

hearalways

September 2006

Newsletter

Introducing
Cochlear's latest
innovations

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Performance
is unsurpassed

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A friend for all
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Lifetime
Commitment



Hear now. And always **Cochlear™**

Thinking of upgrading to Freedom?

We asked Nucleus® 24 Freedom™ speech processor clinical trial recipients *Chris Boyce* and *Joseph Heng* their thoughts on the new Freedom speech processor.

My view: Chris Boyce

Chris Boyce, lives in Sydney Australia, and was implanted in 1998 after Menieres disease. Chris has used the ESPrit™, ESPrit™ 3G and now the Freedom speech processor.

How do you find your hearing performance when using the Nucleus® 24 Freedom™ speech processor?

I find the sound quality to be just magic. I hear more sounds and the sound I do hear is sharper and of a better quality. When flying on an airplane with my previous speech processor, I had to lipread to understand the in-flight movie over the noise in the plane. However on a subsequent flight recently with my Freedom speech processor, the movie was just so clear.

I have always favoured using the Autosensitivity™ function. I find when using Autosensitivity with Freedom, it is easy to talk on the telephone and conversations are very clear.

Do you find the fact that the Freedom speech processor is splashproof beneficial?

The splashproof function of the speech processor is just great. At a recent wedding, the sprinkler system turned on suddenly. Unfortunately I ended up getting quite wet, but my Freedom speech processor didn't miss a beat! My first thought when the sprinkler turned on was concern for my speech processor. Then I remembered it was Freedom and therefore splashproof – so I didn't have to worry.

What would you say to other Nucleus 24 recipients about the Freedom speech processor?

As with any speech processor, it took a little time getting used to it, but it was well worth it. I think quality of sound is what recipients are after, and that's what Freedom can offer. The Freedom speech processor is snug, comfortable, conveniently splashproof and for me, the improvement in sound quality was remarkable.

My view: Joseph Heng

Joseph Heng, resides in Singapore and was implanted in 1999 after being born with a severe-profound hearing loss. Prior to the Freedom speech processor, Joseph has used the ESPrit and ESPrit 3G speech processors.

How would you describe your hearing performance with the Freedom speech processor?

When first trying out the Freedom system, I barely noticed any difference. But as days went by, I realised there was quite a significant improvement in performance of Freedom as compared to the ESPrit 3G. For one thing, the sensitivity of Freedom was greater and it was able to pick up fainter sounds that I could not really hear before. It also distinguished between different sounds at higher frequencies more clearly than my previous processor. Overall, Freedom offers a better quality of hearing.

What are the features of the Freedom speech processor you enjoy most?

The singular outstanding feature of the speech processor that I enjoy most would certainly be the splashproof feature that also allows it to function well with perspiration and humidity. I'm a very active sportsperson. I run and swim at least twice every week, and I usually play soccer with my friends and bowl. Sometimes I didn't wear my ESPrit 3G during sports for fear of having it damaged, but I never have to do that with Freedom. Freedom is able to tolerate high humidity conditions and sweat (which is made worse by Singapore's high humidity).

One time, my Freedom was not hooked on to my ear properly and I accidentally dropped it into a bowl of soup. To my utter surprise my Freedom was not damaged at all and it still worked!

How do you find activities like using the telephone or listening to music with the Freedom speech processor?

I play the piano, and I am able to better differentiate the music I play at a higher pitch. When using the telephone, I find Freedom can help me in differentiating speech better and gives me a clearer understanding of what the other party is saying.

What would you say to other recipients considering upgrading to a Freedom speech processor?

What are you hesitating for? Upgrade now! I was quite impressed with Freedom's performance after my 6-month trial, as it offers a better quality of hearing, and in turn, a better quality of life and I'm definitely going to upgrade once it comes out!

Introducing Cochlear's Latest Innovations

Cochlear™ has released three exciting new innovations that ensure that there's never been a better time to experience Nucleus Freedom – the next generation in high performance cochlear implant technology.

The Freedom speech processor for Nucleus 24 recipients, the Freedom Mini BTE Controller™ and Nucleus Freedom Rechargeable batteries are the latest innovations to allow you to optimise your hearing experience.

There are now some exciting launch offers that make it even more affordable to upgrade. These exclusive offers expire by **31 December 2006**. In some markets, Cochlear has partnered with GE Money to offer **payment plans** to spread the cost of upgrading. To purchase or for more information about the new Freedom innovations or upgrade offers, please contact your clinic, local distributor or Cochlear.

