



# Cochlear™ Osia®

## Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Guidelines

# About this guide

This guide applies to Cochlear™ Osia® Implants. It is intended for:

- Specialised health care professionals who prepare and perform MR scans
- Physicians who refer a Cochlear Osia implant recipient for an MR scan
- Cochlear Osia implant recipients and/or their carers.

This guide provides information about the safe application of an MR scan on Cochlear Osia implant recipients.

MR scans performed under different conditions than those presented in this guide may result in severe patient injury or device malfunction.

Due to the risks associated with using MRI with an implanted medical device, it is important to read, understand, and comply with these instructions to prevent potential harm to the patient and/or device malfunction.

This guide should be read in conjunction with the relevant documents that accompany a Cochlear Osia implant, such as the **Physician's Guide** and **Important information for Osia implant recipients**.

For more information, contact Cochlear by calling your regional Cochlear office – contact numbers are available on the back cover of this guide or visit [www.cochlear.com/mri](http://www.cochlear.com/mri)  
If you are a consumer, please seek advice from your medical practitioner or health professional prior to an MR scan.

## Symbols used in this guide

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Note  
Important information or advice.

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Caution (no harm)  
Special care to be taken to ensure safety and effectiveness. Could cause damage to equipment.

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Warning (harmful)  
Potential safety hazards and serious adverse reactions.  
Could cause harm to person.

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# Preparation prior to an MRI examination

These guidelines are specific to Cochlear Osia implants and supplement other MRI examination considerations specified by the MRI machine manufacturer or protocols at the MRI facility.



Non-clinical testing has demonstrated that the Cochlear Osia Implants, in combination with the BI300 Implant, are MRI Conditional. Patients can be scanned at 1.5 T with the magnet in place or removed. Patients can be scanned at 3 T only if the magnet has been removed. A patient with these devices can be safely scanned under the conditions described in section *"Performing MRI safely"* on **page 12**. Failure to follow these conditions may result in injury to the patient.

## Cooperation between specialists

Preparing for and conducting an MRI examination for implant recipients requires cooperation between a specialist for the device and/or Osia implant physician, referring physician and radiologist or MR technologist.

### Cochlear Osia implant device specialist

Knows the implant type and where to find the correct MR parameters for the implant.

### Referring physician

Knows the location of the MR scan and diagnostic information required, and makes a decision on whether the implant magnet needs to be removed for the MRI examination.

### Cochlear Osia implant physician

If requested by the referring physician, surgically removes the implant magnet and replaces with a non-magnetic plug. After the MR scan, the implant physician replaces it with a new sterile replacement implant magnet.

### Radiologist or MR technologist

Sets up the MR scan using the correct MR parameters and counsels the implant recipient during the MRI examination.

## Determine eligibility for MRI

If you are a physician referring a Cochlear Osia implant recipient for an MR scan, it is essential that you consider the following:

- Understand and inform the patient of the risks associated with MRI. See ***“Risks associated with MRI and Cochlear Osia implants”*** on **page 6**.  
Also consider:
  - Timing of the implant surgery and MRI exposure.
  - Age and general health of the implant recipient and time to recover from the implant magnet surgery or potential trauma.
  - Existing or potential for tissue scarring in the location of the implant magnet.
- Understand the conditions for an MR scan and ensure that there is a clear indication for the MRI examination. See ***“Performing MRI safely”*** on **page 12**.
- The Cochlear Osia implant will create shadowing on the MR image in the vicinity of the implant, resulting in a loss of diagnostic information. Refer to the relevant artefact dimension tables in ***“Image interference and artefacts”*** on **page 18**.
- Identify if the patient has any other medical device implants, active or abandoned. If another implant is present, verify MRI compatibility before conducting an MRI examination. If MRI safety information for the implanted devices are not followed potential risks include: movement or damage to the device, weakening of the implant magnet and uncomfortable sensation or skin/tissue trauma for the patient.
- Cochlear has evaluated the interaction of implants described in this guide with other nearby implanted devices during MRI scanning, and there is no increased heating risk to the Cochlear Osia implants.
- For MR scans at 1.5 T or 3 T, identify if the implant magnet needs to be removed. See ***“Implant magnet conditions for MRI”*** on **page 12**.
- If the implant magnet needs to be removed, refer the patient to an appropriate physician to arrange for the magnet to be removed before the MR scan.
- If the implant magnet is retained for an MR scan at 1.5 T, a Cochlear MRI Kit must be obtained beforehand for use during the MR scan. Contact the nearest Cochlear office or official distributor to order an MRI Kit.

