

Bone Anchored Hearing System

# Funding Options for Ponto™ System in Australia



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MEDICAL

# Funding Options for Ponto Bone Anchored Hearing System

In Australia, there is a range of funding options available for the Ponto Bone Anchored Hearing System (BAHS). We recommend you talk to your hearing care professional to discuss which solutions may be best suited to meet your needs.

## WHAT ARE THE COSTS INVOLVED IN GETTING A PONTO SYSTEM?

The costs of getting a Ponto System may include:

- Audiologist appointments
- ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat) specialist appointments
- Ponto System (Ponto implant and Ponto sound processor) cost
- Surgery expenses and post-operative care
- Post-operative appointments and sound processor activation
- Ongoing care and maintenance of the Ponto sound processor

## INITIAL FUNDING OF A PONTO SYSTEM

### 1 Private Health Insurance

If you have a private hospital health insurance policy covering implantation of hearing devices, the Ponto System and procedures may be fully covered, depending on your level of health insurance. Private health insurers are required to reimburse all devices included on the Department of Health Prostheses List. Here, your health insurer will cover the initial Ponto sound processor, and the Ponto implant and abutment. Coverage of the hospital admission and surgical procedure will depend on the level of your cover.

**When checking eligibility with your health fund, we recommend you contact them and ask the following:**

- Does my policy cover include items on the Prostheses List (and are there any exceptions)?
- Is there a waiting period prior to undergoing surgery and making a claim? What is it?
- Are there any out-of-pocket costs or claim excess?
- What is the sound processor replacement policy?
- How often am I able to get a replacement sound processor if there is a clinical benefit (every 2 years or longer)?

If there is a WorkCover claim associated with your hearing loss, you will need to inform the health insurer of this as it may impact your level of cover.



Your health insurer may ask you for the Medicare item numbers that your ENT surgeon will use when charging for the surgery, and/or the billing codes associated with the products making up the Ponto System. These can be found in the tables below:

Medicare item number	Description
41603	Osseointegration procedure - implantation of titanium fixture for use with implantable bone conduction hearing system.
41604	Osseointegration procedure - fixation of transcutaneous abutment implantation of titanium fixture for use with implantable bone conduction hearing system device.

Private billing code	Product type	Model
O1039	Ponto Sound Processor	Ponto 5 Mini
O1032		Ponto 3 SuperPower
O1031	Ponto BHX Implant and Abutment	Ponto 5 Mini Ponto 3 SuperPower

## 2 Public Funding

There is limited state or public hospital funding for the Ponto System. Your hearing care professional will be able to advise you if there is any public funding available in your case.

## 3 Private Funding

You can pay for a Ponto System, and associated audiological and surgical services costs yourself. If you are considering this option, please discuss with your surgeon and audiologist so you are aware of all the costs involved.

## PONTO SOUND PROCESSOR UPGRADES AND REPLACEMENT

Oticon Medical is a leader in implantable hearing solutions and is committed to provide innovative solutions to improve your hearing performance now and for years to come. Upgrades for the sound processor used with your implant are essential to keep up with the latest hearing technology, and do not require additional surgery. You may be eligible for a replacement/upgrade sound processor based on clinical requirements.

### 1 Private Health Insurance

Each health fund approaches replacements or upgrades differently. You are encouraged to contact your health insurer to ascertain what their policy is around replacement/upgrade devices prior to undergoing Ponto implant surgery.

Given the value of the Ponto sound processor, you may wish to consider insuring your device for loss and damage under your home and contents insurance.

### 2 Hearing Australia

Hearing Australia is an Australian Government agency that is dedicated to help people manage their hearing impairment. The agency provides a full range of hearing services for children and young people up to the age of 26, eligible adults, most war veterans and aged pensioners.

For more information, visit [www.hearing.com.au](http://www.hearing.com.au)

### 3 National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

For upgrades and aftercare, you may want to consider the National Disability Insurance Scheme. Speak to your clinic to see if this is an option for you.

