

Cochlear Implant Criteria:

	FDA	FDA	Medicare
Age	9+ mos	18 years +	Medicare covered service age
Hearing Loss	Severe to profound	Moderate to profound	Moderate to profound
Speech recognition	Lack of progress with appropriately fit technology; <30% MLNT / LNT testing	<50% word understanding ear to be implanted, <60% opposite ear	>60% word understanding with appropriately fit technology
Contraindications*	Acoustic Neuroma, lack of structure, compromised auditory nerve integrity	Acoustic Neuroma, lack of structure, compromised auditory nerve integrity	Acoustic Neuroma, lack of structure, compromised auditory nerve integrity

*May not automatically preclude patient from a cochlear implant.

Referring for Cochlear Implants:

Rule of thumb: 60/60 rule: >60 dB unaided thresholds PTA, <60% understanding monosyllabic word understanding

Implant Manufacturers and Features:

	Cochlear	Advanced Bionics	MedEl	Oticon Medical**
Established	1983, Sydney Australia	1993, Valencia, California	1975, Innesbruck, Austria	2005, France
Electrodes	22	16	12	20
External Equipment	BTE / Off Ear	BTE	BTE / Off Ear	BTE
Partners	GnReSound	Phonak	Open partnership	Oticon

**Premarket approval with the FDA only, currently for ages 18+.