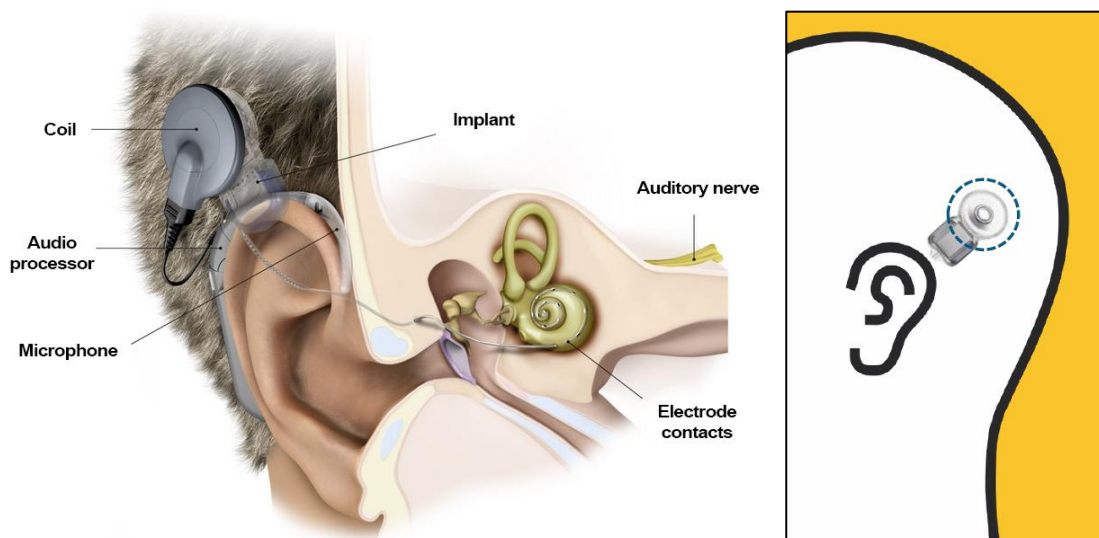


Cochlear Implants – MRI Guidance

Cochlear implants are active implantable medical devices consisting of two parts. The internal part of the device (the implant) contains a magnet. Certain implant models are MRI Conditional, with some of these models requiring a splint kit to be applied. Some implant models are MRI Unsafe.

The external part of the device (sound processor, coil etc.) is MRI Unsafe and must be removed before the patient enters the scan room. **The patient will not be able to hear once the processor is removed.**



Left: External and internal parts of cochlear implant. Audio processor is MRI Unsafe.
Right: Implanted magnet is found in centre of circular receiver coil (blue dashed circle).

Upon receiving a referral of a patient with a cochlear implant, please contact the Scottish Cochlear Implant Programme, at University Hospital Crosshouse.

Telephone: 01563 827 323

Email: implant.cochlear@aapct.scot.nhs.uk

We will be able to:

- Inform you of the patient's implant manufacturer and model
- Issue an MRI kit, if required
- Send manufacturer's guidelines, if needed

For complex cases, in which MRI is essential despite an implant model contraindication, please advise the referrer to contact the cochlear implant department and we can discuss what options are available.

There are four manufacturers of cochlear implants: Advanced Bionics, Cochlear, Medel and Oticon. MRI guidelines for each manufacturer's range of implants can be found at the following links:

Advanced Bionics

<https://advancedbionics.com/gb/en/home/professionals/mri-safety-information.html>

Cochlear

<https://www.cochlear.com/uk/en/home/ongoing-care-and-support/device-support/mri-considerations/mri-nucleus>

Medel

<https://www.medel.com/en-gb/important-safety-information>

Oticon

<https://www.oticonmedical.com/for-professionals/cochlear-implant/mri-information-and-guidelines>