



## Adults with Single Sided Deafness

Understanding the Candidacy, Treatment Options, and How to Counsel Your Patients

*Hear now. And always*



## Learning Goals:



1. Introduction
  - What is Single Sided Deafness (SSD)
  - Impact of hearing with only one ear
2. Treatment Approach
  - Comparing treatment options
  - Benefits of bone conduction in treatment
3. Identifying Candidates in Clinic
  - Candidate criteria
  - Testing and evaluation
  - Contraindications
4. Clinical Considerations & Counseling
  - Select the right system based on need
  - How to fit a Baha® System for SSD
5. Case Study Examples



## Cochlear's Mission



**We help people hear and be heard.**

We **empower** people to connect with others and live a full life.

We **transform** the way people understand and treat hearing loss.

We **innovate** and bring to market a range of implantable hearing solutions that deliver a lifetime of hearing outcomes.



## What is Single Sided Deafness?

Overview | Identification | Causes

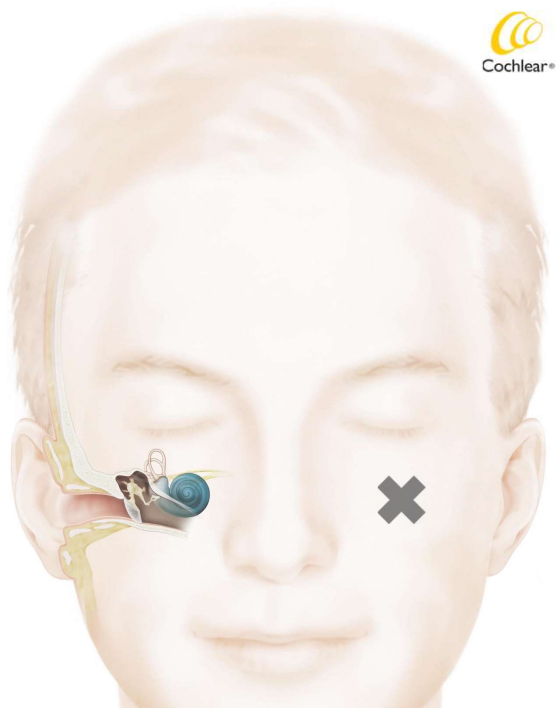
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## SINGLE-SIDED DEAFNESS (SSD)

Having a profound sensorineural hearing loss or a non-functional ear on one side with normal hearing on the other side is known as SSD.

Sounds from the deaf side are not heard and speech understanding in noise is likely more difficult in background noise.



## Identifying SSD Candidacy

- **Poor Ear**
  - Non-functional hearing (i.e. unaidable, profound hearing loss)
- **Good Ear**
  - PTA AC Threshold  $\leq 20$  dB @ 500Hz, 1kHz, 2kHz and 3kHz

**Key Factor:** The poor or "bad" ear has not or will not receive benefit when traditional acoustic amplification is applied.

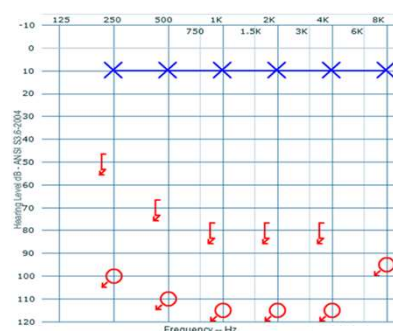


Figure 1

## Common Causes of SSD



SSD has a number of etiologies including

- Sudden idiopathic deafness
- Ototoxic drugs
- Trauma
- Genetic factors
- Surgical intervention such as the removal of an acoustic neuroma
- Viral infections
- Measles
- Meniere's disease



### Impact of Hearing on Only One Side

Speech Perception | Social Interactions | Localization

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## Binaural Hearing vs Monaural Hearing



## Speech Perception



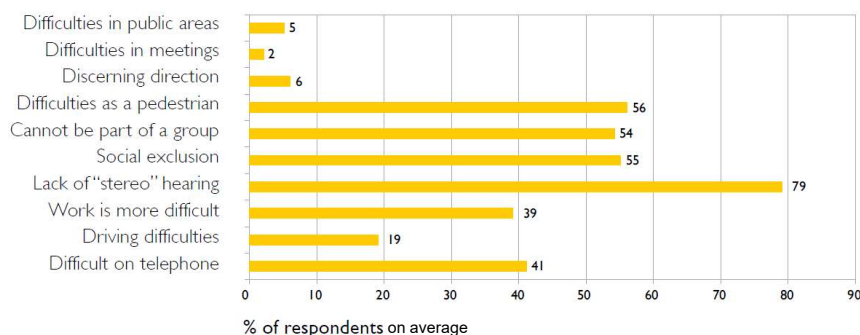
Hard to understand  
speech and  
sounds, especially  
in noisy  
environments



## Safety and Social Impact



Which problems have you experienced since becoming single sided deaf?<sup>1</sup>



1. Survey contained in "Hear the other side" — A report on single-sided deafness. More information can be found at [www.singlesideddeafness.com](http://www.singlesideddeafness.com). A report by the advisory board for single sided deafness. Available from Cochlear — article EB0414A.