The innovative Nucleus Freedom: Now available for recipients using the Nucleus 24 implant

At Cochlear, we're committed to enhancing the hearing experience by developing new innovations in hearing technology, and then giving you, or your child, access to that technology. The next generation in high-performance cochlear implant technology is now available for people currently using a Nucleus 24 implant. Hear now and always is our promise and it's one we're determined to keep.

Nucleus Freedom incorporates over 40 technological innovations, including revolutionary SmartSound™, delivering unparalleled ease and clarity to everyday hearing. Freedom can offer optimal performance by offering the widest range of choice in speech coding and pre-processing capabilities.

The simple, two-in-one design allows you to wear the speech processor either behind the ear, or on the body in more active situations.

Nucleus Freedom also has the world's only splash proof speech processor, tested to rigorous international standards*. It delivers reliable performance in humid environments, allowing you to meet the unpredictability of everyday living with confidence.

The Nucleus Freedom speech processor has many other features to meet your daily listening requirements such as simple touch buttons, in-built telecoil, four MAP locations, lockable controls, in-built indicator light for use with children, and integrated accessory connector for easy accessory use.

For more information about the Freedom speech processor, please contact your cochlear implant clinic, distributor or Cochlear.

*The Freedom speech processor is the world's only speech processor to meet international IEC standard with an IP44 rating.

Experience more Freedom with the Freedom Mini BTE Controller

The Freedom Mini BTE is another example of Cochlear's commitment to technological innovation. Hearing becomes more discreet than ever before with a smaller, lighter speech processor that can be fitted in just seconds.

Big performance in a small package. Like the Nucleus Freedom speech processor, the Freedom Mini BTE Controller features the same, simple three-button user interface. What's more, it's splash proof and delivers identical sound performance. And for some users, Freedom Mini BTE will reduce the consumption of disposable zinc air batteries, which reduces daily running costs. Only when using accessories will you need to switch back to Nucleus Freedom, to access the integrated accessory connector.



As individual as you are. In addition to looking great and being comfortable to wear, the Freedom Mini BTE Controller also comes in a range of sophisticated colours.

*Please check with your clinic prior to purchasing to ensure your power requirements are assessed.

Freedom on the move with Nucleus Freedom Rechargeable Batteries

The innovative Nucleus Freedom already makes day-to-day hearing easier; now it can also make it more cost effective. Nucleus Freedom rechargeable batteries are the smart way to reduce running costs, removing the need to constantly replace disposable zinc air batteries. Switching to rechargeable batteries is also a smart choice for the environment.

Built to last. Each rechargeable lithium ion battery is designed to last a minimum of 365 charges, after which the cell may retain 80% of its power. And, depending on your MAP, each battery is engineered to provide enough power for a full day's use, sometimes even two days.

The choice is yours. The Nucleus Freedom rechargeable batteries fit directly into the speech processor, so there's no need to purchase new equipment. That means you have the added convenience of being able to switch between rechargeable and disposable batteries if the need arises.

Upgrade with exclusive offers available until 31 December 2006. To purchase or for more information about the new Freedom innovations or upgrade offers, please contact your clinic, local distributor or Cochlear.

Nucleus Freedom's Performance is Unsurpassed

Nucleus® Freedom™ has recently been the subject of several rigorous and extensive clinical trials. The results of these trials have been collated to form a landmark study, which is now being made available to the public. These results clearly show that the Nucleus Freedom cochlear implant system featuring the Freedom implant and Freedom speech processor, delivers superior performance when compared with previous cochlear implant systems.

To ensure impartiality, the clinical trials were conducted by 14 independent medical institutions, over a 12-month period. Importantly, these trials compared both the performance and, for the first time, the impact of stimulation rates on performance of approximately 60 Nucleus Freedom recipients. Recipients were reviewed at three and six months after receiving the Nucleus Freedom speech processor.

The preliminary results show that the mean performance using CNC words in a quiet environment after 6 months is 57.5%, as compared to a mean of 47% at 6 months during the Contour clinical trial. It demonstrates a significant improvement in performance with Nucleus Freedom.

Performance outcomes varied across stimulation rates, and the data suggested that one particular rate does not "fit all". In fact, many subjects selected slower rates when given a choice, without any degradation in speech performance scores.

The preliminary findings of this clinical trial demonstrate that Cochlear is continuing to fulfil its lifetime commitment to our recipients – Nucleus Freedom continues to provide unsurpassed benefit, with the flexibility to fit each recipient's unique hearing fingerprint.

