Cochlear™ Nucleus® 8 Sound Processor

**Letter of Medical Necessity & Prescription for Services**

Patient name:

Date of birth:

Implant date:

Diagnosis Code: SELECT DX CODE

Date Last Seen By Physician (If Applicable): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**RE: Predetermination/Preauthorization of Benefits for THE Cochlear™ Nucleus® 8 Sound Processor**

This letter concerns the above patient, to whom we provide audiological/otolaryngological services. This patient [Insert Medical History Here]

SELECT UNILATERAL/BILATERAL

**MEDICAL NECESSITY**:

The cochlear implant is an auditory prosthesis that is the only accepted medical treatment for this patient’s condition. In addition to the surgically implanted internal receiver, the device requires an external sound processor. As such, the sound processor is not a hearing aid, but rather part of the implantable hearing device that is necessary to this patient’s ability to hear.

My patient will continue to need the cochlear implant and external sound processor for their lifetime and requires a magnet strength of SELECT MAGNET STRENGTH.

Repairing the patient’s current device will not address the hearing goals for my patient.

[REASON FOR REPLACEMENT- This document is a template provided as a resource for HCPs to review and edit, based on their clinical judgment and the needs of respective patients. Please add your own verbiage before submitting.](#_top)  *Ex: Does the patient’s sound processor have any kind of damage or intermittency? Ex: The patient’s sound processor is non-functional and the patient is currently out of sound. Or this patient’s sound processor is experiencing intermittency which is leaving my patient without consistent sound. This poses a significant safety concern and reduces the patient’s quality of life.*

A functional sound processor is required to provide the patient access to sound in order to communicate. This is not an upgrade for aesthetics, but necessary to minimize the patient’s safety risk and improve quality of life.

*Please verify verbiage for accuracy for the recipient:* In addition to the patient’s current sound processor not fully functioning, the replacement sound processor is medically necessary for this patient because the existing processor has been in continuous use since the date the patient initially received it and has exceeded its useful lifetime. The current sound processor does not meet the patient’s needs to communicate, hear safety sounds, and experience uninterrupted hearing.

The recommended CP1110 Cochlear™ Nucleus 8 replacement sound processor (L8619) is considered medically necessary to achieve functional improvement in their auditory performance, minimize safety risk concerns, and improve the patient’s quality of life. Same generation or future technology may be substituted in cases where similar technology is available and requested. The Nucleus® 8 Sound Processor offers the following medically necessary features:

**Functional Improvement in their Auditory Performance**

* The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor features smarter hearing technology designed to make understanding conversations in noisy situations easier. Enhanced SmartSound iQ 2 with SCAN 2 technology means the Nucleus 8 Sound Processor more accurately senses changes in my patient's listening environment and automatically adjusts their hearing settings to help deliver clearer sound. The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor is also equipped with data logging, which helps me, as the clinician, to optimize and tailor the sound processor programs to my patient and maximize my patient's access to sound.
* The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor is equipped with an improved ForwardFocus technology that more powerfully reduces distracting background noise to help my patients focus on speech in front. And with the option to automate or manually control ForwardFocus, I can work with my patient to choose how best to manage background noise to help them focus on face-to-face conversations.

**Minimizes Safety Risk Concerns**

* The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor is dust and water resistant to a level IP68 of the International Standard IEC60529. This provides the recipient access to sound when in and around water. The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor with Aqua+ can be continuously submerged under water to a depth of up to 3 meters for up to 2 hours. This minimizes safety risk concerns as the recipient will not have to remove his or her sound processor. Removing the sound processor detrimentally eliminates the patient’s access to safety sounds and critical communication.
* This water resistance mitigates the risk of moisture damaging the sound processor’s components and circuitry when perspiring or in a humid environment, which can lead to a non-functioning sound processor and hinder the recipient’s access to sound. The sound processor is equipped with wireless connectivity, which enables hands-free communication with a variety of other devices. This minimizes risks associated with operating heavy machinery or driving an automobile while utilizing everyday necessities such as a cellular phone and in-car navigation.
* The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor is smaller and lighter than previous generation Nucleus Sound Processors and is designed to provide more comfort on the patient's ears. An audible alert will notify the recipient of decreasing battery life and will help to prevent a sudden loss of sound. This loss of sound can inhibit the recipient’s ability to hear emergency vehicles or critical communication in emergency situations.
* The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor is equipped with wireless connectivity, which enables hands-free communication with a variety of other devices. This minimizes risks associated with operating heavy machinery or driving an automobile while utilizing everyday necessities such as a cellular phone and in-car navigation.
* The sound processor is equipped with Made for iPhone connectivity, which enables hands-free communication with compatible Apple® devices, such as iPhone®, iPad®, and iPod®. This minimizes risks associated with operating heavy machinery or driving an automobile while utilizing everyday necessities such as a cellular phone. It also provides the patient with critical access to sound and communication in a classroom, seminar environment, on the telephone, and several other critical listening environments.
* An audible alert will notify the recipient of decreasing battery life and will help to prevent a sudden loss of sound. This loss of sound can inhibit the recipient’s ability to hear emergency vehicles or critical communication in emergency situations.
* If enabled by a clinician, this sound processor is capable of Remote Check, which is incorporated into the Nucleus Smart App and consists of five interactive steps that are sent securely to the clinician. These steps include implant site photos, questions about changes in medical history and a measure of hearing performance, audiogram consisting of aided audiometric thresholds with the cochlear implant, speech in noise reception threshold, and a questionnaire about training needs and patient's participation in listening-related activities. Providing a remote means for monitoring or troubleshooting can help ensure patients' continued safety and ongoing benefit from the cochlear implant system.

**Improves Quality of Life and Increases Access to Communication**

* The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor features automatic FM, auto-on, and autotelecoil, which maximize the patient’s “on air” time. This helps to provide the patient with critical access to sound and communication in a classroom, seminar environment, on the telephone, and several other critical listening environments.
* The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor can also be controlled using the Nucleus Smart App on compatible Apple or Android™ devices. This improves quality of life by not having to carry an additional device to control the sound processor settings but also allows recipients to adjust settings across a range of environments to help them hear better in critical settings.
* The Nucleus Smart App also allows recipients to monitor the status of the Nucleus 8 including battery life as well as geo-locate a lost or misplaced Nucleus 8 Sound Processor. This minimizes the risk of a patient being without sound.

The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor comes with a 3 year manufacturer’s warranty that will cover repairs. The Nucleus 8 Sound Processor (L8619) is necessary for safe, effective and uninterrupted use of this patient’s cochlear implant.

My patient is implanted with a Cochlear brand implant which is only compatible with Cochlear products and as such, it must be purchased from them:

Cochlear Americas

10350 Park Meadows Drive

Lone Tree, CO 80124

Phone: (800) 633-4667

If you have questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at:

Insert Clinic Name and Address

AUDIOLOGIST SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NPI # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PHYSICIAN SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NPI # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_