

Vibrant[®]
Soundbridge[™]
Implantable Middle Ear Hearing Device



*An Entirely New Approach to
Sensorineural Hearing Loss*

- ▶ *Better Sound Quality*
- ▶ *Open Ear Canal for Greater Comfort*
- ▶ *No Feedback or Whistling*
- ▶ *Better Hearing in Background Noise*

Symphonix[®]

The Vibrant Soundbridge and How it Works

The Vibrant Soundbridge consists of two components, one externally worn and the other internally implanted. The two components work together to significantly enhance the normal function of the ear.

The external component is called the Audio Processor™ (AP). It is attached magnetically in back of the ear leaving the ear canal open. It contains a digital signal processor that is programmed to fit your specific hearing loss.

Internally, there is an implanted receiver that picks up the signal from the AP, and transmits it to Symphonix' patented core technology, the Floating Mass Transducer™ (FMT™).

The FMT is a small transducer that directly vibrates the bones of the middle ear, mimicking the natural motion of the bones, sending an enhanced signal to the fluid-filled inner ear (cochlea).



With the Vibrant Soundbridge, you wear nothing in the ear. The Audio Processor can be easily concealed.

The Process to be Fit

You start by undergoing a series of hearing tests to determine if your hearing loss is appropriate. Then, a medical exam determines surgical candidacy.

The implant surgery itself is a 1-1/2 to 2 hour outpatient procedure, performed under general anesthesia. The internal receiver is surgically placed under the skin behind the ear, and the FMT is attached to one of the bones of the middle ear. About 8 weeks after the surgery, the AP is digitally programmed to best fit your hearing loss and the Vibrant Soundbridge is activated.

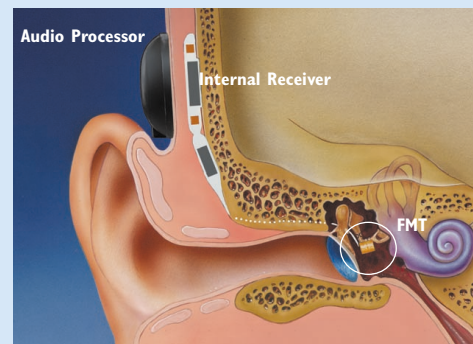
Who is a Candidate?

If you are 18 years of age or older, have moderate to severe sensorineural (nerve) hearing loss, and want to consider an alternative to hearing aids, the Vibrant Soundbridge may be the improved hearing solution you are looking for. See your audiologist and otologist to obtain complete details and professional advice.

Hearing Aid vs. Vibrant Soundbridge



Traditional hearing aids fit in the ear canal and deliver amplified sound.



With the Vibrant Soundbridge, the ear canal remains open and hearing is enhanced via direct vibration of the bones in the middle ear.



Is the Vibrant Soundbridge right for you?

The Vibrant Soundbridge is an entirely new approach to treating sensorineural hearing loss. If you have experience with acoustic hearing aids and answer yes to 3 or more of the questions below, you should discuss this new treatment option with your hearing health care professional.

- | YES | NO | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Would you like to hear without a hearing instrument in your ear canal? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you desire clearer and more natural hearing? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you desire better sound quality of your own voice? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are you looking for better hearing in adverse listening environments such as background noise? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you have trouble with whistling or feedback? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you experience multiple hearing aid repairs due to wax and debris build-up? |

What do Vibrant Soundbridge users think?



"I feel more a part of life with my Soundbridge... something I couldn't enjoy before."

*Bruno Elsinger,
Active in hiking, skiing and gymnastics*



"I can now hear music without difficulty. I wanted the best sound, and I got it with my Soundbridge."