Overview of the key findings

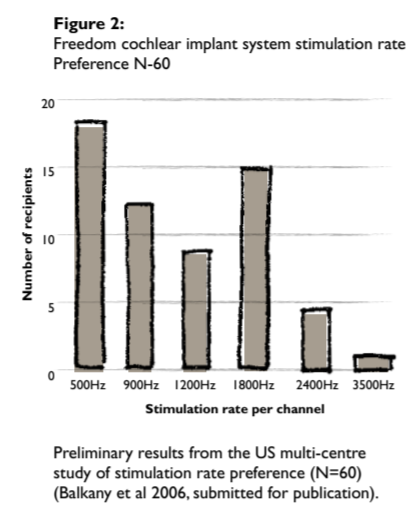
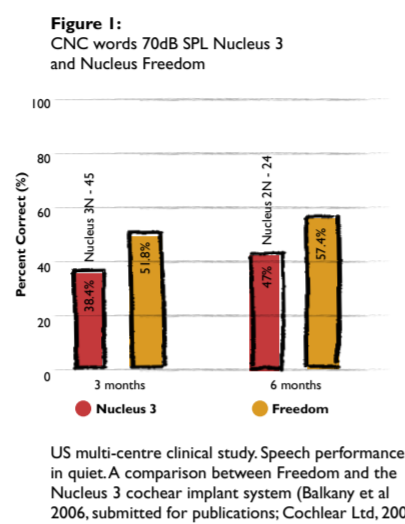
- Nucleus Freedom achieved statistically significant improvement in hearing performance.
- Recipients acquired hearing significantly faster than with previous systems, with an increased mean improvement of 10% in the first three months.
- More than 85% of recipients preferred the use of SmartSound in challenging listening environments.
- There was absolutely no link between high rates of stimulation and better performance.

For more information about this landmark study, or to obtain a copy, simply contact your Cochlear implant clinic, or ask your Cochlear representative for a copy of Nucleus Freedom: Clinical Outcomes – June 2006.

*The Nucleus Freedom North American Clinical Trial results are currently in submission for publication.

References:

- Balkany, (et al), (2006). Nucleus Freedom North American Clinical Trial, submitted for publication.
- Parkinson AJ, Arcaroli J, Staller SJ, Arndt PL, Cosgriff A, Ebinger K. (2002) The Nucleus 24 Contour cochlear implant system: adult clinical trial results. Ear and Hearing 23 (suppl): 41S-48S.
- Spriet A, Van Deun L, Eftaxiadis K, Laneau J, Moonen M, van Dijk B, van Wieringen A, Wouters J. (2006). Speech understanding in background noise with the two-microphone adaptive beamformer Beam in the Nucleus Freedom cochlear implant system, submitted for publication.



New NoiZfree & Hatis Freedom Mach Accessories Now Available

Improving Sound with New Mobile and Audio Accessories

Have you ever wished to have a hands free conversation using your mobile phone without the disturbance of background noise? Have you wondered how your favourite song would sound without distortion from your hearing instrument? We are pleased to confirm the availability of some new accessories that could offer improved sound with mobile and audio devices.

NoiZfree® Music + Mobile is a special hands free accessory that you simply plug into your mobile phone and place the NoiZfree hook next to your speech processor. Available with a 2.5mm generic plug, the accessory can offer hands free conversation, improved speech clarity and reduced distortion and background noise.

Supplied with a bonus 3.5mm adaptor, you can also connect to audio accessories such as MP3 players, iPods, Walkman or any music source that features the standard 3.5mm sound plug output. The NoiZfree accessories can also allow Freedom Mini BTE controller users convenient access to accessories.

A Mobile Induction Earhook for Nokia mobiles with 2.5mm plug is also available.

NoiZfree® i-Noiz is a dedicated audio device that allows you to simply plug into MP3 players, iPods, walkman or any music source that features the standard 3.5mm sound plug output. This accessory allows you to hear your favourite music in private and aims to eliminate or reduce any background noise experienced with your speech processor. If your primary use is to access audio devices, this is the preferred accessory to deliver high fidelity stereo sound.

HATIS® Freedom Mach I improves sound with mobile & cordless phones. Using your telecoil with a mobile or cordless landline telephone can help eliminate buzzing, distortion and poor sound quality. HATIS (Hearing Aid Telephone Interconnect System) Freedom Mach I is a device that plugs directly into the audio jack of a mobile or cordless phone, and is now available through Cochlear. The HATIS Freedom Mach I has a throat-mic that lets you make phone calls hands-free and should be compatible with most mobile phones. The device can be used with Freedom™, ESPrit™ 3G (Nucleus 24 and 22), ESPrit™ and ESPrit™ 22 speech processors.

