

Cochlear Implant System

# Funding Options for Neuro System in Australia



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MEDICAL

# Funding Options for Neuro Cochlear Implant System

In Australia, there is a range of funding options available for the Neuro cochlear implant system. 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 NEURO SYSTEM?

The costs of getting a Neuro System may include:

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

## INITIAL FUNDING OF A NEURO SYSTEM

### 1 Private Health Insurance

If you have a private hospital health insurance policy covering implantation of hearing devices, the Neuro 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 Neuro sound processor and the Neuro Zti implant. 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 Neuro System. These can be found in the tables below:

Medicare item number	Description
41617	Surgical operation - insertion of cochlear implant, including mastoidectomy.

Private billing code	Product type	Model
O1036	Neuro Sound Processor	Neuro 2 Sound Processor
O1037		Neuro 2 Sound Processor Replacement
O1035	Neuro Surgical Item	Neuro Zti Cochlear Implant

## 2 Public Funding

There is limited state or public hospital funding for the Neuro 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 Neuro 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.

## 4 Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA)

The DVA may cover the costs associated with the Neuro System. For more information, please visit the DVA website at [www.dva.gov.au](http://www.dva.gov.au)

## NEURO 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 Neuro implant surgery.

Given the value of the Neuro 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 range of hearing services for children and young people up to the age of 26, eligible adults, most war veterans and aged pensioners. Hearing Australia may provide ongoing maintenance of the device for eligible customers but do not assist in funding the initial surgery.

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

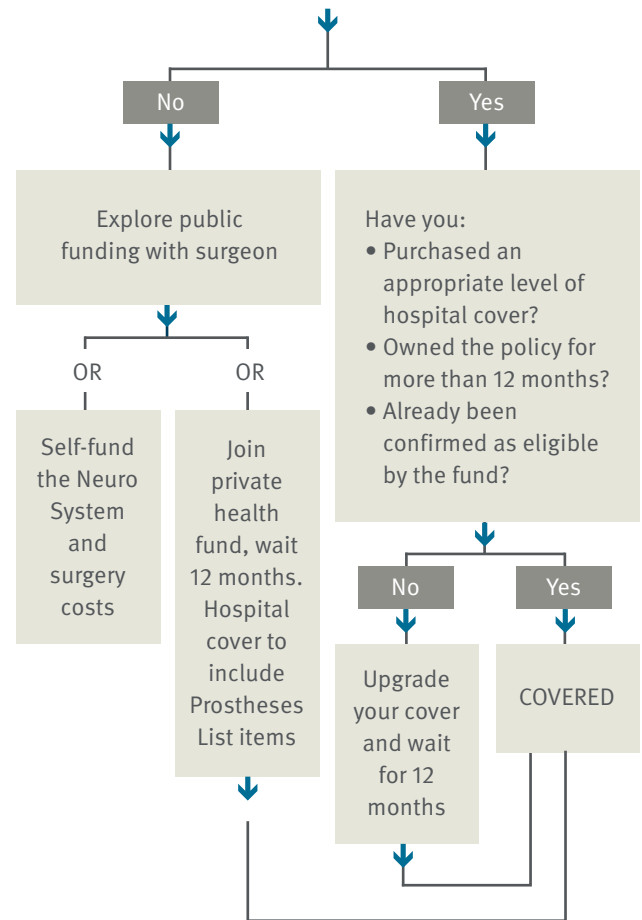
[info@oticonmedical.com.au](mailto:info@oticonmedical.com.au) -

no question is too big or too small.



## NEURO 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 magical world of sound to people at every stage of life. As part of the Demant group, a global leader in hearing healthcare with 14,500 people in over 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 share an unwavering commitment to provide innovative solutions and support that enhance quality of life for people wherever life may take them. Because we know how much sound matters.



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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 and follow the instructions for use.

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