



**Service Priorities and Programmes
Electronic Presentations**

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A new era in cochlear implant

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Introduction

Cochlear implant Program has been launched in Queen Elizabeth Hospital since 1996. We have performed more than 350 operations by the end of 2013. The major benefit is to restore auditory sensation and some degree of hearing for patients with severe to profound hearing loss. Bilateral cochlear implants have been introduced in 2012. It gives binaural stimulation for the recipient who can understand speech better despite of background noise and for sound localization.

Objectives

To review the criteria for bilateral cochlear implant and discuss both of its advantage and disadvantage. We will also try to demonstrate the benefit and result of receiving bilateral cochlear implants.

Methodology

An audit of all cochlear implant operations has been performed and selection criteria will be discussed. The benefits of bilateral cochlear implant are analyzed. Questionnaire and visual analog scale are used to evaluate for satisfaction.

Result

People with bilateral severe to profound hearing loss with limited benefit from conventional amplification are considered candidates of cochlear implant. There are nearly 350 patients received unilateral cochlear implant since 1996. Nearly all of them satisfied the operation and demonstrated a significant improvement in speech recognition. 32 patients received bilateral cochlear implant since 2012. Most of them showed improvement in sound localization and better speech understanding in noisy environment.