# Risks associated with MRI and Cochlear Osia implants

The potential risks of performing MRI examinations on patients with Cochlear Osia implants include:

## **Device movement**

Scanning outside of the parameters contained in these guidelines may lead to the implant magnet or device moving out of position during an MRI examination causing skin or tissue trauma.

## **Damage to the device**

MRI exposure beyond the values contained in these guidelines may cause damage to the device.

## **Weakening of implant magnet**

Scanning at static magnetic field strengths at values other than those contained in these guidelines may lead to a weakening of the implant magnet. Incorrect patient positioning prior to the MR scan or head movement during the scan may result in implant magnet demagnetisation.

## **Uncomfortable sensation**

MRI exposure beyond the values contained in these guidelines may result in the patient perceiving sound or noise and/or pain.

## **Implant heating**

Use the recommended SAR values contained in these guidelines to ensure the implant does not heat beyond safe levels.

## **Image artefact**

The Cochlear Osia Implants will create shadowing on the MR image in the vicinity of the implant, resulting in a loss of diagnostic information. If inspecting near the implant, removal of the implant magnet should be considered as MR image quality may be compromised with it in place.

## Considerations for implant magnet removal

If the implant magnet needs to be removed prior to an MRI examination, close coordination is required between the specialists to perform the implant magnet removal, MR scan, and subsequent implant magnet replacement.

### Warning

To prevent infection, do not leave the magnet pocket empty. When removing the magnet, replace the magnet with a non-magnetic plug.

For recipients requiring multiple MRI examinations over a period of time, the implant magnet is removed and replaced with a sterile non-magnetic plug. See ***"Implant magnet conditions for MRI"*** on **page 12**.

In the magnet's absence, the non-magnetic plug prevents fibrous tissue growing into the implant recess. Such growth would make implant magnet replacement difficult. With the non-magnetic plug in place, MR scans can be safely done without the need for bandaging or use of the Cochlear MRI Kit.

### Note

While the implant magnet is removed, the recipient must wear a retainer disc to hold their sound processor in place. Retainer discs are available from Cochlear.

When there is no further need for MRI examinations, the non-magnetic plug is removed and replaced by a new sterile replacement implant magnet. The sterile non-magnetic plug and sterile replacement magnet are supplied separately in sterile packs. Both are single-use items.

### Caution

Non-magnetic plugs for OSI100 Implants are a different size to non-magnetic plugs for OSI200 Implants. Ensure the correct plug is used.

# Preparation for conducting the MRI examination



All external components of the Cochlear Osia System (e.g. sound processors and related accessories) are MR Unsafe. The patient must remove all external components of their Cochlear Osia system before entering a room where an MRI scanner is located.

Confirm the following prior to scanning:

- The implant model has been identified. See *“Identifying the Cochlear Osia implants”* on **page 10**.
- For additional information for bilateral recipients, see *“Bilateral recipients”* on **page 8**.
- For MR scans on a body location away from the implant site, MRI safety information for the recipient’s implant model must be followed. See *“Performing an MR Scan on other body locations”* on **page 9**.
- The implant magnet has been surgically removed when the referring physician has prescribed that the MR scan be performed with the implant magnet removed.
- If the implant magnet is retained for an MR scan at 1.5 T, a Cochlear MRI Kit is available and ready for use.
- Remove the sound processor before entering the MRI scan room. The sound processor is MR Unsafe.
- Position the patient to minimise discomfort. See *“Patient positioning”* on **page 9**.
- Discuss the sensations the recipient may experience during the MR Scan. See *“Patient comfort”* on **page 9**.
- Comply with the *“Scan conditions and SAR limits”* on **page 12**.

## Bilateral recipients

### Caution

If one of the implants is a CI22M cochlear implant without a removable magnet, MRI is contraindicated.



If a bilateral recipient has a cochlear implant model (other than the CI22M cochlear implant without a removable magnet), read the MRI safety information for each implant model relevant to the recipient. Use the MRI safety information of the recipient's implant model with the most restrictive MRI exposure requirements.

