

Troubleshooting Cochlear Implants

Check components of a cochlear implant

- Batteries
- Processor microphone
- Processor electronics
- Cable between processor and transmitting coil
- Transmitting coil

Be systematic in checking. There may be more than one faulty component

Batteries

- Have they got usable charge?
- Look at the visual display/lights on the processor.
- Audible alarm
- Use a battery tester.
- Have they have been put in properly?
- Is there any corrosion on the battery contacts?

Microphone

- Is the microphone working?
- Use device specific listening earphones.
- Check lights/visual display on processor.
- Does using the auxiliary/lapel microphone solve the problem?

Processor electronics

- Check lights/visual display on processor.
- Check processor settings are correct; program location, volume, sensitivity.

Cable/s

- If BW processor, use listening earphones, move cable "listen for cracking or broken sound.
- Inspect cable to see if it's twisted, frayed or broken.
- Change lead.

Transmitting coil

- Use device specific signal check accessory.
- Check lights/visual display on processor.