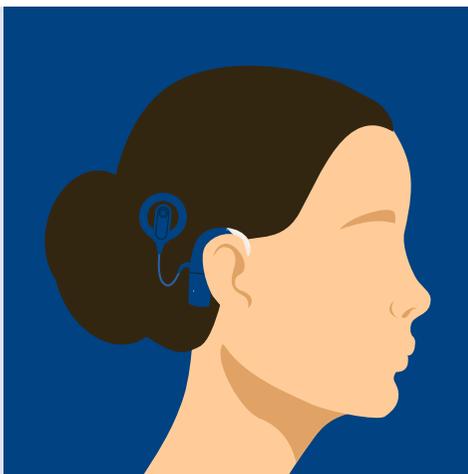


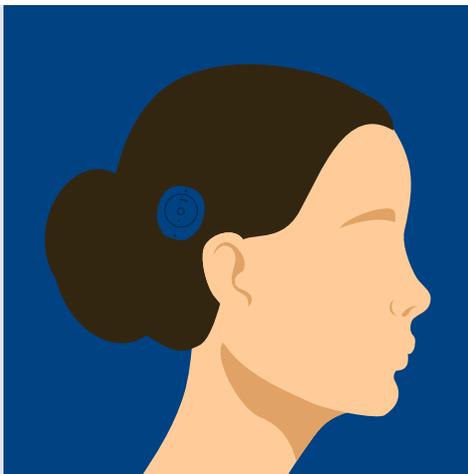
TYPES OF SOUND PROCESSORS

Sound processors are available in a range of colours to suit your style and preference. These devices can be rechargeable or powered by disposable batteries, providing flexibility to suit different lifestyles. Like hearing aids, sound processors can be paired with optional assistive listening devices, to enhance speech clarity in challenging listening environments, such as background noise, as well as improving media streaming and phone call quality.

BEHIND THE EAR MODELS



OFF THE EAR MODELS



THE COCHLEAR IMPLANT JOURNEY

Most appointments can be completed with your audiologist (As indicated in green below)

-  **Assessment** ✓
 - « Comprehensive Hearing Assessment
 - « Speech Understanding with existing hearing aids
 - « Discussion of tailored solutions
-  **Medical Clearance**
 - « Consultation with a surgeon to review your health
 - « Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and Computerized Tomography (CT) scans to review ear anatomy
 - « Balance Testing at The Royal Victorian Eye & Ear Hospital
-  **Pre-op Counselling** ✓
 - « Discussion of surgical risks (which are quite rare) and answering any questions or concerns you might have
-  **Surgery**
 - « The cochlear implant surgery is relatively simple and takes 1-2 hours.
 - « Overnight stay at hospital
-  **Switch On** ✓
 - « Cochlear Implant system is activated by your audiologist typically 2 weeks after surgery
 - « Initial sounds may be beeps, hums and mechanical as the brain re-learns and adapts to the new type of sound
-  **Follow Up** ✓
 - « 2-3 appointments with your audiologists to adjust the sound with slow increases to volume
 - « For most clients, sound quality will continually improve over the first 6 to 12 months as your brain adapts
-  **Annual Review** ✓
 - « Annual reviews of hearing assessment
 - « Device adjustments and maintenance

START YOUR HEARING IMPLANT JOURNEY TODAY

Next steps. Attend a FREE Discover Hearing Implant Session at Victorian Hearing with your family or friend. Here you will meet a cochlear implant recipient who shall share their story, and learn how you could benefit from a cochlear implant.



COCHLEAR IMPLANTS

Trusted, friendly Audiologists are only a phone call away

 **9558 8842**
victorianhearing.com.au

COCHLEAR IMPLANTS VS HEARING AIDS

Unlike hearing aids, which amplify sounds, cochlear implants take over the function of damaged parts of the inner ear (cochlea) to deliver sound signals directly to the brain. This technology often improves the ability to locate the source of sounds, enhance speech understanding, and fosters a stronger connection to your surroundings, family and friends.

Traditional hearing aids require the involvement of an audiologist, while cochlear implant systems involve both an audiologist and an Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) specialist. Since cochlear implants are electronic medical devices that replace the function of the damaged inner ear, a small surgical procedure is necessary to insert the implant.

COULD I BENEFIT FROM A COCHLEAR IMPLANT?

While wearing hearing aids do you:

- ✓ Have trouble hearing on the phone?
- ✓ Frequently ask people to repeat themselves?
- ✓ Struggle to hear in noisy environments?
- ✓ Have difficulty hearing children's voices?

If you answered YES to any of the above, then a cochlear implant assessment may be beneficial.



DID YOU KNOW?



Age is no barrier! In Australia, the oldest cochlear implant recipient was 98 years old, and in England a person was implanted on their 103rd birthday!



In Victoria there is **public funding available**, where the whole process can be covered under Medicare.



Cochlear Implant surgery is localized to the ear and can be **completed within a few hours**. Recipients often go home the next day and resume normal activities within a week. It is not brain surgery - which is a common misconception.



You **can still access future technology** for better hearing. The external sound processor can be upgraded with new technological developments. Therefore, allowing you to access with future product enhancements in speech in noise improvements, connectivity and rechargeability without the need for surgery.



You can swim with a cochlear implant. Many sound processors have the option of a waterproof casing, so you can enjoy water activities without sound compromise.



Victorian Hearing have **10 convenient clinics across Victoria** where our specially trained audiologists can support you through the entire implant journey - from candidacy to switch-on and beyond.

HOW A COCHLEAR IMPLANT SYSTEM WORKS

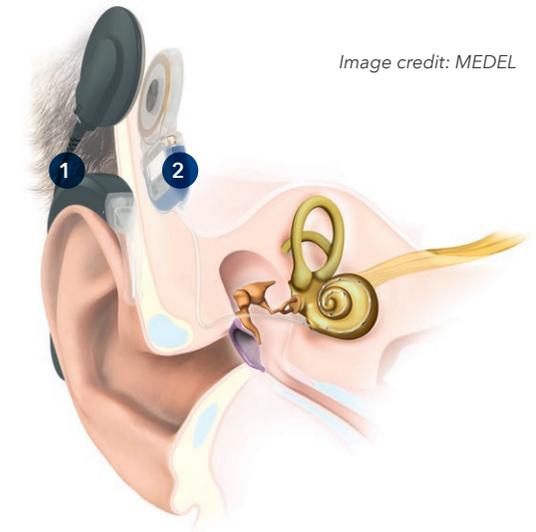


Image credit: MEDEL

The cochlear implant system has an external component and an internal component working in harmony to help you hear better. Here's a breakdown of the components and their function:

- 1 External Sound Processor:** This device can be put on and removed by the recipient. The microphone on the sound processor is located on the external part of the device, which can sit behind the ear or off the ear. It picks up sound from the environment and the sound processor converts the sound into digital signals, which are transmitted to the implant.
- 2 Internal Cochlear Implant:** The receiver and magnet is surgically placed under the skin and the flexible electrode is inserted into your cochlear by the Ear Nose and Throat Specialist. It is here inside the cochlear that the electrode replaces your previous damaged natural hearing. The electrodes stimulate the appropriate regions of the cochlear and these signals are sent via the auditory nerve to be processed by the hearing centre in the brain.