

Letter of Medical Necessity

Patient name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Insurance plan number/other identifying number: _____

Diagnosis code: _____

RE: Predetermination/Preauthorization of benefits for a Cochlear™ Baha® Sound Processor

The letter concerns the patient identified above, to whom we provide audiological/otolaryngological services. This patient has

On behalf of the patient, we are submitting this letter to recommend replacement of this patient's auditory osseointegrated system ("Baha") external sound processor (L8691).

Medical Necessity:

The Baha auditory osseointegrated system is an auditory prosthesis that is an accepted medical treatment for this patient's condition. In addition to the surgically implanted fixture, the device requires an external sound processor. As such, the sound processor is not a hearing aid, but rather part of the implantable hearing device that is necessary to this patient's ability to hear.

The recommended replacement sound processor upgrade to the Cochlear Baha 5 Sound Processor (L8691) is considered medically necessary. This is not an upgrade for aesthetics, but necessary to minimize the patient's safety risk, improve quality of life and to achieve functional improvement in their auditory performance. The Baha 5 Sound Processor offers the following medically necessary features:

Functional Improvement in their Auditory Performance

- SmartSound® iQ Technology, with sophisticated processing algorithms, offers the patient different listening programs designed to help the patient hear his or her personal best in a wide variety of complex listening environments such as in the classroom, workplace, or any noisy environment.
- Data logging records how the patient uses the sound processor. This helps the clinician to optimize and tailor the sound processor programs to maximize the patient's access to sound.
- 70% of users preferred the processors sound quality and listening experience when compared to previous processor generations¹

Potential Safety Risks

- The sound processor is equipped with wireless Bluetooth® connectivity, which enables hands-free communication with a variety of other devices. This minimizes risks associated with operating heavy machinery or driving an automobile while utilizing everyday necessities such as a cellular phone and in-car navigation.
- An audible alert to notify the recipient of decreasing battery life helps to prevent a sudden loss of sound. This loss of sound can inhibit the recipient's ability to hear emergency vehicles or critical communication in emergency situations.

Improves Quality of Life and Increases Access to Communication

- The available wireless accessories provide an almost seamless listening experience to variety of everyday technology. The processor will automatically connect to a paired wireless accessory when within range and instantly stream sound from a desired audio source.
- With Program+, a recipient is able to modify their own program settings to personalize their listening and hearing experience in challenging sound environments. This option can be automated specific to locations like work, school or home.

The Baha 5 Sound Processor comes with a two-year manufacturer's warranty that will cover repairs. The Baha 5 Sound Processor (L8691) is necessary for a safe, effective and uninterrupted use of this patient's Baha Implant.

There is only one provider of this device and as such, it must be purchased from them:

Cochlear Americas

13059 East Peakview Ave
Centennial, CO 80111
Phone: 1 800 633 4667

If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at

Sincerely,

IMPORTANT — The information provided in this document is provided as guidelines only to address the unique nature of implantable hearing solutions technology and is not intended as legal advice. This information does not constitute reimbursement or legal advice, and Cochlear Americas makes no representation or warranty regarding this information or its completeness, accuracy, fitness for any purpose, or timeliness. There is no guarantee that using the information provided in this document will result in any form of coverage or reimbursement from any insurance company or federal health care program payer. The information presented herein is subject to change at any time. To be sure that you have the most current and applicable information available for your unique circumstances, please consult your own experts and seek your own legal advice regarding reimbursement, coding, and coverage issues.