## Localization & Head Shadow Effect

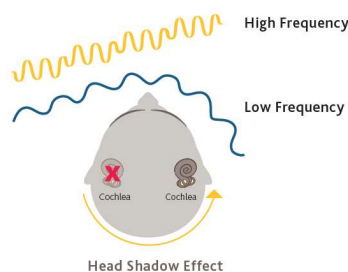


### Localization

- Normal localization is based on inter-aural time and level differences.
- When input from one ear is missing, the brain has difficulty telling where the sound originated.

### Head Shadow Effect

- Most often effects high frequency sound coming from the poorer hearing side which is attenuated by the head as it travels to the better hearing ear.<sup>1</sup>



1. Van Wanrooij MM, Van Opstal JA. Contribution of head shadow and pinna cues to chronic monaural sound localization. J Neuroscience. 2004;24: 4163-4171.





## Treatment Options for SSD

Comparing Treatment Options | Benefits of the Baha® System

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## Most Common Treatment Options for SSD



- Patient remains untreated\*
- CROS Hearing Aids (HAs)
- Steroids
- Medical intervention - surgery
- Bone Conduction Devices - Baha System



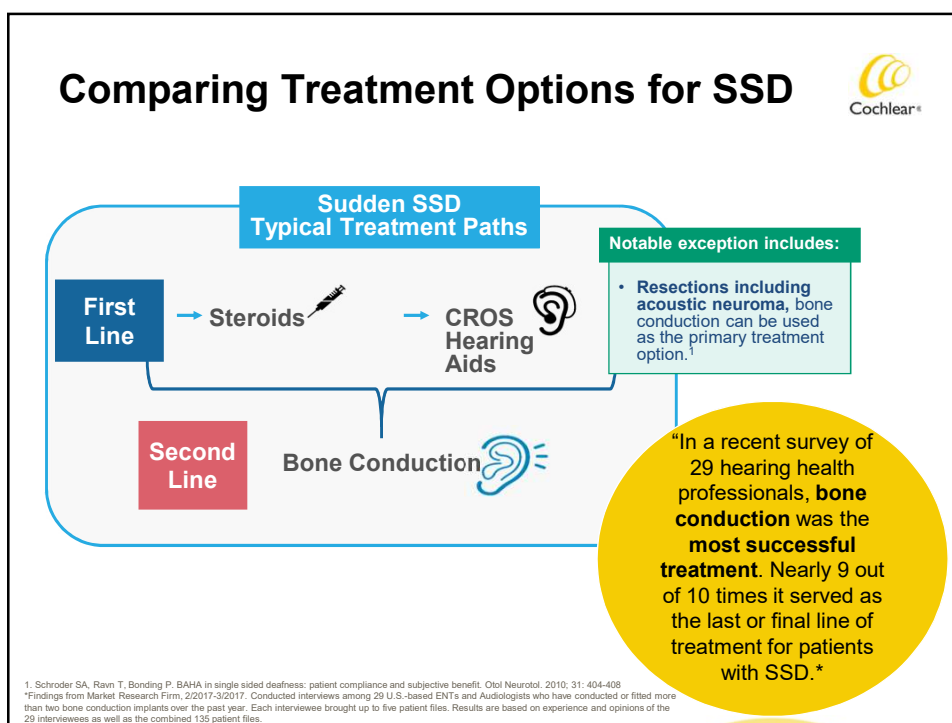
*\*Patient or physician choice*

How do you decide which treatment option is right for your patient with SSD?

- Simple solution?
- Power delivery to cochlea?
- Cost for patient?
- Cosmetic needs?
- Patient motivation/ expectations?



Cochlear®







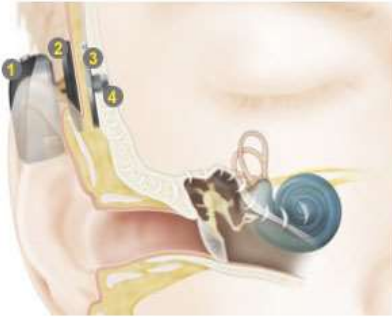
**Cochlear™ Baha® System**  
Benefits for Patients with SSD

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### How a Baha® System Works

**Baha Attract**




1. A sound processor detects sound and transforms it to vibrations.
2. Sound Processor magnet transfers the vibrations from the sound processor through the skin.
3. The Implant magnet received the vibration and transmits it to the implant.
4. The implant transfers sound vibrations to the cochlea.