Which accessory is right for me? Both the NoiZfree and HATIS devices can provide convenient access and improved clarity when used with mobile and audio devices. Please refer to your clinician or Cochlear to discuss which device may be more appropriate. The HATIS device has a larger earpiece which can provide increased induction strength, whereas the NoiZfree devices have a smaller lighter earpiece, which for many recipients has sufficient induction strength and operates effectively.

For more information and pricing on the NoiZfree or HATIS accessories, please call Cochlear Customer Service on 1800 620 929 (Australia) or 0800 800 989 (New Zealand). For other countries, please contact your local Cochlear distributor.



HATIS® Freedom Mach I



NoiZfree® i-Noiz

Win a NoiZfree Accessory Simply complete our New Products Survey

There are many accessories and products available for the hearing impaired, sold through retail outlets and via the internet. With the aim to provide recipients with convenient access to a select range of these products, Cochlear is interested in expanding its product offering to include the most relevant and useful products. Have your say! We value your comments on which products you would find most beneficial to you. Complete the online survey before 31 October 2006 to enter the draw for a NoiZfree Induction Earhook Accessory. Please email hearalways@cochlear.com to request the website link to be mailed to you.

Get Up & Go! With the new Sonic Boom Vibrating Alarm Clock Available Now

You will never be late for another appointment, work or school again with the Sonic Boom Vibrating Alarm Clock, now available through Cochlear! This portable travel alarm clock shakes you awake with its powerful bed shaker and extra loud pulsating alarm. The alarm clock comes complete with batteries, pillow strap with clasp, protective travel case and Sonic Alert warranty. For more information and pricing on the Sonic Boom Vibrating Alarm Clock (Cochlear part number Z61094), please call Cochlear Customer Service on 1800 620 929 (Australia) or 0800 800 989 (New Zealand). For other countries, please contact your local Cochlear distributor.



My Story: Regaining Confidence and Control with Cochlear Baha®

The Cochlear™ Baha® range of hearing devices provides hearing to people who do not benefit from traditional hearing aid technology and are not candidates for a cochlear implant. In conditions where the ear canal is not functioning normally or with single-sided deafness, Baha is designed to help improve hearing. Baha utilises direct bone conduction, where the bone acts as a pathway for sound to travel to the inner ear without involving the ear canal.

We asked Wendy Jansz, an Australian recipient to talk about how the Cochlear Baha device has offered her a new lease on life and helped her regain her confidence in all listening environments.

What led to your hearing loss?

Ten years ago I had an operation to remove a skull based brain tumour and miraculously my only afflictions were double vision, (which was corrected with glasses), a severe balance problem (which has improved with much neurological physiotherapy) and I lost my hearing in my right ear.

What your life was like before Baha?

Being a very positive and motivated person I coped as best I could but I had experienced difficulties including de-socialisation because I couldn't hear clearly. My family became very frustrated with me because they had to repeat everything. I had to make many changes at work and felt that I may have to give up my wonderful job. I couldn't locate sirens from emergency vehicles or horns when driving. I drove everybody crazy turning up the TV and CD players, and I couldn't listen on the phone and answer any enquiries. I had to change sides when walking next to someone and found it difficult listening in background noise. I got frights when someone came up behind me when they were walking, jogging or cycling. I had to pretend to hear conversations and follow facial prompts to laugh or look concerned when necessary.

How did you hear about Baha? What were your first impressions upon hearing about Baha as a solution?

I had been to see my audiologist and was advised that I wasn't suitable for a Cochlear Implant; and that a hearing aid would be a waste of money, as I couldn't stand anything inside my ear. Then one day my world changed forever.

My audiologist told me about Cochlear Baha. I made appointments, received the go ahead and within a few days saw the doctor who would put the little titanium abutment shallowly into my head behind my right ear.

What happened the day you went to have the procedure done? What feelings did you have?

I had my surgery, which was effortless. I took two headache tablets the next day and returned to work. I was very careful not to knock it, and I was aware of mild discomfort for about seven days. I have a positive approach to everything and I knew that the benefits would outweigh anything that I had to go through for a brief period. I had several post-operative visits and waited the three months for 'connection'.

What was it like when you had the sound processor fitted and switched on for the first time?

