

Cochlear Implant *checklist*



IN THE MORNING

- ✓ Check the battery (use a battery tester to make sure it is fully charged).
- ✓ Verify that the program, volume and/or sensitivity controls are at recommended settings.
- ✓ Ensure the signal is being processed and delivered to the internal device.
 - If the child is not old enough to report, use a device-specific method (e.g., blinking light or signal wand) to ensure the signal is being transmitted.
 - If the child is old enough to report, ask if the device is working properly and/or have him discriminate familiar speech sounds (Ling sounds, name, "bababa") to ensure the quality of the signal.

IMPORTANT TIPS

- ✓ The goal is to wear the cochlear implant/s during all waking hours, except for any time it may get wet (e.g., swimming, bathing, in the rain).
- ✓ Avoid plastic play equipment and the electrostatic generators at science museums. Certain levels of electrostatic discharge can damage a cochlear implant.
 - Static electricity can be reduced by using an anti-static spray or a homemade solution of equal parts fabric softener and water on carpets, clothing and in cars. Manufacturer-specific guidelines can be found in the cochlear implant user manual.
- ✓ Remember: Batteries are a choking hazard and are toxic. Keep them out of reach of young children and pets.

AT BEDTIME

- ✓ Check the headpiece/coil and cords to make sure all are in working order.
- ✓ Charge the batteries (if applicable).
- ✓ Check the microphone port and clean it so it is free of moisture and debris.
- ✓ Place the cochlear implant in the dry aid kit to remove moisture overnight.
 - Do this every night and immediately if the implant gets wet (from water or sweat).
 - Note the color of the crystals and reactivate them if necessary in the oven or microwave.
- ✓ Check the incision site to ensure that the skin is healthy. Look for redness or swelling — signs that the magnet is too tight.
 - If the magnet is too strong, contact your audiologist.

TOLL-FREE POISON CONTROL HOTLINE **1.800.222.1222**

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