

Cochlear Implant Program



**Phoenix
Children's**

Meet The Team

The Cochlear Implant Program at Phoenix Children's is supported by a multidisciplinary team. We work with families throughout the Southwest to coordinate comprehensive, child-centered care. The following providers will work with your family as part of your child's care plan.

Otolaryngologist/ENT

The Otolaryngologist or ENT is a surgeon who completes the medical evaluation, orders tests, and determines medical candidacy for cochlear implants. They perform the cochlear implant surgery and ongoing care.

Audiologist

The Audiologist conducts the tests to determine the type and severity of the hearing loss. They fit the hearing aids and assess whether or not the devices provide adequate benefit. They also guide the family through the selection of the cochlear implant device and program the external processor following the surgery.

Speech Pathologist

The Speech Pathologist assesses speech/language skills before the cochlear implant surgery. They will also work extensively with your child after the surgery to teach proper listening skills as well as work on language development.

Psychologist

The Psychologist provides family support throughout the cochlear implant process. Along with other team members, they assess your child's cognitive functioning and general development. They offer opportunities to discuss concerns, questions, and outcome expectations of implantation to ensure there is adequate family support, motivation and commitment to proceed with surgery.



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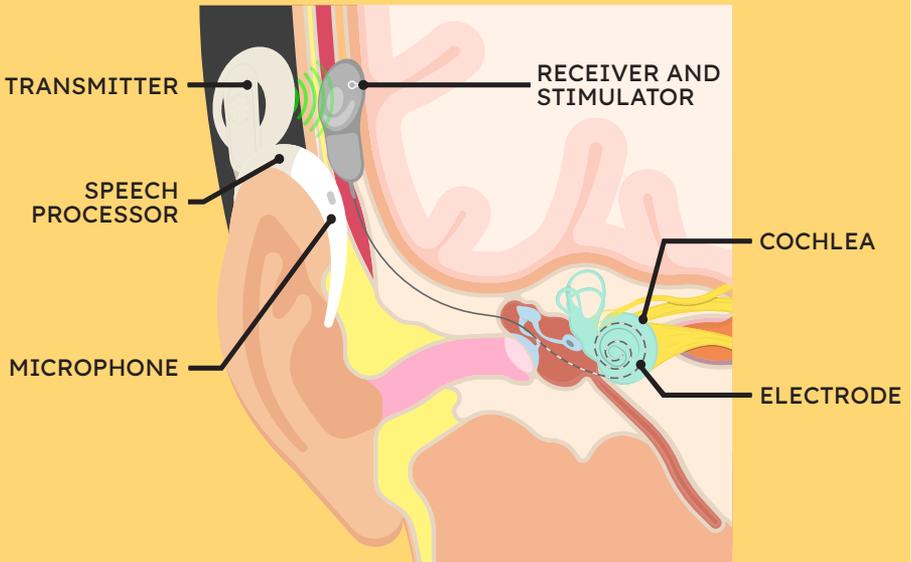
A World of Possibilities

Today, families have more options than ever before when it comes to treating hearing loss in infants and children. Cochlear implantation may give children access to sound awareness, ability to hear and understand the words that are said to them, and the potential for oral communication. Working collaboratively, our team and the family will discuss a wide range of listening devices.

What is a Cochlear Implant?

A cochlear implant is an electronic device that is implanted into the cochlea to gain a sense of sound. It is different from a hearing aid, which makes sounds louder and benefits children with some hearing ability. A cochlear implant helps a person when hearing aids are no longer effective, or with little or no hearing.

Cochlear Implant Components





The Journey

The cochlear implant process is a journey that our Cochlear Implant (CI) team will guide you through. It will require appointments with the various team specialists before implantation surgery as well as follow up appointments and therapy visits after the surgery.

Cochlear implants are a lifelong commitment for the child and family. We are here to support and prepare you for this commitment.