**Baha Connect**



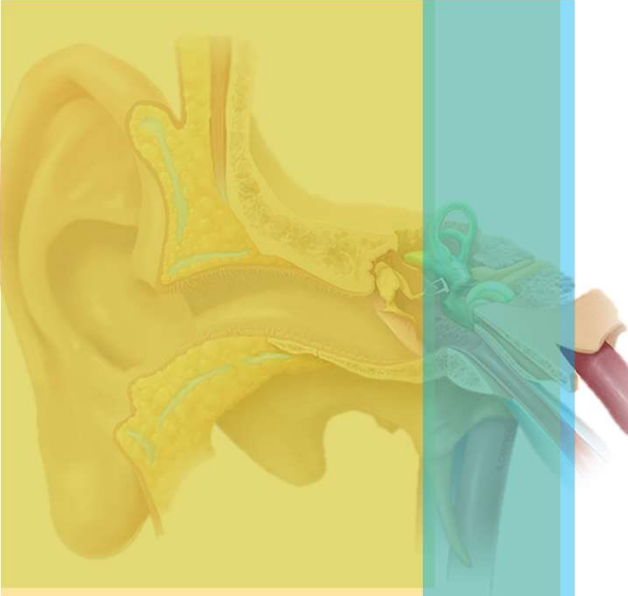
1. A sound processor detects sound and transforms it to vibrations.
2. DermaLock™ Abutment connects the sound processor to the implant.
3. Implant transfers sound vibrations directly to the cochlea.



## Baha® System Candidacy Indications

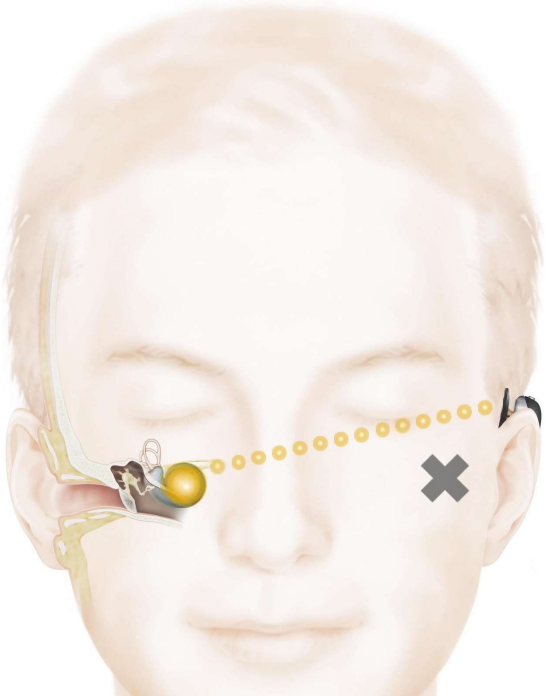
Cochlear®

- Conductive loss
- Mixed loss
- Single Sided Deafness



### The Baha System for SSD

When using the Baha System in SSD, the signal is routed to the normal hearing ear via bone conduction across the skull, from the deaf side to the healthy cochlea on the hearing side.



## Clinically Proven Patient Benefits



- Improved speech understanding in noisy environments.<sup>1</sup>
- Helps to lift the head shadow effect<sup>1-4</sup>
- Reduces the psychosocial consequences associated with hearing impairment.<sup>1, 5-6</sup>
- Long term patient satisfaction and hearing benefits.<sup>7-8</sup>

1. Hol MK, Bosman AJ, Snik AF, Mylari EA, Cremers CW. Bone-anchored hearing aids in unilateral inner ear deafness: an evaluation of audiometric and client outcome measurements. *Otology & Neurology* 2005; 26(5):999-1000.

2. Lin LM, Bowditch S, Anderson MJ, May B, Cox KM, Niparko K. Amplification in the rehabilitation of unilateral deafness: speech in noise and directional hearing effects with bone-anchored hearing and contralateral routing of signal amplification. *Otology and Neurology* 2006;27(2):172-82.

3. Pali I, Kelleher C, Nure T, Pathak N, Jindal M, Fitzgerald O'Connor A, Jiang D. Outcome of bone-anchored hearing aids for single-sided deafness: A prospective study. *Acta Oto-Laryngologica, Early Online* 1-5.

4. Wazen JJ, Spitzer JB, Ghossain SN, et al. Transcranial contralateral cochlear stimulation in unilateral deafness. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg* 2003;129(3):248-54.

5. Schroter SA, Ravn T, Bonding P. BAHK in single sided deafness: patient compliance and subjective benefit. *Ear Hear* 2010; 31: 404-408.

6. Newman CW, Sandridge DA, Wodzisz LM. Longitudinal benefit from and satisfaction with the Baha System for patients with acquired unilateral sensorineural hearing loss. *Otol Neurotol* 2008; 29: 1123-1131.

7. Kompis M, Willem W, Caversaccio L. Long term benefit of bone anchored hearing systems in single sided deafness. *Acta Oto-Laryngologica* 2017; 137:388-402.