## Performing an MR Scan on other body locations

When an implant recipient requires an MRI on a location of their body away from the implant site, you must still follow the MRI safety information for the recipient's implant model. See *"Identifying the Cochlear Osia implants"* on **page 10** and related *"Performing MRI safely"* on **page 12**.

## Patient positioning

For safety, the patient should be in a supine position (lying flat on back, face upward) prior to entering the MRI bore.

Align the patient's head with the bore axis of the MRI machine. Advise the patient to lie as still as possible and to not move their head during the MR scan.

### Caution

When scanning with the implant magnet in place, ensure that the patient does not move more than 15 degrees (15°) from the centreline (Z-axis) of the bore during the MR scan.

Failure to position the patient correctly prior to the MR scan may result in increased torque on the implant and cause pain.

## Patient comfort

Explain to the patient that they may sense the implant magnet moving. The MRI kit will reduce the likelihood of the implant magnet moving. However they may still sense resistance to movement as pressure on the skin. The sensation will be similar to pressing down firmly on the skin with the thumb.

If the patient experiences pain, consult the patient's physician to determine if the implant magnet should be removed or if a local anaesthetic may be applied to reduce discomfort.

### Caution

If administering local anaesthetic, take care not to perforate the implant silicone.

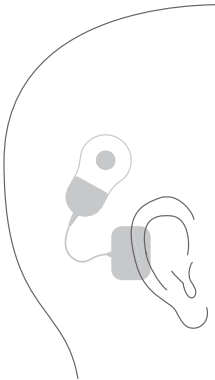
In addition, explain to the patient that they may perceive sounds during the MR scan.

# Identifying the Cochlear Osia implants

The implant model can be found on the patient's Cochlear patient identification card. If the patient does not have their patient identification card with them, the implant type and model can be identified without surgical intervention. See *"X-ray information for identification of Cochlear Osia implants"* and *"X-ray guidelines"* on the following pages.

## X-ray information for identification of Cochlear Osia implants

Cochlear Osia implants are made of metal and implanted under the skin behind the ear. Use the *Fig.1-Fig.4* on *page 10* to *11* to assist with identifying Cochlear Osia implants when using an X-ray.

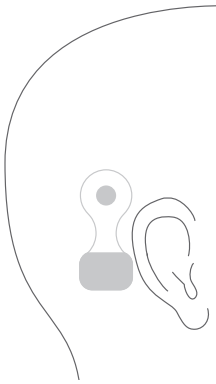


*Fig.1: Approximate location of the OSI100 Implant*



*Skin side*

*Fig.2: OSI100 Implant*



*Fig.3: Approximate location of the OSI200 Implant*



*Skin side*

*Bone side*

*Fig.4: OSI200 Implant*

### **X-ray guidelines**

Lateral X-ray at 70 kV/ 3 mAs provides sufficient contrast to identify the implant.

A modified Stenver's view is not recommended for implant identification as implants may appear oblique.

Imaging should include an unobstructed view of antenna coils and implant bodies.

Bilateral recipients may have different implant models on either side of the head. A

lateral skull X-ray with a 15 degree cranial tube angle will offset the implants in the image, enabling identifying features to be distinguished.

# Performing MRI safely

## Implant magnet conditions for MRI

For some implant models and MRI field strengths, bandaging with an MRI kit is required, or the implant magnet needs to be surgically removed. Refer to the table below for information on each Osia implant model.

Implant type	MRI field strength (T)	Remove implant magnet Yes/No	MRI Kit required Yes/No
Osia implants			
Osia OSI100 Implant	1.5	No	Yes
	3	Yes	No
Osia OSI200 Implant	1.5	No	Yes
	3	Yes	No

Table 1: Implant magnet conditions for MRI.

## Scan conditions and SAR limits

The MRI safety information provided in these guidelines only applies to 1.5 T and 3 T MRI horizontal scanners closed bore or wide bore with a circularly polarised (CP) RF field for a maximum active scan time of 60 minutes.

### Warning

MR scans at 3 T must be performed in quadrature mode or CP mode for the radio frequency (RF) transmit coil. Using a multichannel mode may result in localised heating above safe levels.

A patient with one or two of these devices can be safely scanned in an MR system meeting conditions on the following pages.