The time passed quickly and I was 'switched on' without any effort whatsoever. I cried with happiness, I couldn't believe the difference it made, I smiled and laughed until my whole face ached. I wanted to go everywhere and test it out, and we did.

We went to a local shopping centre and I was overwhelmed with the sounds of music playing in stores and the chatter of people all around me. I could hear the shop assistants and I felt like dancing to the music! I knew that this was a wonderful new beginning for me and my devoted family.

We went away for the weekend and I heard the sea gulls squawking, bike riders coming from behind me and waitresses talking to me. I could finally turn down the volume on the TV and car radio (to my husband's relief) and I felt secure for the first time in ten years.

What's life like with Baha? Would you recommend it to others, and what would you tell someone if they were scared or apprehensive about surgery?

I highly recommend the Baha Divino®. I can't stress strongly enough how it has changed my life from one of insecurity when outside my own home to one of contentment and confidence. It amazes me that science and technology have come so far and that so many people can now benefit and enjoy a better quality of life.

*Baha Divino is not available in all Asia Pacific markets. Please refer to your local Cochlear clinic or distributor for information on availability.

Cochlear Baha recipient: Wendy Jansz



Graeme Clark Cochlear Scholarship 2006 Winner Announced

The Australia and New Zealand Cochlear scholarship honours Professor Graeme Clark, the inventor and pioneer of the modern day cochlear implant.



Twenty two year old Sydney University student Anthony Cignarella is the 2006 winner of the Graeme Clark Cochlear scholarship. Anthony is currently completing his final year of his Applied Science Degree majoring in Occupational Therapy and will undertake his Masters of Nursing in 2007 at University of Sydney.

Anthony was born with a moderate hearing loss and diagnosed at the age of three. Despite the continuous fluctuation in his hearing levels, he was able to be part of the hearing world, attending mainstream schooling, and also playing the piano from the early age of 4. At the age of 16 Anthony's hearing rapidly declined. "Engaging in daily conversations became a tiring battle and playing my beloved piano could only be done by feeling the vibrations and imagining the sound each unique key made." Anthony said. Following numerous tests, Anthony found out that he was a suitable candidate for a cochlear implant and was implanted in December 1999.

Receiving a cochlear implant enabled Anthony to complete his final year school studies, representing his school as Vice-Captain and graduating with the 'Catholic Archbishop of Sydney Award for Student Excellence' in 2002. He is a voluntary member of the St. John Ambulance Service and donates numerous hours helping the sick and needy at local events as well as teaching first-aid courses both within the St. John Ambulance organisation and to the general public. He also continues his love of piano and music.

Anthony aspires to work with people admitted into hospital, providing assessment and treatment for individuals who, because of illness or injury, are limited in their ability to undertake the activities of daily life.

Details on the Graeme Clark Scholarship for 2007 will be available at www.cochlear.com in late 2006.

Cochlear Implants in China

An Interview with Dr Han De Min

In May of this year, Cochlear announced a contract for cochlear implants from a major healthcare organisation based in Taipei to supply cochlear implants in Taiwan and China over the next approximately six years. There are currently approximately 3,000 Cochlear implant recipients in China and this number could treble in the next three to four years alone.



In consultation with local hospitals, professional groups and government organisations, Cochlear will support and assist with training and skill development for surgeons, audiologists and speech habilitatoinists to help ensure the best possible outcomes. One of China's key cochlear implant professionals is Dr Han De Min. Dr Han De Min is presently the Professor and holds a faculty position at the Capital Medical University, responsible for Doctoral Academic Training. Dr Han De Min is also the President of Beijing Tong Ren Hospital and President of the Chinese Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery Association. In this interview we spoke to him about his work in China, cochlear implants in China and the future of the industry in China and beyond.

What motivates you to do the work that you do?

When I started working as an otolaryngologist, I thought it was important that patients could rely on me. And I still believe this to be so. There are many unresolved issues about hearing diseases still being explored, but I believe there are clear-cut advantages to cochlear implantation and I certainly would like to be able to offer this to children and their parents.

In China, the situation is multi-faceted. Due to the lack of a complete health insurance system, there is the cost issue, which is tough for individuals and their families. When we started with cochlear implants, it was a difficult time. There is an awareness issue, which is hard for the hearing professional. We know children will develop better speech and language, but many children are excluded from this technology because their parents cannot afford it or are not aware of it. I absolutely believe cochlear implants should be available for everyone who needs them.

In regards to the recent cochlear implant donation to China, what are the implications of this donation to China?

