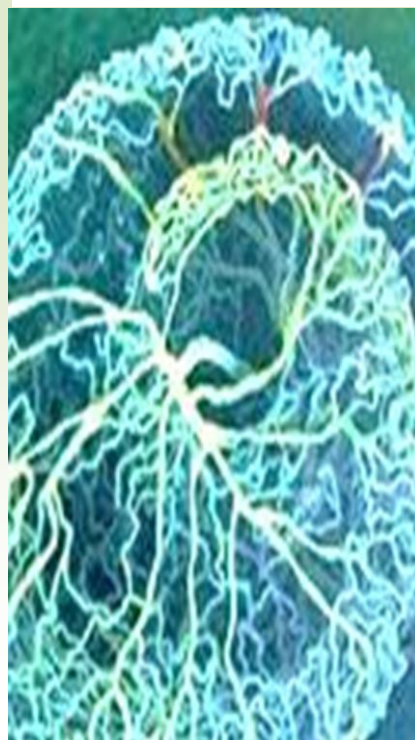


Southern Sounds



WELCOME

Just as important as early implantation, is rehabilitation. This edition features both to urge readers to take note of these important matters.

We hope the new SOUND TALKS section will 'keep you talking'. Please continue sending us your feedback and questions to ensure we stay in touch with your needs.

Happy reading!

JANET WIEGMAN – General Manager Southern ENT



NEWS

Prof Swart retires

Colleagues in the SACIG sphere (South African Cochlear Implant Group) saluted Prof Johannes Swart of the Pretoria University Cochlear Program at a recent farewell dinner hosted by Southern ENT at the Laborie Estate. Guests agreed that Prof Swart was one SA's greatest spirits in cochlear implants and reiterated his humility, brilliant training skills and sincere relationships that leaves a legacy in this sphere. Southern ENT wants to thank patients and colleagues for their overwhelming response to submit letters and stories for a coffee table book for Prof Swart, all of which were most touching and memorable. We asked Prof Swart to share some information with readers before he leaves. Read here what he says: [Prof Swart](#)



Hear now. And always

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Editor's Note

Ndiyeva - June 2011



Cochlear-Southern ENT sponsored keynote speaker Warren Estabrooks, internationally known as the icon of Auditory Verbal Practice (AVP), at this year's Ndiyeva conference. Warren says: *During the last year I have been privileged to work with an outstanding group of professionals in SA as they followed their journey in "Listening for Life", the professional education programme offered by WE Listen International, Inc., Cochlear Europe and Southern ENT. The training programme culminated in the conference in Stellenbosch in June 2011. This experience changed me as a trainer. I am grateful to my sponsors and the new group of my 'Angels in the Rainbow Nation' who will be taking AVP techniques further in SA. (See AVP flyer under Rehabilitation.)*

SACIG

The annual South African Cochlear Implant Group (SACIG) conference was held this year on 25/26 June in Stellenbosch which provided a platform for professionals to network and develop their skills. SACIG would like to encourage implantees/parents to join this group as "consumer members". Contact Jenny Perold at 021-938 5086 should anyone wish to get involved. [SACIG 2011](#)

Did you know that early implantation is **critical to speech? Read here what current research shows.** [Early implantation](#)

REHABILITATION

DCIP hosts cochlear implant information evening

The Durban Cochlear Implant Program (DCIP) recently invited people to attend a cochlear implant information evening. The response was overwhelming. About 120 professionals and patients attended the event. Kara Hoffman (audiologist) says: "People really welcomed the initiative because it was the first of its kind. They also had no idea how many people had been implanted. KwaZulu-Natal is traditionally a strong signing community and seeing more options available to people with hearing disabilities was refreshing." There seems to be a growing need for information to emphasize the value of implantation. Read more about this event: [DCIP](#)

Question: Would you like to host such an event in your area?



Auditory Verbal Practice (AVP)

This year's Ndiyeva Conference marked the beginning of AVP in SA, an exciting rehabilitation technique to teach children with hearing disabilities to communicate through speech. Read more - by AVP graduate, Kara Hoffman: [AVP June 2011](#)



Cochlear rehabilitation resources

Cochlear offers great rehabilitation material and many of them are available online and free of charge. To order or access these online links, click here:

[Rehab resources](#)



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SOUND TALKS

Hope Notes review

We asked Mr Fred Benning, a cochlear implant user, to review Cochlear's Hope Notes music rehabilitation program. Read here what he said:

[Hope_Notes_review](#)

Sensory integration therapy

New cochlear implant users often experience a sensory overload in their efforts to adapt to the new implant and sense of sound. They often handle it in a "fight, flight or freeze" manner e.g. by representing with aggression, preferring to stay at home or withdrawing completely. Read more:

[Sensory integration](#)



Take a minute to visit the website of the SA Hearing Institute

This is a powerful new initiative to help integrate persons with a hearing loss in society. Visit them at www.sahi.org.za

The new **SOUND TALKS** section aims to address some of the many comments and enquiries we receive from our Southern Sounds readers. Herewith a few matters "sounding" from the 1st edition. We trust you will be able to relate to some and please keep on talking! We are listening.