Consider the following prior to scanning:

- Transmit/receive head coils and whole body coils may be safely used within the recommended SAR limits. Refer to the MRI safety information and recommended SAR limit tables in the following pages.
- Local cylindrical transmit/receive coils may be safely used, without SAR restriction, provided that the distance between the entire implant and the end of the local RF coil is at least equal to the radius of the local RF coil.
- It is safe to use local cylindrical RF receive only coils with implants during MRI scanning, provided SAR limits for the transmit coil have not been exceeded.
- Local planar (flat linearly polarized) receive only RF coils should be kept more than 10 cm away from the implant.

## OSI100 Implant and 1.5 T scans

- Remove the sound processor before entering the MRI scan room.
- The sound processor is MR Unsafe.
- Use the Cochlear MRI Kit for MR scans at 1.5 T with the implant magnet in place.
- Static magnetic field of 1.5 T.
- Maximum spatial field gradient of 2000 gauss/cm (20 T/m).
- When using a transmit/receive head coil, a maximum MR system reported, head averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 3.2 W/kg.
- When using a transmit body coil, a maximum MR system reported, whole body averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 2 W/kg.

In non-clinical testing, the image artefact caused by the OSI100 Implant when imaged with a gradient echo pulse sequence scan in the axial plane is as follows:

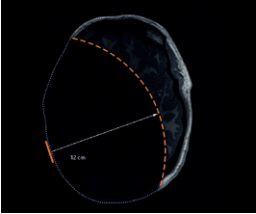
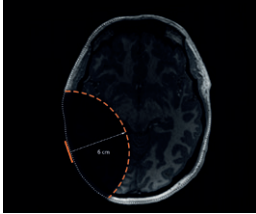
With implant magnet	Implant magnet removed
	
11.8 cm (4.6 in.)	6.2 cm (2.4 in.)

Table 2: Maximum image artefact for OSI100 Implants at 1.5 T scans (gradient echo sequence).

### Note

The image artefact results are based on worst-case scenarios showing maximum artefact extension. The image artefact with implant magnet + magnetic splint may extend further in the axial, coronal or sagittal plane. The optimisation of scan parameters can be used to minimise the extent of the artefact.

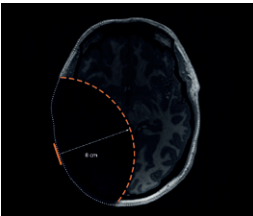
For bilateral OSI100 Implant recipients, the image artefacts as shown above are mirrored on the opposite side of the head for each implant. There may be some extension of the artefact between the implants.

## OSI100 Implant and 3 T scans

- Surgically remove the implant magnet before MR scans at 3 T. See ***OSI100 Implant Physician's Guide*** for additional information.
- Remove the sound processor before entering the MRI scan room. The sound processor is MR Unsafe.
- Static magnetic field of 3 T with the implant magnet surgically removed.
- Maximum spatial field gradient of 2000 gauss/cm (20 T/m).
- When using a transmit/receive head coil, a maximum MR system reported, head averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 3.2 W/kg.
- When using a transmit body coil, a maximum MR system reported, whole body averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 2 W/kg.
- Scans must be performed in CP Mode.

In non-clinical testing, the image artefact caused by the OSI100 Implant when imaged with a gradient echo pulse sequence scan in the axial plane is as follows:

### Implant magnet removed



7.9 cm (3.1 in.)

*Table 3: Maximum image artefact for OSI100 Implants at 3 T scans (gradient echo sequence).*

## OSI200 Implant and 1.5 T scans

- Remove the sound processor before entering the MRI scan room.  
The sound processor is MR Unsafe.
- Use the Cochlear MRI Kit for MR scans at 1.5 T with the implant magnet in place.
- Static magnetic field of 1.5 T.
- Maximum spatial field gradient of 2000 gauss/cm (20 T/m).
- When using a transmit/receive head coil, a maximum MR system reported, head averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 3.2 W/kg.
- When using a transmit body coil, a maximum MR system reported, whole body averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 2 W/kg.

