



BAHA Postoperative Care

Preparing for your procedure:

- We would like to make sure all your questions are answered before your procedure. We previously discussed the risks, benefits and alternatives to having the procedure at your preoperative appointment, but please contact us if you have further questions.



If you would like to learn more about your BAHA, please visit www.cochlear.com.

Following your procedure:

- The first 24 hours after surgery, you will have a head bandage that should be kept in place over the primary dressing and healing cap. Avoid any movement of this head bandage during the first 24 hours after surgery.
- You should remove the head bandage after the first 24 hours. The primary dressing/bolster under the bandage should be left in place.
- You may experience some mild intermittent pain during the first two weeks after surgery. Pain above or in front of the ear is also common when chewing. Numbness and occasional sharp shooting pains are not unusual for up to several months after surgery.
- Some swelling and bruising is expected as soft tissue is removed around the area of the implant. However, this improves during the recovery period.
- A bloody or watery drainage is expected during the healing process. If you have a yellow or green drainage, excessive drainage or drainage with a foul odor, please let us know.

Follow-up appointment (about one week after surgery):

Appointment date/time: _____

Cleaning Routine: Care of your implant site is simple, but very important.

- The primary dressing/bolster, sutures and healing cap will be removed. The area may be gently cleaned with saline to remove dried blood and crusting. If healing well, no further dressing should be necessary. Your surgeon will discuss with you how long to wear the healing cap.
- For the next 2-3 weeks after your dressing has been removed, clean around the titanium abutment daily with gentle soap/shampoo and water to keep debris from building up. This can be done in the shower when washing your hair. You can also use strips of baby wipes to gently clean the area. Do not scrub the area. Rinse the area well and gently pat dry after cleaning.
- After the first few weeks, you will begin cleaning around the abutment with a soft cochlear cleaning brush and gentle soap. This cleaning should be done at minimum 2-3 times a week in addition to regular cleaning of the area while washing your hair. Aim the bristles against the side of the abutment for the best cleaning angle. Be careful not to brush too harshly. Don't forget to clean inside the abutment as well. Rinse the area and the brush well after cleaning. Pat the skin dry carefully after cleaning and let your brush air dry.



You will want to change your cleaning brush out for a new one about every three months or more frequently if you have had an infection around the abutment.

- Routinely inspect the abutment to make sure it is firmly in place. If the abutment becomes loose or if you have inflammation or soreness around the abutment, let us know.



Take care not to let hair get wrapped around the abutment. Also, if you are using a hairdryer, do not keep the hot air around the abutment too long.

Follow up appointment with Audiologist

- You will follow up with the audiologist 2-3 months after your procedure to have the sound processor fitted and adjusted. They will also go over any questions/concerns you have about cleaning around the abutment during this appointment.

Appointment date/time: _____