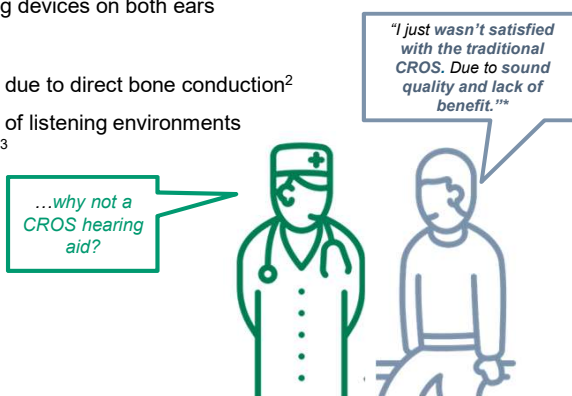
8. Mauritsio B, Baggio M, Lazzarino A, Minini S. Hearing and quality of life in a south European BAHK population. *Acta Oto-Laryngologica* 2010; 130: 1040-1047.

## Baha System vs. CROS Hearing Aids



### Benefits of Baha System for SSD

- No hardware in or occlusion of the hearing ear
- No need to wear hearing devices on both ears
- Better hearing in noise<sup>1</sup>
- Improved sound quality due to direct bone conduction<sup>2</sup>
- More useful in a variety of listening environments experienced in daily life<sup>3</sup>



1. Lin LM, Bowditch S, Anderson MJ, May B, Cox KM, Niparko K. Amplification in the rehabilitation of unilateral deafness: speech in noise and directional hearing effects with bone-anchored hearing and contralateral routing of signal amplification. *Otology and Neurology* 2006;27(2):172-82.

2. Edmiston RC, Agarwal R, Green K M J. Bone conduction implants – a rapidly. *The Journal of Laryngology & Otology*. 2015; 129:936-940.

3. Niparko JK, Cox K, Lustig LR. Comparison of the Bone Anchored Hearing Aid Implantable Hearing Device with Contralateral Routing of Offside Signal Amplification in the Rehabilitation of Unilateral Deafness. *Otology & Neurology*, 2003; 24(1):73-78.

\*Findings from Market Research Firm, 2/2017-3/2017. Conducted interviews among 29 U.S.-based ENTs and Audiologists who have conducted or fitted more than two bone conduction implants over the past year. Each interviewee brought up to five patient files. Results are based on experience and opinions of the 29 interviewees as well as the combined 135 patient files.

## Other Important Patient Benefits



- No extra hardware or occlusion in the hearing ear
- Demonstration of the Baha System
  - Ability to try before you decide
- Reimbursement
  - Often covered by insurance
- Wearable Technology
  - Customization and control of your hearing with,
    - > Made for iPhone®
    - > Baha Smart App
    - > True Wireless™ Accessories



## How to Identify Patients in the Clinic

Baha® System Evaluation | Candidate Criteria | Testing

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## Baha® System Evaluation for SSD



**Step 1:** Candidate Criteria

**Step 2:** Audiometric Testing

**Step 3:** Benefit Evaluation

- Hearing-in-noise testing
- Softband demonstration
- Subjective assessment

**Step 4:** Counsel the Candidate

- Fitting considerations
- Surgical consideration
- Which system and sound processor?

**Step 5:** Refer to an ENT specialist for a consultation or proceed with fit non- surgically



## Step 1: Candidate Criteria

Determine patients who can benefit from a bone conduction system



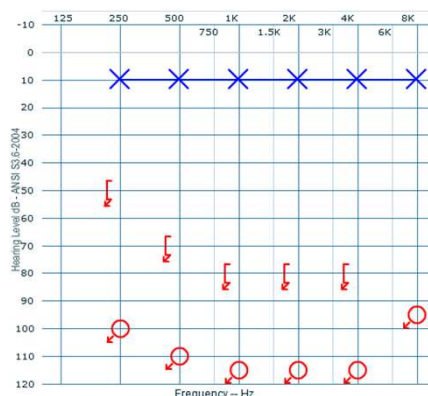
PATIENT CHARACTERISTICS	PATIENTS WITH CERTAIN EXISTING CONDITIONS	PATIENT ATTITUDE AND HISTORY
<p><b>All Ages</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baha Attract and Connect System (<i>Surgical Implant</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indicated for ages 5 and up</li> <li>- Contraindicated for below the age of 5 years</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Baha Softband (<i>Non-surgical</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indicated for all ages</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Common Causes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sudden onset hearing loss</li> <li>• Idiopathic</li> <li>• Genetic factors</li> <li>• Surgical intervention, i.e. removal of an acoustic neuroma.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Acoustic neuroma</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May consider treating SSD and AN at the same time</li> </ul> <p><b>Cannot wear hearing aids</b></p> <p><b>Recently lost hearing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The more recent the hearing loss, patients are more motivated to seek treatment than those who have lived with hearing loss longer term.<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	<p><b>Willing and able to care for and maintain the implant site</b></p> <p><b>Are comfortable with and open to a surgical option</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are scheduled for resection or similar surgery and placement of a bone conduction implant can be done concurrently</li> </ul> <p><b>Do not want to wear a device in their good ear</b></p> <p><b>Have a realistic expectation of benefit</b></p>

## Step 2: Audiometric Testing



*Includes unmasked and masked bone conduction*

- Implant Ear (Poor Ear)
  - Severe to profound SNHL
- Contralateral (Good Ear)
  - Normal hearing
    - PTA AC Threshold  $\leq 20$  dB @ 500Hz, 1kHz, 2kHz and 3kHz



*Note: In cases where there is a more significant hearing loss in the good ear, a bone conduction implant may not be the best solution.*

## Step 3: Clinical Benefit Evaluation

### SSD Test Considerations



### Hearing in Noise Testing

- QuickSIN, HINT or AZ Bio, are recommended to evaluate the benefit.
- Noise should come from the speaker facing the hearing ear, while speech comes from the speaker nearest the deaf ear.