In non-clinical testing, the maximum image artefact caused by the OSI200 Implant when imaged with a gradient echo pulse sequence scan in the axial plane is as follows:

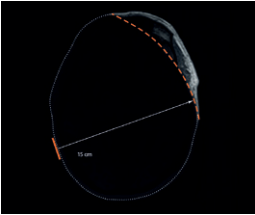
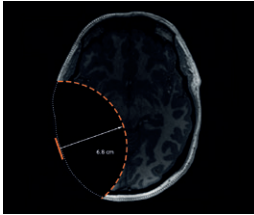
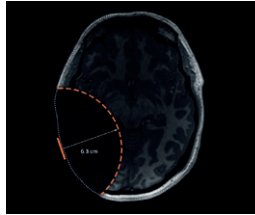
With implant magnet + magnetic splint	With non-magnetic plug	Implant magnet removed
		
15 cm (5.9 in)	6.8 cm (2.7 in)	6.3 cm (2.5 in)

Table 4: Maximum image artefact from centre at 1.5 T (gradient echo sequence). The image artefact may extend further in the coronal or sagittal plane.



### Note

The image artefact results are based on worst-case scenarios showing maximum artefact extension. The optimisation of scan parameters can be used to minimise the extent of the artefact.

For bilateral OSI200 Implant recipients, the image artefacts as shown above are mirrored on the opposite side of the head for each implant. There may be some extension of the artefact between the implants.



## OSI200 Implant and 3 T scans

- Surgically remove the implant magnet before MR scans at 3 T. See **OSI200 Implant Physician's Guide** for additional information.
- Remove the sound processor before entering the MRI scan room. The sound processor is MR Unsafe.
- Static magnetic field of 3 T with the implant magnet surgically removed.
- Maximum spatial field gradient of 2000 gauss/cm (20 T/m).
- When using a transmit/receive head coil, a maximum MR system reported, head averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 3.2 W/kg.
- When using a transmit body coil, a maximum MR system reported, whole body averaged specific absorption rate (SAR) of 2 W/kg.
- Scans must be performed in circular polarization mode.

In non-clinical testing, the maximum image artefact caused by the OSI200 Implant when imaged with a gradient echo pulse sequence scan in the axial plane is as follows:

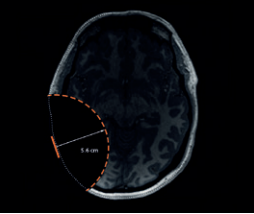
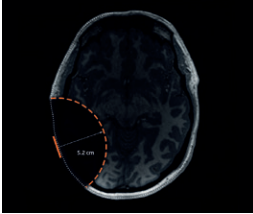
With non-magnetic plug	Implant magnet removed
	
5.6 cm (2.2 in)	5.2 cm (2.0 in)

Table 5: Maximum image artefact from centre at 3 T (gradient echo sequence). The image artefact may extend further in the coronal or sagittal plane.

# Image interference and artefacts

The Cochlear Osia OSI200 Implant will create shadowing on the MR image near the implant, resulting in a loss of diagnostic information.

If inspecting near the implant, consider removing the implant magnet as MR image quality may be compromised with it in place.

If the implant magnet needs to be removed, refer the patient to an appropriate physician to arrange for the magnet to be removed before the MR scan.

The further optimisation of scan parameters can be used to minimise the extent of the artefact.

The image artefact extends from the centre of the implant. The Metal Artefact Reduction Sequence (MARS) parameters detailed in the tables below were used to produce the artefact sizes detailed in the following pages.

Parameter	Gradient echo	MARS
Scanning sequence	Gradient echo	Spin echo
Slice selection	Axial	Axial
Slice thickness	4 mm	3 mm
Repetition time	100 ms	4056 ms
Echo time	15 ms	80 ms
Echo train length	1	15
Pixel bandwidth	35 Hz/pixel	435 Hz/pixel
Acquisition matrix	256x256	499x451
Flip angle	30°	90°
SAR	0.02 W/kg	1.20 W/kg
dB/dt	6.86 T/s	88.40 T/s
B1rms	0.39 $\mu$ T	2.91 $\mu$ T
Duration	544 s (9min04s)	709 s (11min49s)

Table 6: Scan parameters for scanning in a 1.5 T scanner

The following image artefact results are based on maximum artefact extension from the centre of the implant when scanned at 1.5 T using a Metal Artefact Reduction Sequence (MARS).

For bilateral implant recipients, the image artefacts as shown below are mirrored on the opposite side of the head for each implant. There may be some extension of the artefact between the implants.

