

✓ Cochlear Implant *checklist*



In the Morning

- Check disposable batteries with a battery tester to ensure a full charge. Replace if necessary.
- Verify that the processor is set to recommended settings.
- Ensure the signal is being processed and delivered to the internal device.
 - For a baby, use a device-specific listening check (e.g., blinking light or signal wand) to ensure the signal is being transmitted.
 - For children able to respond, perform the Ling test ("ah, ee, oo, s, sh, m") with a silence prompt. Note any changes from the child's typical response.

At Bedtime



- Check the headpiece/coil and cords to make sure all are in working order.
- Charge the batteries (if applicable).
- Check the microphone port and replace covers as needed so it's free of moisture and debris. Brush out if needed or ask audiology for support.
- Place the cochlear implant in the dehumidifier to remove moisture overnight.
 - Do this every night and immediately if the device gets wet (from water or sweat).
 - Note the color of the crystals and reactivate them in the oven or microwave (if instructions provided).
- Check the incision site to ensure that the skin is healthy.
 - Contact your audiologist if redness or swelling exists.



Important Tips

- The goal is to wear the cochlear implants all waking hours except for any time it may submerge in water (e.g., swimming, bathing, in heavy rain).
- Do NOT use plastic play equipment and the electrostatic generators at science museums. Certain levels of electrostatic discharge can damage a cochlear implant.
 - Reduce static electricity on carpets, clothing and in cars by using an anti-static spray or a homemade solution of equal parts fabric softener and water. Find manufacturer-specific guidelines in the device's user manual or online.
- Be aware that moisture/humidity can damage a cochlear implant sound processor.
 - Use a dehumidifier as necessary to dry the device.
- Remember: Batteries and cochlear implant parts are choking hazards. Batteries are toxic.
 - When not in use, keep batteries and parts away from young children and pets.
 - Immediately contact the poison control number below.

TOLL-FREE POISON CONTROL HOTLINE

1.800.222.1222

*From the CID online early intervention self-study course,
"Early Intervention: Guiding Parents Toward Full-Time Device Use"*