

Applicant Information Sheet

Hearing Devices – Cochlear Implant Replacement Speech Processor

What kind of cochlear implant replacement speech processors are covered by the Assistive Devices Program (ADP)?

Any cochlear implant replacement speech processor listed with ADP is eligible. An audiologist who works at an Ontario cochlear implant health centre can tell you about the makes and models available.

ADP contributes only to the cost of the most basic equipment required for ongoing daily use as defined by ADP for funding purposes.

Funding assistance is not available to purchase equipment required for occasional use or single purpose such as school, work, sports, recreational or social activities.

Who can apply?

Any permanent resident of Ontario who has a valid Health Card issued in their name and

- has a long-term hearing loss;
- requires a replacement speech processor for 6 months or longer;
- and who has not received ADP or other MOHLTC funding in the past three years towards a replacement speech processor.

ADP does not pay for equipment available under the Workplace Safety & Insurance Board or to Group “A” Veterans for their pensioned conditions.

How do I apply?

You must go to an Ontario cochlear implant centre where a hearing specialist (otolaryngologist) will verify the need for the replacement speech processor and will complete the applicable section of the attached application form.

A cochlear implant audiologist who is registered with ADP as an authorizer and located at a designated Ontario cochlear implant centre, will perform an assessment to determine your eligibility for funding assistance. The audiologist selects the appropriate make and model of replacement speech processor that meets your hearing needs.

Eligibility for ADP funding assistance is based on established policies. If you are determined eligible the authorizer will complete the appropriate section(s) of the application form including the date of your cochlear implant surgery.

You may have received a cochlear implant somewhere other than an approved Ontario health centre. If so, you must give us proof of this. It can be a letter or medical records from the hospital where you had the implant. The letter or records must show the date of the surgery.

ADP does not pay for any speech processor that is purchased before it is authorized by an ADP registered authorizer.

What if I am not eligible for ADP funding assistance?

If you need a replacement speech processor but are not eligible for ADP, your insurance company may pay for it. Agencies, such as the March of Dimes, Easter Seals and community service groups may help.

How do I get my cochlear implant replacement speech processor?

You must buy your speech processor from an ADP registered cochlear implant speech processor vendor and then return to the cochlear implant audiologist for mapping of the device. The vendor bills ADP for the amount it will pay towards your replacement speech processor and charges you the remaining cost.

Who can sign my application form?

You are required to sign the appropriate section of the application form. If you are unable to sign, someone who has the legal authority to act on your behalf may do so. This may be a spouse, parent, child, power of attorney, or public trustee.

How much does ADP Contribute?

ADP pays the registered vendor 75 per cent of the manufacturer’s invoiced price in Canadian dollars, up to a maximum of \$5,444.

For people who are receiving benefits from any one of the following: Assistance to Children with Severe Disabilities; Ontario Disability Support Program; or Ontario Works, at the time the replacement speech processor is authorized, ADP may pay the vendor up to \$7,258.67 in Canadian dollars toward the speech processor. Ask the vendor for more details.

Is there a trial period for me to try out my replacement speech processor?

The speech processor usually comes with a 30-day trial period. If you are not satisfied, return the speech processor to the registered vendor before the 30 days are up. The vendor will refund your money, but may charge you a handling fee.

Is my replacement speech processor covered by a warranty?

The speech processor comes with a three-year manufacturer’s warranty. You are responsible for the cost of repairs when this warranty ends.

Does ADP pay for repairs?

ADP does not pay for repairs, maintenance or batteries. You own the equipment and are responsible for taking care of it.

Who do I call if I have problems with my speech processor?

If you have any problems with your speech processor contact your vendor. Depending on the problem, the vendor may recommend that you see your cochlear implant audiologist.

What if I need to replace my speech processor?

ADP will help replace your speech processor once every three years if it is not working and can not be repaired at a reasonable cost.

ADP does not pay for replacement during those years if the original equipment is lost, stolen or damaged due to misuse. We encourage you to buy insurance to cover these situations.

What if I have more questions about ADP?

Contact us at:

Ministry of Health
Assistive Devices Program
5700 Yonge Street 7th floor
Toronto ON M2M 4K5

Telephone	416-327-8804
Toll Free	1-800-268-6021
TTY	416-327-4282
TTY Toll Free	1-800-387-5559
Email	adp@ontario.ca

Or visit our website at: www.ontario.ca/page/assistive-devices-program