The implications of this donation are far-reaching. The donation program has bought many challenges and opportunities to us as never before. We have established a donation program committee, which will be represented by five organisations: China Disabled Person's Federation, ChangGung Memorial Hospital delegated by the Formosa Plastics Group, China Welfare Found for the Handicapped, Rehabilitation Research Center of Chinese Deaf Children and the Chinese Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery Association.

We are planning to expand three cochlear implant training centres to around 10-20 cochlear implant centres with 200 well-trained and qualified otologists. In total 15,000 suitable cochlear implant candidates will come forth from 2006 to 2013.

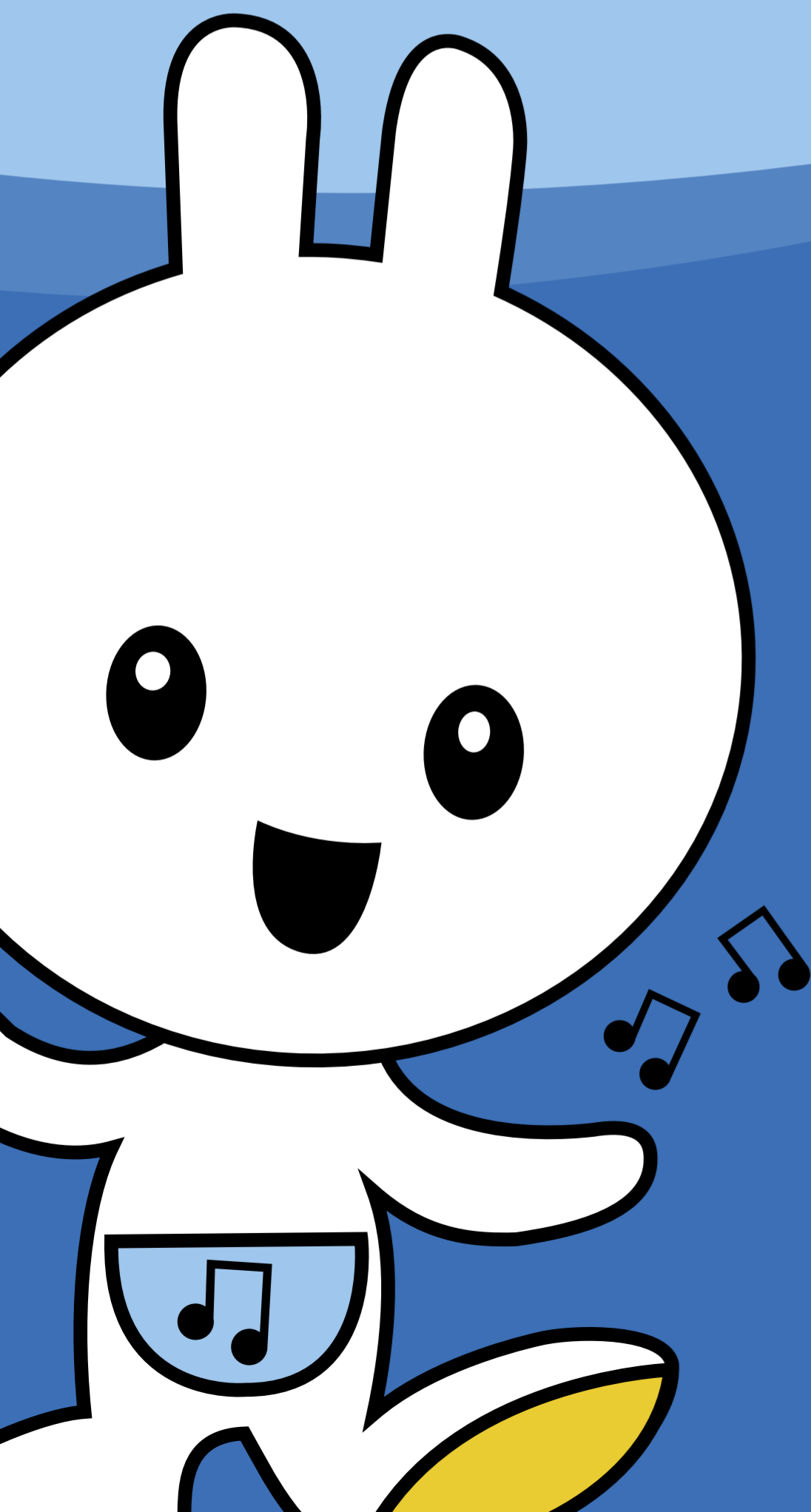
How do you see the future of Cochlear implants?

