EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

It is the position of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association that audiologists and speech-language pathologists incorporate the principles of evidence-based practice in clinical decision making to provide high quality clinical care. The term evidence-based practice refers to an approach in which current, high-quality research evidence is integrated with practitioner expertise and client preferences and values into the process of making clinical decisions.

Participants are encouraged to actively seek and critically evaluate the evidence basis for clinical procedures presented in this and other educational programs.

Adopted by the Scientific and Professional Education Board, April 2006
INTRODUCTION

This Perspectives focused on the current cochlear implant candidacy for adults with hearing impairment. We reviewed factors such as bilateral implantation, bimodal stimulation, surgical improvements, MRI compatibility, insurance coverage, and cosmetic considerations. We discussed the benefit of preserving low-frequency hearing loss with the hybrid/electro-acoustic cochlear implant. Moreover, we examined potential contributors for loss of residual acoustic hearing with hybrid/electro-acoustic cochlear implantation in a subset of patients. Etiologies such as mechanical damage to cochlear structures, inflammation and apoptosis of hair cells, and alterations to blood flow were discussed. Audiologists should stay informed on implantable solutions to hearing loss and should recommend cochlear implant evaluation for patients that fit the expanded candidacy criteria.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:

- explain the difference between the traditional cochlear implant and the hybrid/electro-acoustic cochlear implant
- describe current candidacy for traditional and hybrid/electro-acoustic cochlear implants for adults

PROGRAM HISTORY

Start date: December 4, 2017
Available through: October 14, 2020

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

To earn continuing education credit, you must complete the test with a passing score on or before October 14, 2020.

To see if this program has been renewed after this date, please search by title in ASHA’s online store at www.asha.org/shop.

This course is offered for 0.10 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area).