

MRI Safety for Cochlear Implant Recipients

If an MRI is required after cochlear implantation, please contact your cochlear implant surgeon prior to scheduling. MRIs are required to be conducted at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital or other medical centers with cochlear implant experience. Please contact your audiologist, cochlear implant surgeon, or cochlear implant manufacturer for additional information if questions or concerns arise.

- Verify the internal implant model(s), are compatible for MRI before proceeding. Failure to do so can lead to device movement, device damage, patient discomfort, or trauma and pain to the patient.
 - Some implants are conditionally compatible for MRI, meaning that a specialized head-wrap is required, or the magnet is temporarily removed. See below for manufacturer and implant specific MRI compatibility; contact your manufacturer for specific information.
 - MRI can range in strength from 0.2T to 7.0T with 1.5T being the most common.
 - Recipients must remove all external components of their cochlear implant system before entering an MRI scan room. The external sound processor is MR Unsafe.
 - Recipients should always carry the cochlear implant identification (ID) card(s). Contact the manufacturer if the ID card is lost. Recipients can also purchase medical ID devices (e.g., bracelets, dog tags) to alert others of the device in case of emergency.
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Manufacturer specific information:



Cochlear Americas:

- Implanted before 2019: CI22M implant are *not* MRI compatible. Nucleus Profile and Freedom implants are MRI conditional.
- Implanted 2019 or later: Nucleus Profile Plus implants are MRI compatible up to 3.0 Tesla without magnet removal*



MED-EL:

- Implanted before 2014: *Not* MRI compatible. Magnet removal required.
- Implanted in 2014 or later: Synchrony implants are MRI compatible up to 3.0 Tesla without magnet removal*



Advanced Bionics:

- Implanted before 2019: Clarion implants are *not* MRI compatible. HiRes 90K, HiRes 90K Advantage, and HiRes Ultra cochlear implants are MRI conditional.
- Implanted in 2019 or later: HiRes Ultra 3D implants MRI compatible up to 3.0 Tesla without magnet removal*

**Conditional based on patient and MRI conditions.*