Insure your processor, it is expensive to replace if lost or stolen.

A patient replied that she has insured her processor and household contents for only R275 per month through Woolworths. It may be worth looking into. Remember, premiums depend on a user's individual risk profile.

"Does the income tax relief for people with disabilities means one can claim the costs of a BAH, Nucleus or other hearing system from SARS?"

Yes, expenditure prescribed by SARS and which is necessarily incurred as a consequence of a physical impairment or disability is deductible in terms of section 18 of the Act, subject to certain limitations. Contact SARS or your tax consultant to action this benefit.

"I am taking my grandsons (both have bilateral cochlear implants) to India. I am still a bit confused and want to know if the batteries we use are dry/non-leaking, and do the batteries or processors emit electromagnetic radiation."

Read here: [Travelling with a CI](#)

"I am reviewing an academic article and am suddenly confused about the internationally accepted terminology when we refer to people with a hearing loss. Please help."

We asked Fanie du Toit, Manager Public Education and Awareness of the NCPPDSA: [Terminology](#)

Persons with a hearing loss can now contribute to inform the SA National Parks of their accessibility needs.

Visit www.sanparks.org.za, Click on: special interest groups, people with disabilities, deaf & hearing impaired access. This is a great opportunity!

"Amazing – I had my first cell phone conversation! Despite being in a noisy shopping mall, I could hear the voice on the other side clearly with my new Blackberry Bold."

Read the perspective of Jody Lee Bell, a Cochlear Nucleus Freedom user: [Jody lee](#)

HearAbility: "Our ultimate goal is to improve the life of people with a hearing loss by ensuring that they, through the use of various assistive technologies, are able to function as economically active SA citizens".

Read here how they can help: [HearAbility](#)

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DID YOU KNOW?

Battery spotlight



How many times can I recharge my Nucleus 5 sound processor's rechargeable battery? The modules have been designed to be recharged a minimum of 365 times (once a day for a year).

What power capacity can I expect from a rechargeable battery module after 365 cycles? It retains at least 80% of their as-new power capacity after 365 charge/discharge cycles. Remember, actual battery life varies between individual users and depends on things like programming parameters, whether you spend your time in noisy or quiet environments, and the accessories you use.

Do I ever need to fully discharge my processor's rechargeable battery? No. The Battery Charger is designed to optimise each charging pattern.

What do I need to recharge my sound processor battery? The CP800 Series Sound Processor Battery Charger and CP800 Series Sound Processor Charging Kit. This includes cables for connecting your Charger to different power supplies.

Store batteries in the fridge to help them last longer

Did you know continues

Helpful hints

1. Pack a spare battery and cord, in case one stops working.
2. Monitor battery use and ensure that you order batteries well in advance especially over weekends and holiday periods. Monitor how long your rechargeable batteries are holding their charge. Your rechargeable battery should last you approximately 1 - 2 years.
3. Have your child pack their lapel microphone too. Then, if they have trouble hearing the teacher, the microphone will filter out background sounds for clearer reception.
4. Being able to read while children hear will help them learn the sounds of many letters and vowels, to improve speech understanding.
5. If your child is wearing a cochlear implant to school for the first time, ask if they can show their class what it is and how it works. The other children will think it's a great tool and their interest will motivate them to address your child in easily understood tones.
6. Ask the teacher to seat your child in the front of the class room to give your child the clearest hearing reception.

PRODUCT SOUNDS

Have you upgraded to Nucleus® 5 yet?



The Cochlear Nucleus® 5 has proved to deliver a remarkable hearing performance to Nucleus® 24 implant recipients! Since its launch, more than 15 000 people have experienced its benefits. Together with the CP810 sound processor and CR110 remote assistant, it has taken hearing to a new level. Nucleus 5 is available for Nucleus Freedom™ and Nucleus 24 implant recipients. Read here what you can expect when you upgrade:

[Nucleus 5](#)

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Product sounds continues...



The new Baha® BP110

More than 10 000 patients worldwide are already taking advantage of the Baha 3 benefits (hearing via bone conduction). The new member of the Baha 3 family, the BP110 **POWER** Sound Processor, is now officially available and offers the following:

- Extra power in the high frequencies for people with greater hearing loss
- More than 50% improved speech understanding in noise compared to the Baha Intenso
- Fully programmable and automatic
- Moisture resistance
- Meeting the needs of patients with substantial mixed hearing loss (up to 55dB SNHL), patients with a risk of progressive hearing loss and single-sided sensorineural deafness
- Patients with more significant hearing losses can now benefit from the clinically proven and adaptive directional microphone technology in Baha 3

The BP110 will be available in SA as of August 2011. For more information or trials with a Baha BP110, contact Southern ENT: Nicolette van Zyl at 082 819 0205

'Mainstream' for implanted Mpho Paka

Mpho Paka's audiologist described her as "a very deserving little girl who is possibly the most dynamic 4-year-old you could ever meet, with the most committed parents I have ever known" when she asked for donations to give this little girl a chance to attend a mainstream school after her state funded (Baragwanath Hospital) cochlear implant.