## OSI200 Implant and 1.5 T scans with MARS sequence

In non-clinical testing, the maximum image artefact caused by the OSI200 Implant when imaged with a MARS sequence scan in the axial plane is:

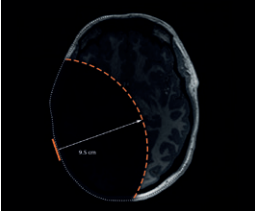
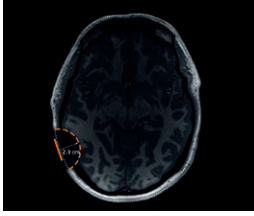
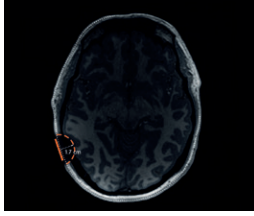
With implant magnet + magnetic splint	With non-magnetic plug	Implant magnet removed
		
9.5 cm (3.7 in)	2.3 cm (0.9 in)	1.7 cm (0.7 in)

Table 7: Maximum image artefact from centre at 1.5 T (MARS sequence).

Parameter	Gradient echo	MARS
Scanning sequence	Gradient echo	Spin echo
Slice selection	Axial	Axial
Slice thickness	4 mm	3 mm
Repetition time	100 ms	4809 ms
Echo time	9 ms	80 ms
Echo train length	1	12
Pixel bandwidth	217 Hz/pixel	1029 Hz/pixel
Acquisition matrix	256x256	300x268
Flip angle	80°	90°
SAR	0.89 W/kg	0.98 W/kg
dB/dt	16.20 T/s	53.21 T/s
B1rms	1.33 µT	1.40 µT
Duration	182 s (3min02s)	289 s (4min49s)

Table 8: Scan parameters for scanning in a 3 T scanner

The following image artefact results are based on maximum artefact extension from the centre of the implant when scanned at 3 T using a Metal Artefact Reduction Sequence (MARS).

For bilateral implant recipients, the image artefacts as shown below are mirrored on the opposite side of the head for each implant. There may be some extension of the artefact between the implants.

### OSI200 Implant and 3 T scans with MARS sequence

In non-clinical testing, the maximum image artefact caused by the OSI200 Implant when imaged with a MARS sequence scan in the axial plane is:

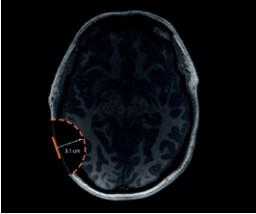
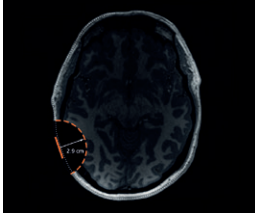
With non-magnetic plug	Implant magnet removed
	
3.1 cm (1.2 in)	2.9 cm (1.1 in)

Table 9: Maximum image artefact from centre at 3 T (MARS sequence).

# Considerations after an MRI examination

## **With the implant magnet in place**

After the patient leaves the MRI room, remove the MRI kit. Ask the patient to place the sound processor on their head and turn it on. Confirm that the placement of the sound processor is correct and that there is no discomfort and sound is perceived as normal. If there is discomfort or a change in sound perception, or problems with the placement of the sound processor, ask the patient to seek assistance from their implant clinician as soon as possible.

## **With the implant magnet removed**

See *"Considerations for implant magnet removal"* on [page 7](#).

# Disposal

The Cochlear MRI Kit can be disposed of as normal hospital or household waste, or in accordance with local regulations.

The MRI Kit is for single-use only.

# Labelling symbols

The following symbols may appear on the product, the components and/or the packaging.

	Specific warnings or precautions associated with the device, which are not otherwise found on the label		Keep dry
	Manufacturer		Do not re-use
	Date of manufacture		Do not use if package is damaged
	Catalogue number	<b>Rx Only</b>	By prescription
	Authorised representative in the European Community		MR Conditional
	Consult instructions for use		MR unsafe
	Unique device identifier		Medical Device
	Recyclable packaging		Use by date

**AU Cochlear Ltd** (ABN 96 002 618 073)  
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**ECREP DE Cochlear Deutschland GmbH & Co. KG**  
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