Cochlear bone conduction solutions
Candidacy, evaluation and fitting quick guide

Candidacy identification

Audiological evaluation
- Case history
- Otoscopic examination of the ear and ear canal
- Tympanometry for both ears
- Acoustic reflex measures (optional)
- Otoacoustic emissions (optional)
- Standard audiometric assessment including unaided air conduction, bone conduction, and speech recognition testing using insert earphones (preferred, if possible) for both ears

Medical examination
- Medical consultation to determine etiology and medical treatment (if needed)

Sample etiologies
- Chronic otitis media
- Microtia/atresia
- Single-sided deafness (SSD)
- Middle ear dysfunction/ossicular disease
- Conditions contraindicating reliable use of conventional hearing aids

Consider a bone conduction solution if the patient experiences any of the following
- Unhappy with or cannot wear hearing aids
- Favors one ear
- Struggles to localize sounds
- Withdraws from social events
- Needs others to repeat themselves

Demonstration and evaluation

Equipment
- Baha® Softband
- Baha® SoundArc

Demonstration
- Allow patients to experience hearing through bone conduction

Tips
- Demonstrate subjective benefits in different sound environments
- Ask patients “How does it sound?”
- Counsel patients how an implanted solution can increase quality of sound and volume over a non-surgical solution

Evaluation
- Determine benefit and predict hearing and speech perception outcomes with demo device in aided testing of frequency-specific and speech stimuli

Tips
- Program the demo device to the patient’s thresholds
- Use age-appropriate tests to evaluate audibility and speech understanding
- Consider the patient’s bone conduction evaluation results, impression from the demo, goals for hearing, the daily wear and lifestyle, listening environment, and imaging needs when making treatment determination

Bone conduction solution recommendations

Patient qualifications

Conductive or mixed hearing loss
- Bone conduction PTA ≤ 55 dB
- Meet age requirement
- Motivated to proceed with a surgical hearing implant solution

Single-sided deafness
- Meets age requirement
- Motivated to proceed with a surgical hearing implant solution

Conductive or mixed hearing loss
- Bone conduction PTA ≤ 55 dB
- No age requirement
- Motivated to proceed with a non-surgical hearing solution

Cochlear™ Osia/registered.ss06 System
- Piezoelectric technology
- MRI access up to 3.0 T with magnet in place
- Conduct a cochlear implant evaluation for a Cochlear Nucleus® System, more info at www.cochlear.us/cicandidacy

Cochlear Baha/registered.ss06 Start
- with Baha 6 Max Sound Processor
- Conduct a cochlear implant evaluation for a Cochlear Nucleus® System, more info at www.cochlear.us/cicandidacy

Additional recommendations for specific cases

Patient with factors that preclude an Osia 2 System
- Consider the Cochlear Baha Connect System with Baha 6 Max Sound Processor

Baha solution patient requiring additional clearance between their skin and the sound processor
- Consider the Baha 6 Max Sound Processor with the 2mm Extended snap coupling, instead of the LowPro™ snap coupling

Patient with bone conduction PTA threshold > 55 dB
- Conduct a cochlear implant evaluation for a Cochlear Nucleus System, more info at www.cochlear.us/cicandidacy

For in-depth supporting resources, scan or visit www.cochlear.us/bc-treatmentpathway
Patient fitting and monitoring

Recommended activation interval

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cochlear System:</th>
<th>Baha Start:</th>
<th>Baha Connect:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Osia System:</td>
<td>4–6 weeks post-surgery</td>
<td>Immediately</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha Start:</td>
<td>2 weeks, 6 months (optional), 12 months, then annually</td>
<td>Pediatric: 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months, 18 months, 24 months, then annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site checks at every visit</td>
<td>Osia System: Check magnet site at least once postoperatively, then annually</td>
<td>Baha Start: Check fit and placement of Softband or SoundArc</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional follow-up intervals

- Adult: 2 weeks, 6 months (optional), 12 months, then annually
- Pediatric: 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months, 18 months, 24 months, then annually

Counseling

- Surgical site maintenance and awareness
- Review goals and expectations
- Review device and accessory usage

Programming and outcomes evaluation

- Use the guided workflows in Cochlear Fitting Software to customize the fitting to the patient’s thresholds, profile and individualized listening needs
- Enable and review data logging
- Complete an aided evaluation and compare to prior evaluations

Patient upgrade considerations

Three pathways to upgrade

1. Upgrade to new sound processor technology
2. Transition from non-surgical bone conduction solution to surgical bone conduction solution
3. Transition from an implantable solution to a new or different Cochlear implantable solution

Steps to upgrade

- Check your patient’s eligibility to upgrade to new sound processor technology through insurance
- Complete bone conduction evaluation using patient’s current device
- Determine upgrade pathway taking into consideration evaluation results, age, patient factors, health plan benefits and coverage, and readiness for surgery
- Order the upgrade and/or schedule surgery
- Complete the fitting

Additional upgrade support

T 800 523 6798
W www.cochlear.us/upgradeforprofessionals

Remote Care

For Baha 6 Max Sound Processors

With Remote Assist®, your patients with Baha 6 Max Sound Processors can meet you via a video appointment through their Baha Smart App, allowing you to connect to their sound processor and complete a fitting, follow up, troubleshooting, and more.

Billing codes

Bone conduction evaluation

92560™ Tymanometry and reflex threshold measurements
92557™ Comprehensive audiometry threshold evaluation and speech recognition
92626†‡ Diagnostic analysis, AOI sound processor; 1st hour
92623* Diagnostic analysis, AOI sound processor; each additional 15 min
V5011 Fitting/orientation/checking of hearing aid
Remote Care† Coverage for audiology telehealth visits may vary by payer; contact payer to determine benefit coverage details

Additional coding support

T 800 587 6910
e codingsupport@cochlear.com
W www.cochlear.us/reimbursementhub

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