Due to the donation program, not only will more children benefit from having a cochlear implant but the quality of our CI professionals will be quickly improved through our extensive training system. Additionally cochlear implant research is also expected to improve to meet international advanced standards.

Over the years cochlear implants have changed dramatically as well as the associated outcomes and I anticipate they will continue to improve. As technology develops, the size of the cochlear implant system is getting smaller and smaller. I believe that the totally implantable cochlear implant is more than likely to be the next major hardware advancement in CI technology.

I would like to see the best devices available at a lower price so more people would have financial access to this amazing technology. I hope the manufacturer finds a way of lowering the costs while maintaining the quality.

The future of the cochlear implant is exciting.



Introducing Ochi

A Friend for all Cochlear recipients
Pronounced Ohh (as in locate) - cchi

Who is Ochi?

We are pleased to introduce Ochi™, a unique new friend to all Asia Pacific recipients. Ochi loves to explore, he is always busy finding new things to learn and looking for new challenges.

Ochi is quick to pick up new skills and enjoys teaching others what he has learnt. On his many journeys Ochi is either making lots of new friends or lying in the grass, listening to sounds and day-dreaming for hours.

Ochi always looks after his friends. Ochi's playful manner and fun-loving attitude always cheers them up if they are sad. Ochi loves to laugh and make others laugh. Always smiling, it's no wonder Ochi is everyone's best friend!

Ochi has all kinds of tricks and gifts in his pouch. He has the ability to collect and share the purest sounds and he'll never leave anyone behind ... just like Cochlear's promise of lifetime commitment.

Wherever Ochi goes, everyday sounds are that much brighter!

Where is Ochi?

Going forward, you will begin see Ochi introduced across many of our Cochlear communications. As well as providing regular updates in this newsletter, Ochi will have his own range of products available for purchase and in the future we will be developing Ochi further so that he becomes a key part of the habilitation process.

Product Preview Cochlear Merchandise: For a limited time only

For relaxing on the weekend, or enjoying the outdoors, Cochlear has released a limited release of smart, casual clothing.

The **Cochlear Polo Shirt** is a high quality cotton / polyester mix shirt. It is available in navy or white, in both male and female sizes (small, medium, large and extra large). The **Cochlear Sleeveless Fleece**, perfect for trans seasonal weather, is available in navy in small, medium and large sizes. The **Cochlear Cap** is available in navy with Cochlear logo on the back panel.

For more information on Cochlear merchandise please call Cochlear Customer Service on 1800 620 929 (Australia) or 0800 800 989 (New Zealand). For other countries, please contact your local Cochlear distributor.



New Hearing Support Kit Save 30% off speech processor components

Whilst travelling, have you ever found yourself needing a spare cable, microphone or batteries? The new Hearing Support kit, consisting of additional spares and useful items that assists you in maintaining your speech processor is now available. **Until 30 November 2006**, you can purchase these at **30% off local area price**. For more information on Cochlear merchandise please call Cochlear Customer Service on 1800 620 929 (Australia) or 0800 800 989 (New Zealand). For other countries, please contact your local Cochlear distributor.

| Speech Processor | Hearing Support Kit Components |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Freedom™ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Freedom Bodyworn Controller Cable or Freedom Coil Metal can dessicant Varta Powerone Batteries (60 cells - 1 box) |
| ESPr™ 3G (Nucleus 24 & Nucleus 22) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESPr™ 3G Cable Coil Varta Powerone Batteries (60 cells - 1 box) Drying capsules (1 pack of 4) ESPr™ 3G Jackets |
| SPr™ & Spectra | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Microphone 1 Transmit cable 1 Headset cable Earhooks |
| ESPr™ & ESPr™ 22 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Transmit cables Varta Powerone Batteries (60 cells - 1 box) |

*Promotional discount applies when purchased as a complete kit. Kit components cannot be varied.

Caring for your Speech Processor Using the Dry Brik® Desiccant

The desiccant is a critical part of the Dry & Store® conditioning process, as it captures the moisture released during the 8-hour conditioning cycle. Without a desiccant, moisture may simply re-settle on and in the speech processors at the end of the cycle.

When to Change the Dry-Brik

Useful Dry-Brik life varies widely with the seasons, local climate, and activity level of the user so individual results may vary. The average life of a Dry-Brik desiccant is two months, which means that typically a recipient will use six Dry-Briks a year. Generally speaking, the average life is likely to be less in the summer when it's hot and humid, and longer in the winter when the air in your house, school, or office is drier due to artificial heat.