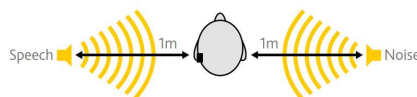


Image A: Set-up of hearing in noise test for SSD candidates.

- Test two situations to help determine individual benefit
  1. Unaided Condition
    - Test to establish the SNR or speech perception ability without treatment
  2. Aided Condition: Baha Softband
    - Test again to establish SNR or speech perception ability with the Baha System.

**Patient speech-in-noise measurements** can be used as an accurate predictor of the **overall benefits** of a **bone conduction** system for **patients with SSD** prior to implantation.<sup>14</sup>

Difference in the SNR between the two situations has been shown to be a good predictor of individual benefit. The bigger the difference, the more benefit can be expected from the Baha System.

1. Snapp HA, Fabry DA, Telleschi FF, Arheart KL, Angell SI. A clinical protocol for predicting outcomes with an implantable prosthetic device (BAHA) in patients with single-side-deafness. J AM Acad Audiol. 2010 Nov-Dec (10): 654-62.



## Softband Demonstration



- Demonstrate the processor you intend to fit post surgery
- Cochlear expects demonstration outcomes using the Softband to be similar to Baha Attract outcomes.
- You should expect better sound transmission using Baha Connect due to the percutaneous implant.



## Step 4: Counsel the Candidate

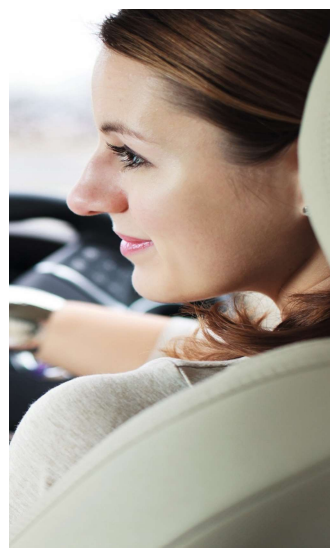
Determine which Baha System and Sound Processor is right for your patient

### Fitting Considerations

- Practical points to consider
  - Hearing Expectations
  - Cosmetics
  - Hygiene
  - Dexterity
  - Sporting Activities/Head Gear
  - Radiation/ MRIs

### Surgical Considerations

- Discuss surgical expectations
  - Typically a routine outpatient procedure
  - Performed under general anesthesia
  - Established treatment option +40 years
- Review the Guidebook, *“What to Expect at Surgery/Activation”*

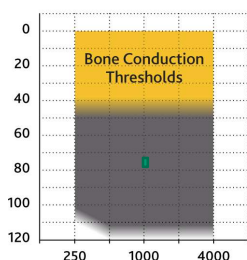




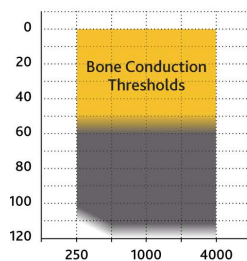
## Select the right power level\*



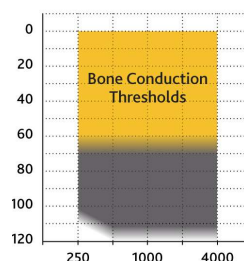
Up to 45 dB SNHL



Up to 55 dB SNHL



Up to 65 dB SNHL



■ Bone-conduction thresholds averaged across 500, 1000, 2000 and 3000 Hz  
■ Air-conduction thresholds may extend into this area

\* Baha System fittings for SSD require normal hearing in the good ear. Power level selection for patients with SSD will be based on the transcranial and soft tissue attenuation needs.

## Determine Which System



### The Baha Connect System

Transmits vibrations through a percutaneous abutment, which connects the sound processor to the implant.

- Direct sound transmission for maximum amplification
- High transcranial attenuation
- Indicated for ages 5 and up



### The Baha Attract System

Transmits sound vibrations to the inner ear through a magnetic connection, between the sound processor and the transcutaneous implant under the skin.

