

2 December 2024

## Costing of Cochlear Implant Process

I would like a cost breakdown for the costing of the cochlear implant process for pre assessment, surgery, equipment, and post assessments with unilateral cochlear implantation in deaf adults, bilateral cochlear implantation and sequential cochlear implantation for deaf young people and bilateral and sequential implantation in deaf adults who have additional needs.

**What is the criteria for bilateral/sequential implantation for deaf adults with additional needs (i.e. specific needs) for cochlear implantation?**

Belfast Health and Social Care Trust delivers regional services for Cochlear Implantation in line with NICE TA566 guidance, which is available on the internet for review.

There are specific criteria set to ensure appropriateness of implantation and these decisions are made following in-depth assessment by a multi-disciplinary team, alongside each patient.

In summary, regarding bilateral or sequential implantation in adults, unilateral cochlear implantation is recommended as an option for people with severe to profound deafness who do not receive adequate benefit from acoustic hearing aids.

Simultaneous bilateral cochlear implantation is recommended as an option for the following groups of people with severe to profound deafness who do not receive adequate benefit from acoustic hearing aids: adults who are blind or who have other disabilities that increase their reliance on auditory stimuli as a primary sensory mechanism for spatial awareness.

Severe to profound deafness is defined as hearing only sounds that are louder than 80 dB HL (pure-tone audiometric threshold equal to or greater than at 2 or more frequencies (500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, 2,000 Hz, 3,000 Hz and 4,000 Hz) bilaterally without acoustic hearing aids.

### Costs:

Adult Unilateral Cochlear Implant (Day case): **£17,264.28**

Paediatric Bilateral Cochlear Implant (Day case): **£40,230.02**

Paediatric Unilateral Cochlear Implant (Day case): **£33,561.54**

Each outpatient consultation, including pre and post procedure and pre assessment: **£217.91** – there are multiple outpatient consultations pre and post implantation for assessment, programming and trouble-shooting for life.

This cost excludes five yearly processor upgrades, all repairs and lost processors.