How Recent Scientific Discoveries are Advancing Cochlear Implant Benefits

A Virtual Workshop and Exhibit Area for Parents, Adults and Family Members who have, or are exploring, Cochlear Implants. The workshop is offered by American Cochlear Implant Alliance, a unique national organization devoted to cochlear implant access through research, advocacy and awareness. Attend the live virtual event on May 1. Questions from attendees for presenters to be submitted through chat.

Date: Saturday, May 1, 2021
12:30-4:30 pm ET (Exhibits open at 12:30/Session begins at 1:00)

Cost: $15 registration (includes a consumer/parent membership in ACI Alliance) and ability for other family members to attend on the same listening/viewing connection

Access: Computer Aided Real-Time Transcription (CART) captioning will be offered

Registration: https://www.acialliance.org/event/CI2021consumerworkshop

This ½ day virtual workshop is designed for parents, adult consumers and family members interested in learning more about cochlear implants. It will feature internationally recognized cochlear implant scientists and clinicians who will share and engage on up-to-date research and clinical experience in an accessible manner via presentation, discussion, and question and answer sessions.

You will receive answers to the following questions:

- What benefits can I or my child expect from a cochlear implant?
- Why do children and adults with some usable hearing benefit from cochlear implants?
- Do cochlear implant recipients lose their existing hearing after surgery?
- Should I wait to receive a cochlear implant until I receive less benefit from hearing aids?
- What advancements have been made in the design of cochlear implants and how has this helped users? How do cochlear implants work with hearing aids and other technologies? How do existing cochlear implant users benefit from advances in the technology?
- What role does music play in one’s cochlear implant journey?
- What types of services should we pursue after cochlear implant surgery for an adult or child to maximize benefits and outcomes?
- What are immediate things I can start doing to support an adult or child to maximize their performance with their cochlear implant(s)?
12:30 **Virtual Exhibits** Open and Available for Viewing by Workshop Attendees

1:00 **Welcome:** Donna Sorkin MA, Executive Director, ACI Alliance

1:05 **How recent advances in cochlear implants are expanding the opportunity for children and adults to hear**

*Charles Limb MD,* Francis A. Sooy Professor, Departments of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery and Neurosurgery, University of CA San Francisco School of Medicine

*Megan Narron AuD,* Director, Yale University Adult Cochlear Implant Program

1:20 **Ask me anything:** Pose the questions you’ve always wanted to ask of a CI surgeon or audiologist

*Oliver Adunka MD,* Chair-Elect, ACI Alliance Board of Directors and Professor and Director of Otology, Neurotology and Cranial Base Surgery, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Ohio State University and *Dr. Limb* and *Dr. Narron*

2:00 Break with Exhibitors

2:45 **Adults and Parents Divide for Sessions Focused on (Re)Habilitation**

**Adult Session:** Tips and Techniques for hearing the most with a Cochlear Implant to help communicate, listen in noisy places, appreciate music, and talk on the telephone after getting a cochlear implant / *Lindsay Zombek MS,* CCC-SLP, LSLS Cert AVT, Lead Clinical Specialist in Speech Language Pathology, University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center and *Donna Sorkin MA*

**Parent Session:** Open a book, Fall into a Conversation: Growing Your Child’s Brain for Listening, Language and Literacy / *Teresa H. Caraway PhD,* CCC-SLP, LSLS Cert. AVT, CEO Hearing First

Practical strategies and techniques for sharing books to grow your child’s listening, spoken language and conversational skills as a foundation for literacy

3:45 More Time with Exhibitors

**Exhibits** open to Consumer/Parent attendees at 12:30. You will be able to meet representatives of companies that manufacture cochlear implants and other hearing technologies and service/resource providers with a national scope.

The pediatric habilitation segment will be offered by **Hearing First**, a national multimedia connection point for families and professionals seeking to improve outcomes for children who are deaf or hard of hearing through listening and spoken language.


**Questions:** Jessica Houk, jhouk@acialliance.org

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