- Provides a good aesthetic outcome with no need for daily care.
- Low transcranial attenuation
- Indicated for ages 5 and up

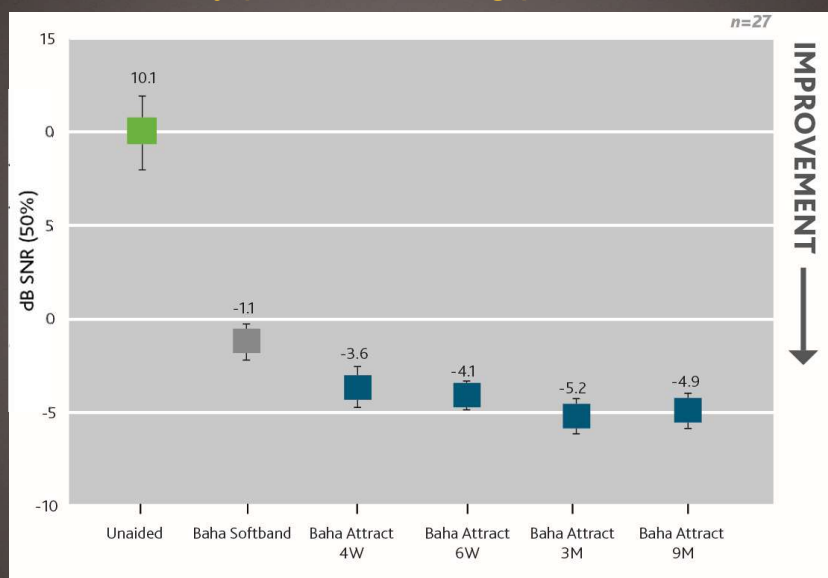


### The Baha Softband

Uses a flexible headband to hold the sound processor, which transmit vibrations to the bone through the skin.

- Non-surgical option
- Low transcranial attenuation
- Indicated for children below the age of 5 years or older if recommended

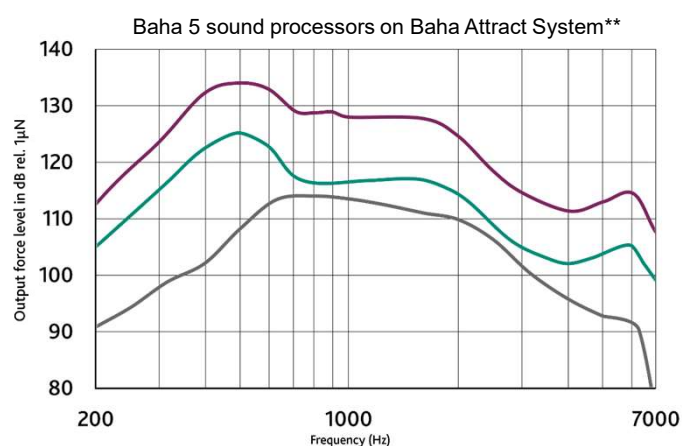
## Clinically proven hearing performance<sup>1</sup>



1. Briggs RJ, Van Hasselt A, Luntz M, Goycoolea M, Wigren S, Weber P, Smeds H, Flynn M, Cowan R. Clinical performance of a new magnetic bone conduction hearing implant system: results from a prospective, multi-center, clinical investigation. *Otol Neurotol* 2015 [Epub ahead of print]

## Cochlear™ Baha® Attract System

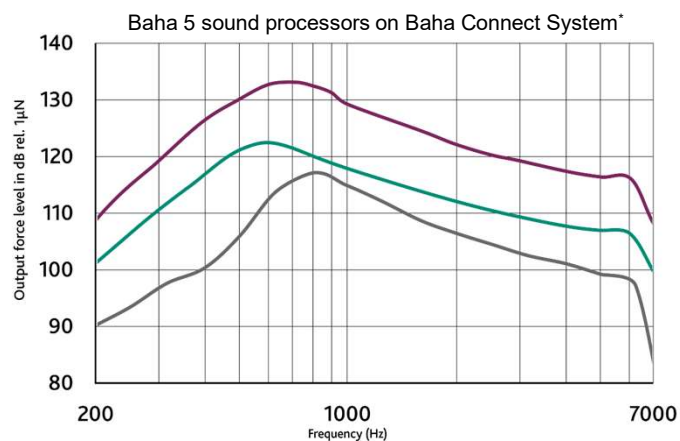
Baha Attract with more power in the high frequencies\*



\*Baha 5 SuperPower compared with BP110 Power at 6,000 Hz  
 \*\*OFL90 measured on Artificial Mastoid IEC 60318-6

## Cochlear™ Baha® Connect System

The strongest and most complete direct system<sup>1</sup>



1. Normman, J. Review of fitting ranges. Cochlear Bone Anchored Solutions AB, D773528, 2015  
 \*OFL90 measured on skull simulator TU1000

## SSD Fitting Scenarios

Baha Softband  
or Baha Attract

You might need a Power processor to overcome the transcranial attenuation + soft tissue attenuation