*Daniel Dumortier
Rock Musician*



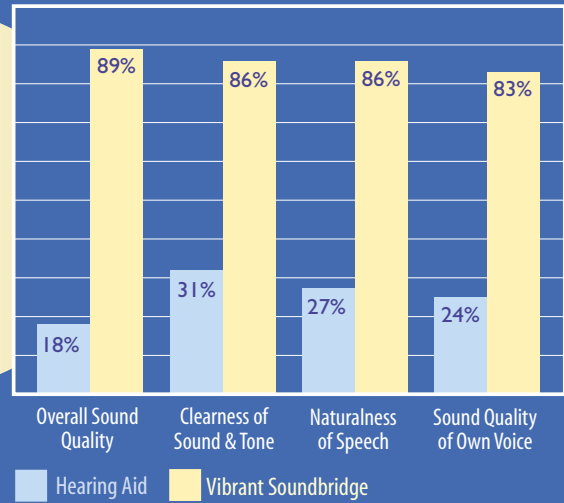
"My grandchildren had to climb onto my lap and shout in my ear. Now I hear them even when they whisper."

*Rosemary Robinson
Food Services*

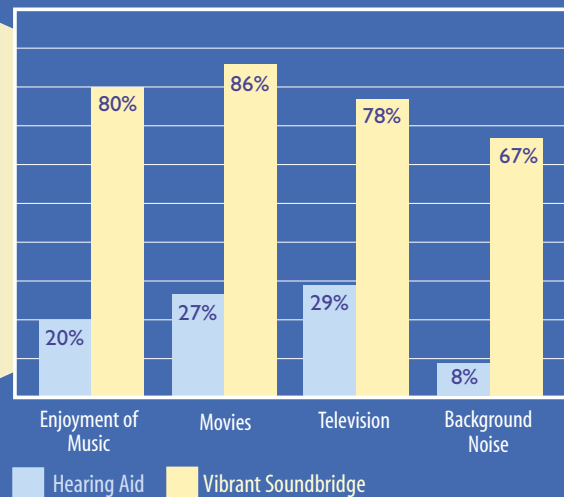
What can the Vibrant Soundbridge do for me?

The charts below compare patient satisfaction with the Vibrant Soundbridge to their satisfaction with the hearing aid they used to wear.*

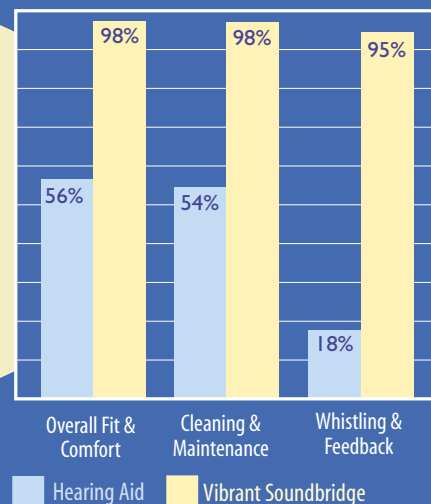
Greater Satisfaction with Sound Clarity & Quality



Significant Improvement in Multiple Listening Situations



Improved Fit, Comfort & Maintenance



*Source: Symphonix Clinical Trial Results

Indications for Use: The Vibrant Soundbridge is indicated for use in adults, 18 years of age or older, who have a moderate to severe sensorineural hearing loss and desire an alternative to an acoustic hearing aid.

Contraindications: Conductive hearing loss; retrocochlear or central auditory disorder; active middle ear infections; tympanic membrane perforations associated with recurrent middle ear infections.

Warnings: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI); electrosurgery; diathermy; electroconvulsive therapy; effects of cobalt treatment, PET scans, transcranial diagnostic ultrasound, and linear acceleration techniques are unknown.

Adverse Events: Individuals are exposed to the normal risk of surgery and general anesthesia. Major ear surgery may result in numbness, swelling, or discomfort around the ear, the possibility of facial palsy, disturbance of balance or taste, or neck pain. For a complete listing of all contraindications, warnings, and adverse events, please refer to the Vibrant Soundbridge package insert.

Symphonix Founded, 1994

First Vibrant Soundbridge Implant, 1996

European Sales Begin, 1998

U.S. FDA Approval, 2000

Symphonix[®]

Symphonix Devices, Inc.

2331 Zanker Road

San Jose, CA 95131

(800) 833-7733 Customer Service

(408) 273-1795 Customer Service Fax

www.symphonix.com