

### Hearing Implants and MRI: Issues and Safety

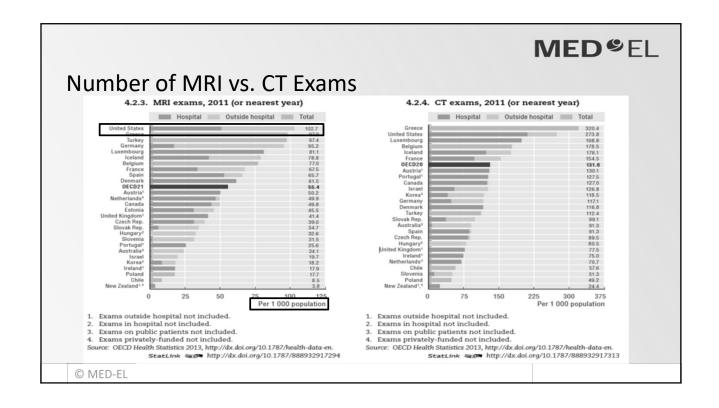
Darla Franz, VP Education MED-EL North America Martin Zimmerling, Head of Implant R&D MED-EL Headquarters

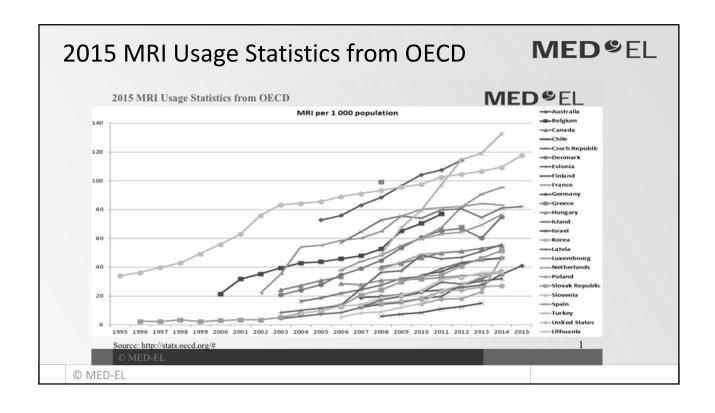
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Why Should This Topic Matter to Audiologists?



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### Possible Interactions with Implants

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### Static Magnetic Field:

- Linear force and torque
- Magnet dislocation
- Demagnetization

### Radio Frequency Field:

- Voltage induction
- Unintended stimulations
- Heating (electrode contacts)



### ■ Magnetic Gradient Fields:

- Vibrations of the implant
- Implant damage
- Unintended stimulations
- Heating (housing)

### ■ Influence on the MRI System:

- Image artifacts

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### MRI with MED-EL Implants

- 2001 First FDA approval of MRI at 0.2 T with axial magnet in place for the COMBI 40+ implant
  - Required company pre-authorization
  - International approval for 0.2T, 1.0T, 1.5T with magnet in place
- 2005 PULSAR implant FDA approved for 0.2T with axial magnet in place
- 2007 SONATA implant FDA approved for 0.2T with axial magnet in place
- 2013 MED-EL CONCERT, SONATA and PULSAR implants approved for MRI with the axial magnet in place
  - Prior authorization requirement was lifted
- At that point, literally hundreds of scans had been completed around the world on MED-EL implants with no major reported adverse events

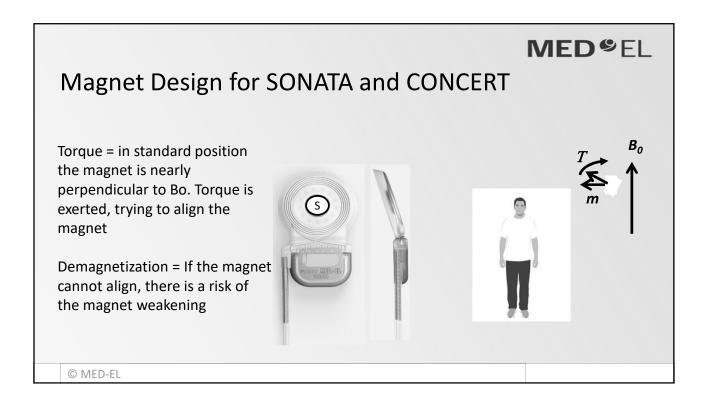
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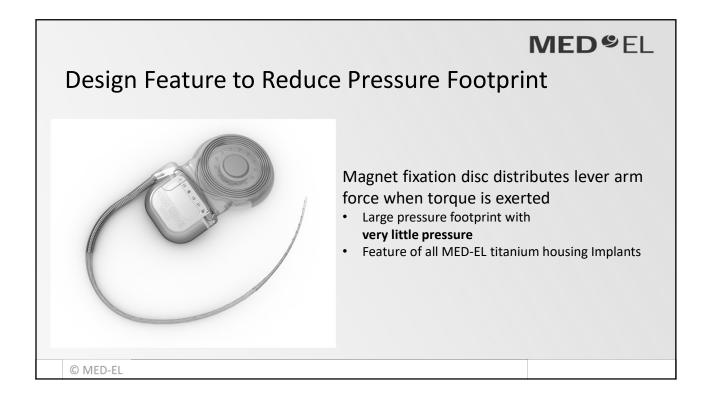
### **Recent News**

