

Inspired by you

Professor Graeme Clark changed the world – he developed a new way of treating hearing loss.

From the realization of one man's dream four decades ago, hundreds of thousands of people have experienced life's opportunities through hearing. And they form a global community of millions, through their families, friends, colleagues, teachers and more.

Today, Cochlear continues Professor Clark's dream and connects hearing implant recipients everywhere. And they're not just connected to their own community — each shares a link with each other and to Professor Clark's childhood desire to help people hear.



1940

"I want to fix ears"

That's what a 5-year-old Graeme Clark told his teacher in primary school.



1960

Early research in bone conduction

Per-Ingvar Brånemark discovered titanium integration with bone. Five years later, he trialled the first medical application of a titanium implant. This would be a significant step forward, but a commercial device was still more than a decade away.

1967

From clinician to researcher

Professor Graeme Clark started his career as an ear, nose and throat doctor, but gave up his full-time clinical position to begin researching an electronic implantable hearing device.



1970s

Bone conduction implants

Dr. Anders Tjellström pioneered the first bone conduction hearing implant in the 1970s after he joined Professor Brånemark's research team to evaluate osseointegration – the process of bones growing into metal implants.

1977

A blade of grass sparks an innovation

On holiday, Professor Graeme Clark was on the beach when a seashell and a blade of grass offered the inspiration needed to navigate the cochlea and develop the first multi-channel cochlear implant to help people hear again.

1977

The birth of the Baha[®] System

Mona Andersson in Sweden became the first recipient of a bone conduction implant and reconnects with the sounds of nature. "For the first time since childhood I could hear birds singing," she told Dr. Tjellström when she received her implant.

1978

When a song sings success

Rod Saunders in Australia received the first successful multi-channel cochlear implant in the world. The joy of music brought him to his feet when he heard the Australian national anthem.

1981

Cochlear is born

Cochlear, the company, and the Cochlear[™] Nucleus[®] 22 Implant were born when the Nucleus Group partnered with the Australian government to bring the first commercially available multi-channel cochlear implant to more people.



1982

Changing more lives

Graham Carrick from Australia became the first recipient of the commercial Cochlear[™] Nucleus[®] 22 Implant and states with conviction, "Giving people hearing is giving them life."



1985

The first multi-channel cochlear implant to be approved

The Nucleus[®] 22 Implant with the Wearable Sound Processor was the first multi-channel device to receive premarket approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), converting years of investigational research into a real-world treatment.

1985-86

First children to receive a cochlear implant

Scott Smith and Bryn Davies were the first children to receive cochlear implants at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital in Melbourne, Australia. This research was vital to Cochlear's work in giving children the ability to hear today.

1997

MRI-safety

Cochlear was the first company to introduce an implant that could undergo magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to 1.5 Tesla.

1998

Sparking innovation

Cochlear made implants less visible and user-friendly. The first commercial behind-the-ear ESPrit[™] Sound Processor was released, with all componentry behind the ear.

2002

A non-surgical bone conduction option

The Baha[®] Softband, a non-surgical band which is compatible with a Baha[®] Sound Processor, was introduced for children under the age of 5.



2005&2012

Splashing developments

In 2005, Cochlear released the first water-resistant sound processor – the Nucleus[®] Freedom[®] Sound Processor – allowing people to hear in more places. In 2012, Aqua accessories were launched enabling people to swim with the sound processor for the first time.



2013

Collaborating for hearing health

The Australian Hearing Hub, an initiative with Macquarie University, brought together some of the country's leading hearing and healthcare organizations to collaborate on world-leading research projects. In 2020, the partnership announced the first Chair in Hearing and Public Health.

2014

True Wireless[™] accessories

Cochlear became the first hearing implant company to deliver True Wireless[™] device connectivity. The accessories, including a Mini Microphone, Phone Clip and TV Streamer, use the same 2.4 GHz technology platform as Bluetooth[®] and Wi-Fi devices, delivering sound without the need for bulky neck-worn components required by other systems at the time.

2015

Direct smartphone streaming

The Baha[®] 5 Sound Processor for bone conduction solutions (2015) and the Nucleus[®] 7 Sound Processor for cochlear implants (2017) were the first to deliver Made for iPhone sound processors allowing people to stream music, phone calls and entertainment directly to their sound processor.* In 2018, Android[™] compatibility was introduced for the Nucleus 7 Sound Processor and future cochlear implant sound processor models.*

2016

Advancing technology

Cochlear and ReSound established the Smart Hearing Alliance, in which the two companies aim to develop the world's smartest bimodal hearing solutions. The Nucleus[®] Kanso[®] Sound Processor was launched as the first off-the-ear sound processor to include dual microphones.

2018

Expanding surgery-free options

Baha[®] SoundArc behind-the-head band launched as a non-surgical option for Baha[®] Sound Processor users.



2018

Hearing & public health

Cochlear announced a USD \$10m gift to Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health to establish the Cochlear Center for Hearing and Public Health. The Center researches the impact of hearing loss on public health with a focus on older adults.



2019

Advancing osseointegration

The Osia[®] System was approved by the FDA as the world's first active osseointegrated steady-state implant (OSI).

2020

Connected Care

Cochlear received expedited FDA approval of the Remote Check solution for cochlear implants, allowing routine clinical care to be managed from recipients' homes. Cochlear also announced approval of the Nucleus[®] Kanso[®] 2 Sound Processor and the compatibility of the Nucleus[®] 7 Sound Processor for Nucleus[®] 22 Implant recipients – meaning individuals with Cochlear's first commercial cochlear implant can access the latest smartphone connectivity technology.*

Find out more, visit: www.cochlear.com/US

*For compatibility information, visit www.cochlear.com/compatibility. Please seek advice from your health professional about treatments for hearing loss. Outcomes may vary, and your health professional will advise you about the factors which could affect your outcome. Always read the instructions for use. Not all products are available in all countries. Please contact your local Cochlear representative for product information. Views expressed are those of the individual. Consult your health professional to determine if you are a candidate for Cochlear technology. Cochlear, Hear now. And always, Nucleus, and the elliptical logo are either trademarks or registered trademarks of Cochlear Limited. Apple, the Apple logo, FaceTime, Made for iPad logo, Made for iPhone logo, Made for iPod logo, iPhone, iPad Pro, iPad Air, iPad mini, iPad and iPod touch are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. Android is a trademark of Google LLC. The Android robot is reproduced or modified from work created and shared by Google and used according to terms described in the Creative Commons 3.0 Attribution License. Google Play and the Google Play logo are trademarks of Google LLC. © Cochlear Limited 2021. D1814918 V1 2021-01