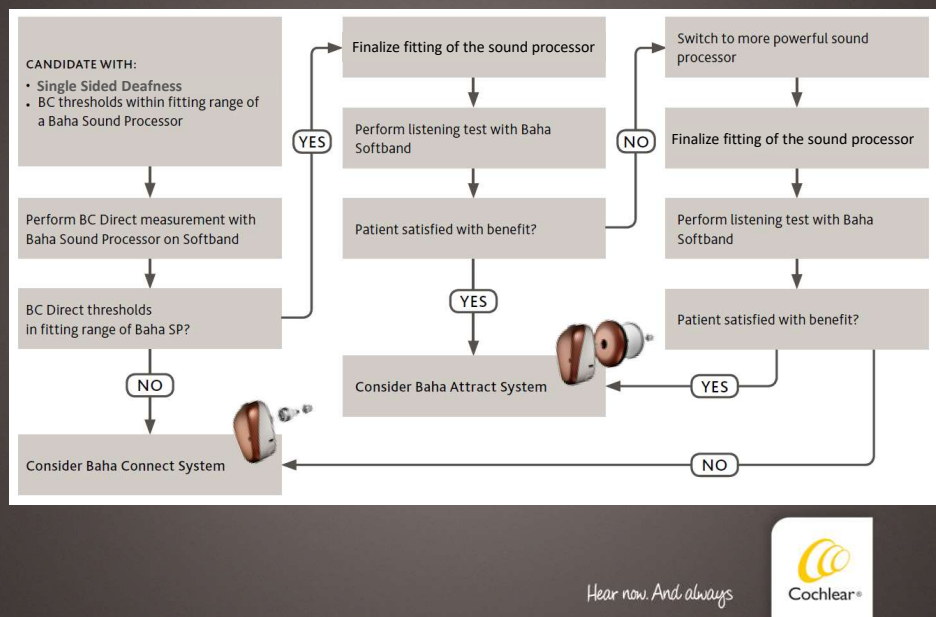


Pure SSD on a  
Connect System

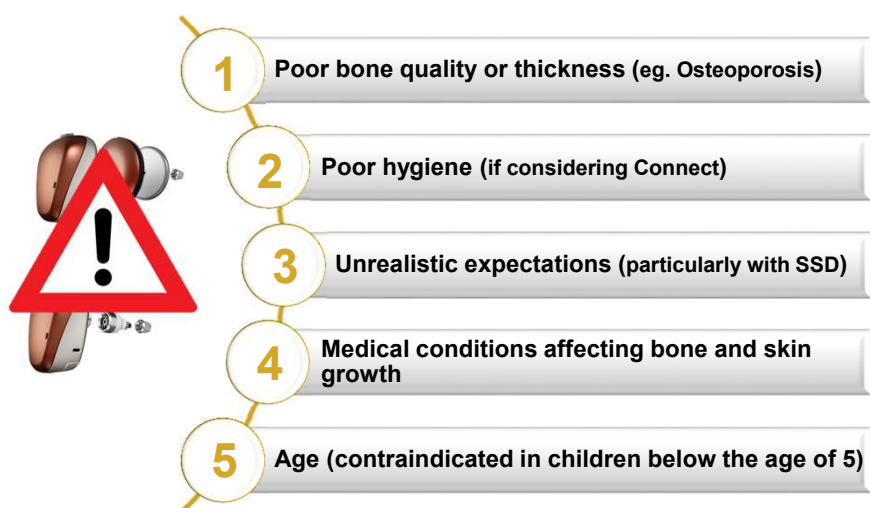
Should be managed by Baha 5 but occasionally you will come across high transcranial attenuation and need more power in order for the recipient to perceive benefit.



## Overview of Suggested Evaluation Process



## Contraindications to the Implantation of Baha® Cochlear®




**Step 5:** Refer to an ENT specialist for a consultation or proceed with non-surgical fitting




**Next Steps:**

- If your SSD patient meets candidate criteria outlined in Steps 1-4, your next step is to refer your patient to an ENT specialist for a consultation.
- If your patient does not want to proceed with surgery, but does find value from the demonstration, consider fitting a Baha sound processor non-surgically and reevaluate over time.

A white audio waveform graphic on a dark gray background, showing a series of peaks and valleys representing sound waves.

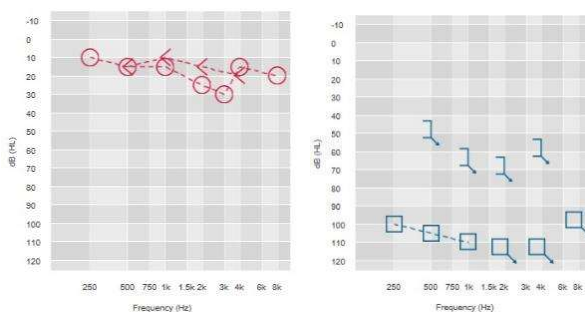
**SSD Case Studies**

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The Cochlear logo, featuring a stylized yellow 'C' with a white dot inside, and the word 'Cochlear' in a small, sans-serif font below it.

