

Adult Cochlear Implant Candidacy Protocol Ear & Hearing | Center for Neurosciences

There are a variety of factors to consider when determining if someone is a cochlear implant (CI) candidate. However; most patients have a long-standing history of progressive sensorineural hearing loss in both ears and no longer receive much benefit from conventional hearing aids. During a comprehensive audiologic evaluation, word recognition scores of <60% indicate a patient may be a cochlear implant candidate and should consider a cochlear implant evaluation (CIE).

COMPREHENSIVE AUDIOLOGIC EVALUATION

30 MINS

Immittance measures
Pure tone thresholds for AC and BC, 125-8000 Hz
Word Recognition Scores at UCL-5 using CNC recorded word lists
WRS of <60% generates CIE visit

COCHLEAR IMPLANT EVALUATION, part I

60 MINS

Testing performed in the sound field at 60 dBA at 0 degree azimuth for both speech & noise via recorded materials using the Minimum Speech Test Battery unless otherwise indicated.

1. Evaluation of Aural Rehabilitation Status. in the BEST AIDED CONDITION

Verification of hearing aid output
Real-Ear-Measures using evidence-based prescriptive targets

AzBio Sentence Recognition Testing, +5 Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR)
Right hearing aid only
Left hearing aid only
Binaural hearing aids

CNC Word and Phoneme Scores, Quiet
Right hearing aid only
Left hearing aid only

2. Counseling and review of results

Review Candidacy Criteria:

Medicare sentence scores of <60% in all 3 test conditions (left, right, and binaural)

Review results:

Should patient MEET CI candidacy criteria our audiologist will discuss CI basics (see below) and the patient will be scheduled for CIE, part II, and CI surgical consult with Otologist/Neurotologist.

Should patient NOT yet meet CI candidacy criteria our audiologists will recommend an appropriate hearing device.

3. Basics of a Cochlear Implant

Internal/external devices

Follow-up appointments

Aural rehabilitation

Realistic expectations

Manufacturer review and information provided

COCHLEAR IMPLANT EVALUATION, part II

60 MINS

1-3 weeks following CIE, part I

Testing performed in the sound field at 60 dBA at 0 degree azimuth for both speech & noise via recorded materials using the Minimum Speech Test Battery unless otherwise indicated.

1. Evaluation of Aural Rehabilitation Status. in the BEST AIDED CONDITION

Verification of hearing aid output

Real-Ear-Measures using evidence-based prescriptive targets

AzBio Sentence Recognition Testing, Quiet

Right hearing aid only

Left hearing aid only

Binaural hearing aids

CNC Word and Phoneme Scores, Quiet

Binaural hearing aids

2. Counseling and device selection

Address patient questions

Review of aural rehabilitation and realistic expectations

Finalize device selection and complete order form



EAR & HEARING
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