me or my child? Are there upgrade opportunities as technology changes?**

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- 13 **What will be the schedule of audiology appointments after surgery?**

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- 14 **Can I or my child get an MRI with this device?**

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