## CASE 1

## Steve



- Steve is a 38 year old man with sudden SSD of unknown etiology 3 years ago
- He sings in a 1940's tribute band and wears suits and horn-rimmed glasses everyday.
- He has been using a CROS aid, but he does not like wearing it with his glasses and he feels that his good ear is plugged, especially when he is trying to follow his bandmates



## CASE 1

## Steve - outcome



	SNR loss (Quick SIN)*
Unaided (pre-op)	14 dB
Baha on softband (trial)	6 dB
Baha on abutment (post-op)	4 dB

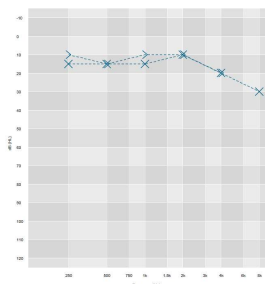
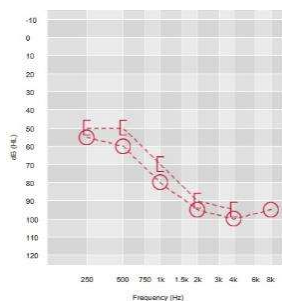
\*lower number is better

- Following a successful trial in the clinic, Steve elected to move forward with a Baha Connect in the left ear
- He successfully uses his Baha every day and reports it is so comfortable he sometimes forgets he is wearing it

"I love using the Baha to talk on my iPhone – I didn't expect that it would be so clear to use the phone."  
-Steve

## CASE 2

## Lia



- Lia is a 62 year old woman with a congenital hearing loss in the right ear. Recently, she has noticed some loss of hearing in her good ear and she is struggling to communicate at work.
- Lia is a florist who owns her own shop. She is very active and does not plan on retiring any time soon!
- Lia has not tried any previous treatment options for her hearing loss

Audiogram thresholds:

L	WRS	250	500	750	1000	1500	2000	3000	4000	6000	8000
BC		10	15		10		10		20		
AC	96%	10	15		15		10		20		30

R	WRS	250	500	750	1000	1500	2000	3000	4000	6000	8000
BC			15		10		15		20		
AC	0%	10	15		15		25	30	15		20



## CASE 2

## Lia - outcome



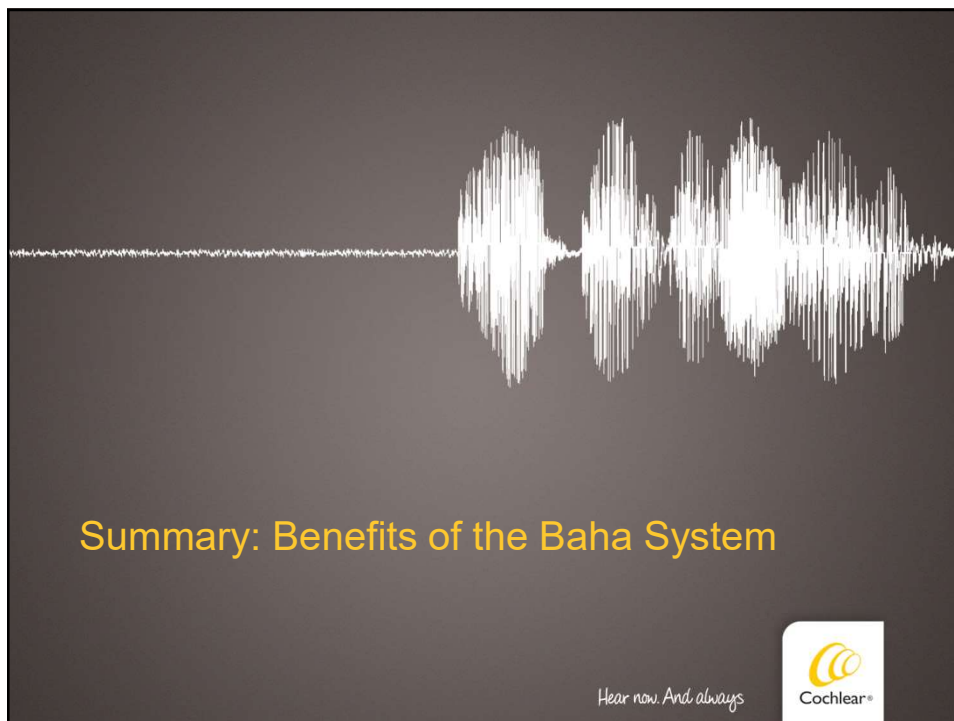
	SNR loss (Quick SIN)*
Unaided (pre-op)	12 dB
Baha on softband (trial)	8 dB
Baha on abutment (post-op)	7 dB

\*lower number is better

- Lia's clinician discussed treatment options and she opted to trial the Baha first
- She loved the sound of a Baha 5 Power on the softband and elected to proceed with the Baha Connect
- Lia uses her Baha daily and especially likes using the Mini Mic 2+ at work with her colleague

"I barely notice my Baha but my employees at work definitely notice if I don't have it on!"  
-Lia





## Benefits of the Baha® System for SSD



- Improved sound quality due to direct bone conduction
- May report a sense of directionality due to increased sensation of sound on side with loss
- Improved speech understanding in noisy environments.
- Long term patient satisfaction and hearing benefits
- Try before you decide

### **Compared to CROS Hearing Aids:**

- No need to wear hearing devices on both ears
- No occlusion of the hearing ear

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 **Follow us on LinkedIn:** Cochlear/medical devices  
 **Follow us on Twitter:** @CochlearUS  
**Visit our website:** [www.Cochlear.com/us](http://www.Cochlear.com/us)



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