Generally, we suggest:

- Replacing the Dry-Brik every month during warm weather months.
- Replacing it every two months the rest of the year.

When the colour dot on the label turns to a very light pink, it is an early notice that the Dry-Brik will need to be changed soon, but it is not a precise indicator. There is usually no need to replace it sooner than one month even if the indicator dot on the label changes colour before then.

Users who live in especially humid areas or who have unusual moisture problems may experience a shorter Dry-Brik life. Dry-Briks should be stored in a cool, dry place with the foil wrapper in tact. The Dry-Brik is completely disposable and no special handling is required.

For more information on Dry-Briks and Dry & Store, please contact Cochlear or visit www.Eartech.com.



Hear Always electronic version



In the interest of saving our trees, if you would prefer to receive the newsletter in an electronic format please go to www.cochlear.com/newsletter where you can provide us with your email address.

New Product Reusable Metal Can Desiccant: Dry & Store Global Conditioning System

Cochlear is pleased to announce that the Metal Can desiccant for the Dry & Store Global conditioning system is now available.

The Metal Can desiccant works similarly to the Dry-Brik desiccant, absorbing moisture during the drying process. However the new Metal Can desiccant is reusable. Simply restore the Metal Can by placing it in the oven. The oven evaporates the moisture stored in the desiccant, and the Metal Can is ready for re-use.

The frequency of restoring the Metal Can will vary according to the season, geographical location, climate, weather conditions and the activity/perspiration level of the user. (Please ensure you read the full instruction leaflet prior to use).

Both the Metal Can and Dry-Brik desiccant options can be used interchangeably with the Dry & Store Global conditioning system. The Dry-Brik is a convenient option when travelling, whilst the Metal Can is ideal when you are at home with easy access to an oven.

To launch this product, Cochlear will be offering the Metal Can Desiccant at a special introductory price. For your local currency price, and to order your Metal Can Desiccant, please contact Cochlear Customer Service on 1800 620 929 (Australia) or 0800 800 989 (New Zealand). For other countries, please contact your local Cochlear distributor.



Product Update FM19 Cable update

FM (Frequency Modulation) systems are a common accessory used by cochlear implant recipients to improve their hearing in meetings, classrooms, lectures and other group situations.

There are many different FM receiver manufacturers, so Cochlear has developed an extensive range of FM connection cables. As part of managing our growing range of cables, Cochlear has ceased to supply the FM19 range of cables.

Cochlear's FM14 and FM14-E cables are compatible for all systems previously supported by the FM19 and FM19-E cables.

Please refer to the table below for systems that are compatible with Cochlear's range of FM14 cables:

| FM Cable Part No. | Speech Processor | Receiver | Transmitter | Manufacturer |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Z27655 (FM14) | Spectra/Sprint™ | Microvox* | Microvox* | Phonak* |
| | Spectra/Sprint | PE461R | PE461T | Phonic Ear |
| | Spectra | PE575R (Solaris) | PE571T | Phonic Ear |
| Z60374 (FM14-E) & Z77094 (FM14-E) | ESPr™ 3G, ESPr™ 22, ESPr™, Freedom | Microvox** | Microvox** | Phonak** |
| Z27660 (FM19) & Z77099 (FM19-E) | Cochlear FM19 cables are no longer available | | | |

* with COM I output module / m.

** with COM I output module and MT/MR five digit serial numbers

(A comprehensive list of cochlear FM cables is available from your local Cochlear office or distributor. Please note, cables and/or receiver/transmitter systems may not be available in all markets).

For your local currency price, and to order your FM14 cables, please call Cochlear Customer Service on 1800 620 929 (Australia) or 0800 800 989 (New Zealand). For other countries, please contact your local Cochlear distributor.

Where are you? Competition Congratulations Mr Murray Campbell!

We are pleased to confirm that Mr Murray Campbell, from NSW, Australia is the winner of the 'Where are you?' competition. Mr Campbell advised Cochlear of his recent change in contact details, and as the winner of this competition, he will receive a year's worth of implant batteries.

If your contact details have changed, simply email us at hearalways@cochlear.com with your current address and contact details.

* For more information on how Cochlear manages privacy, please read Cochlear's Privacy Policy at www.cochlear.com/324.asp or email us at hearalways@cochlear.com for a copy.

For further information on Cochlear and its products and services visit www.cochlear.com or contact your local Cochlear office or distributor.

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