For more information, visit [www.ndis.gov.au](http://www.ndis.gov.au)

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

A Ponto System could be the best investment you could make. If you need further information, please contact the Oticon Medical team at

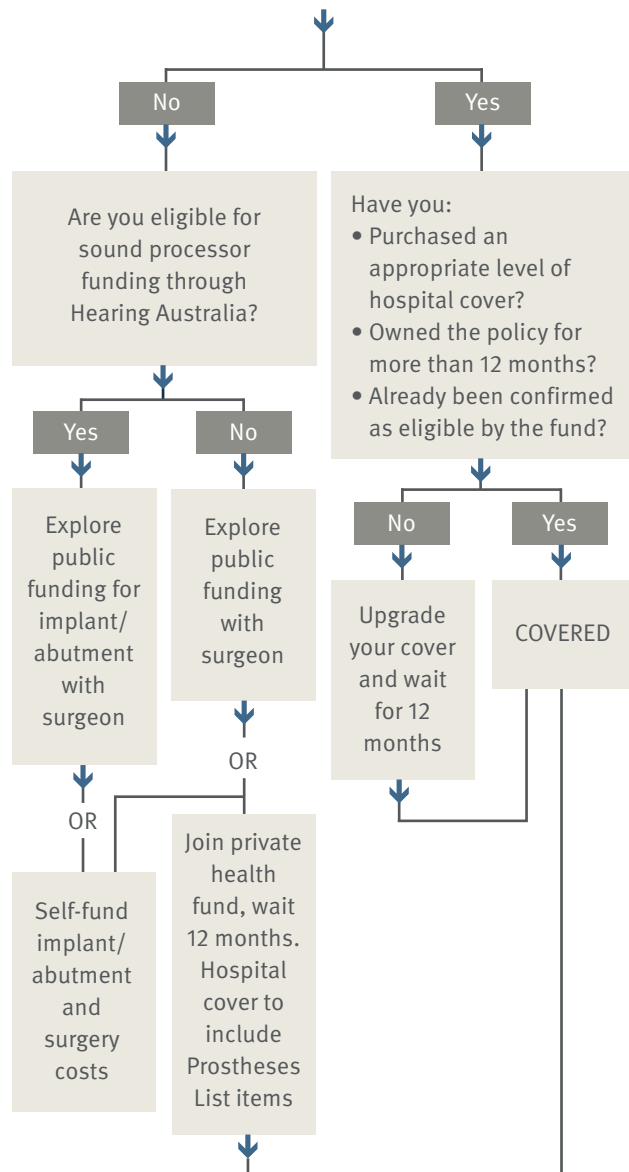
[info@oticonmedical.com.au](mailto:info@oticonmedical.com.au) -

no question is too big or too small.



## PONTO SYSTEM FUNDING OPTIONS

Do you have private health insurance?



Please discuss the options with your hearing care professional to understand which options will best meet your needs.

## Because sound matters

Oticon Medical is a global company in implantable hearing solutions, dedicated to bringing the power of sound to people at every stage of life. As part of the Demant Group, a global leader in hearing healthcare with more than 16,500 people in over 30 countries and users benefitting from our products and solutions in more than 130 countries, we have access to one of the world's strongest research and development teams, the latest technological advances and insights into hearing care.

Our competencies span more than a century of innovations in sound processing and decades of pioneering experience in hearing implant technology. We work collaboratively with patients, physicians and hearing care professionals to ensure that every solution we create is designed with users' needs in mind. We have a strong passion to provide innovative solutions and support that enhance quality of life and help people live full lives – now and in the future.

Because we know how much sound matters.



**Oticon Medical (Australia)**  
Suite 4, Level 4, Building B,  
11 Talavera Road, North Ryde  
NSW 2113, Australia  
[info@oticonmedical.com.au](mailto:info@oticonmedical.com.au)

**Oticon Medical AB**  
Datavägen 37B  
SE-436 32 Askim  
Sweden  
Tel: +46 31 748 61 00

This medical device must be administered/applied/implanted by a healthcare professional. Performance of the hearing devices is dependent on individual circumstances and may not be appropriate for all conditions. Always read the label and follow the instructions. This product is not available for purchase by the general public.

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