With the help of many generous people in our communities, Mpho is now a proud new learner at her school, where mom is working as a cleaner. Read this beautiful story here: [Mpho Paka](#)

They commute daily, but this means getting up at 3am to be at work/school in time and costs an extra R1500 per month. If somebody would like to contribute or help with a room to rent closer to the school (Parktown Jhb), please contact Dani Schlesinger at 0828213448.



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Gears for ears

Alan Hook battled with his hearing for the past 30 years. Eventually he was told that hearing aids cannot help him anymore. Then he read about Gaynor Young's cochlear implant. "It really hit me when she said it was like someone opening a curtain and all the sounds just came in." Alan will be implanted by the Durban CI team in July. Read here how he established the annual Gears for Ears mountain bike fundraiser to assist other candidates to overcome the financial hurdle of an implant.

A note to KZN readers: "Gear" yourselves and support this wonderful initiative on 4 September 2011 at Ballito Holla Trails. Contact Alan at cpthook1@iafrica.com. For the full story, click here: [Gears 4 Ears](#)



EVENTS

What	When	Where	Who	Contact
1. Update in the Management of Patients with Vestibular Disorders	29–31 Jul	Indaba Hotel, Fourways Jhb	ENT surgeons, Neurologists, General practitioners, Audiologists and others	Tessa Booysen 012 - 420 5026 tessa.ce@up.ac.za
<i>Opportunity to allow medical specialists to gain introductory knowledge on the balance system, its disorders and treatment from local and international experts</i>				
2. Workshops: The Impact of Hearing Loss, by Fanie du Toit (proudly hearing impaired) 9 CPD points	5/6 Sept 4/5 Oct 18/19 Oct 24/25 Oct 15/16 Nov	Cape Town Bloemfontein Nelspruit Durban Jhb	People with a hearing loss, employers, caregivers, friends, family, professionals	Charlotte Nell charnell.sunshine@isat.co.za
<i>Objective: Building relationships and taking hands with role players to, in line with UN guidelines, successfully integrate people with a hearing loss into the society.</i>				
3. Goldenhar Seminar by Dr Firmin	13/14 Aug	Panorama Medi Clinic, Cape Town	Surgeons involved in this field, and patients with microtia/atresia	Pamela Steenekamp 0824111077 psteene@hotmail.com
<i>Dr Firmin, a world-renowned ear reconstruction surgeon will be operating on four patients who have microtia/atresia on the 13th of August and will host a Q & A seminar the following day.</i>				

THE SOUND OF SOUTHERN ENT

Repairs

If you sent us your damaged device (out of its warranty period) we will dispatch it to Cochlear immediately in order to return the refurbished device as soon as possible. Cochlear does NOT supply a quotation in this regard and users should therefore please take note of the costs before they send us the damaged device:

- Repair of cochlear implant (CI) speech processor: R2950
- Replacement with a refurbished CI device if considered "beyond repair": R5500
- Repair charges if the CI device was damaged or abused: R6300
- Repair of a Baha device: R4950

The warranty period on the part repaired is 6 months.

Photo competition

We would like to feature cochlear implant/Baha users in our marketing material!

Please send us a photo that depicts you ENJOYING LIFE! Ideas to consider are photos of you participating in sports, hobbies, enjoying time with your friends and families or just you on your own.

We need pictures of our users of all ages and in all different spheres of life to be portrayed at our displays, on posters, pamphlets, etc.

The 3 best photos will each receive a R250 credit towards his/her Southern ENT account (not redeemable for cash) and will be notified in our November/Christmas newsletter that travels across the world!

Please email your (good resolution) photo, to Nicolene Steynberg at info@southernear.com by 30 August 2011.

Show us how much you "love your cochlear implant/Baha", please enter now! We look forward to your entries.



Contact us

Tel: 012 – 667 4460/4971
Cell: 073 803 9682
Fax: 012 – 667 2362
Fax to email: 086 623 4909

Janet Wiegman - general enquiries and management: cochlear@mweb.co.za

Tamara van Zyl - Nucleus cochlear implant specialist: tamaraturton@gmail.com

Nicolette van Zyl - Baha specialist: nicolettevz@gmail.com

Nadine Waddell - battery and accessory orders: nadine.w@southernear.com

Marie Fourie - quotations, repairs, deliveries: marie.f@southernear.com

Magdel Niehaus – finances and accounts: accounts@southernear.com

Roel Kasselmann - medical aids: Roel.k@southernear.com

Nicolene Steynberg - marketing and communications: info@southernear.com

Editor's note

The next edition of Southern Sounds can be expected by November 2011 so please submit your contributions by 15 October.

Stay warm until the next (summer) edition and 'please keep on talking'! We listen.

NICOLENE STEYNBERG

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