Over the next 6-12 months your child may need the following:

- Consultation and follow-up with the CI surgeon
- Comprehensive audiological evaluation (may include a brain-stem auditory evoked response (BAER) study)
- Hearing aid trial period
- MRI or CT scan to evaluate cranial nerves and bone for surgical purposes
- Speech/language evaluation (pre/post)
- Psychosocial evaluation (pre/post)
- Genetics consultation
- Vision exam

Total Communication Approach

Our goal is to provide families the tools necessary to understand their child's communication and make an informed choice about language intervention. Before and after receiving a cochlear implant, children will be exposed to a variety of communication modalities (such as spoken language, American Sign Language, augmentative and alternative communication [AAC] device) by our certified speech-language pathologist. This approach gives each child the power to communicate using a variety of communication strategies that is tailored to their skills and abilities.

What Factors Affect Cochlear Implant Outcomes?

Success with cochlear implants is dependent on several factors. These factors include the degree of hearing loss, duration of hearing loss, cause of hearing loss, length of hearing aid use, family engagement, regular attendance at recommended appointments, educational support, and language/developmental skills of your child prior to implantation.



Finding Your Way Around Phoenix Children's Thomas Campus



Otolaryngology/ENT
Rosenberg Children's
Medical Plaza
1920 East Cambridge Ave.
Suite 201

602-933-3277



Speech Pathology
East Building
1919 East Thomas Road
1st Floor
Outpatient Rehab Dept.

602-933-0980 (Option 3)



Audiology
Ambulatory Building
1919 East Thomas Road
4th Floor

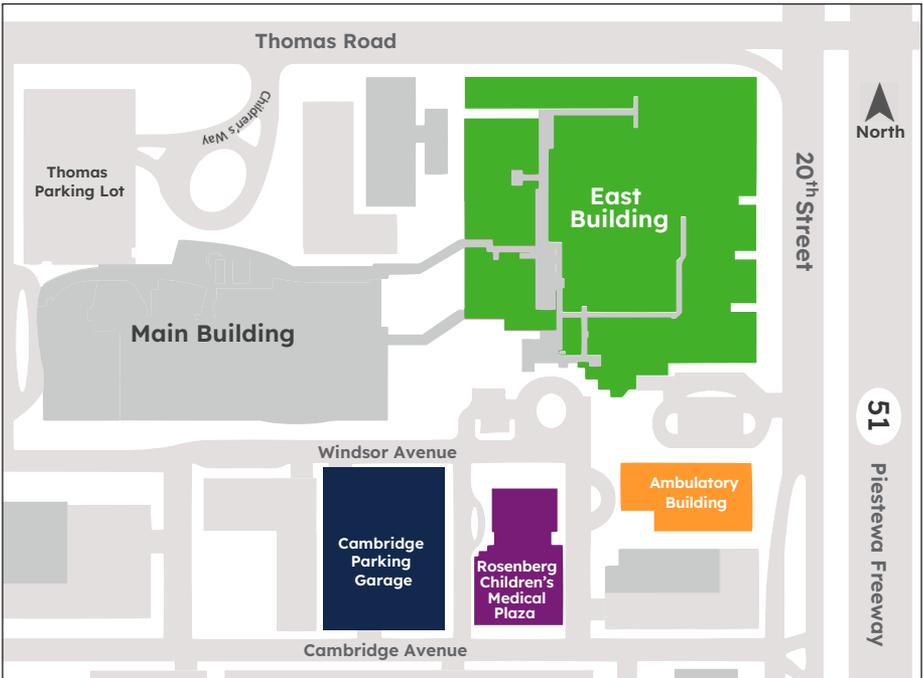
3370 Mercy Road Suite 224,
Gilbert AZ 85297

602-933-0905



Psychology
Ambulatory Building
1919 East Thomas Road
4th Floor

602-933-0414



For all our services, the best parking is in the Cambridge Parking Garage located behind the Thomas Building off Cambridge Avenue.