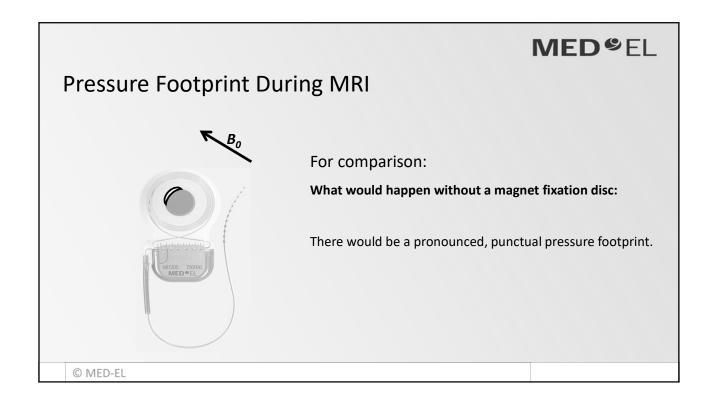
- 2015: SYNCHRONY implant with revolutionary diametric magnet approved for
  - 1.5T and 3.0T MRI with magnet in place
  - 1.5T and 3.0T MRI with magnet optionally removed
  - · No pre-authorization requirement in the USA
  - Bandaging/splinting is optional
- 2016: Early COMBI 40+ implant received FDA approval for 1.5T
   MRI with axial magnet in place
  - Implanted 1998-2005 in the USA

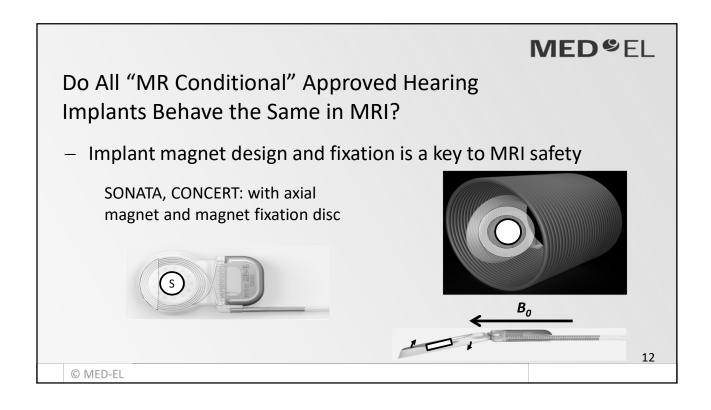
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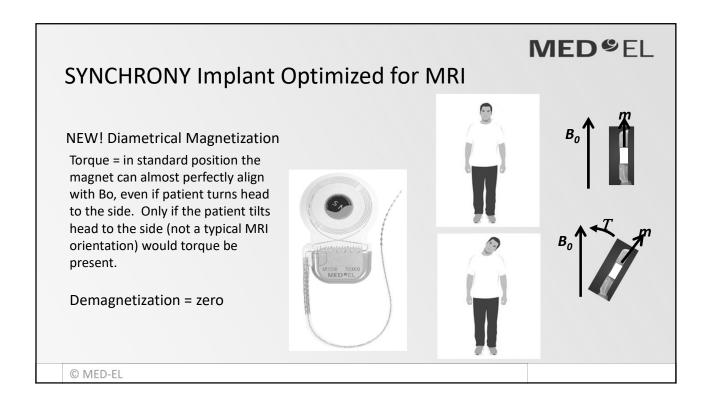
# Do All "MR Conditional" Approved Hearing Implants Behave the Same in MRI? - Implant magnet design and fixation is the key to MRI safety Some CIs with axial magnets placed in a silicone pocket:

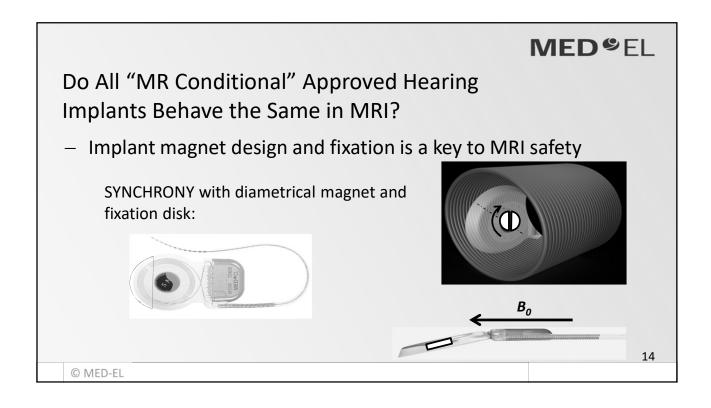




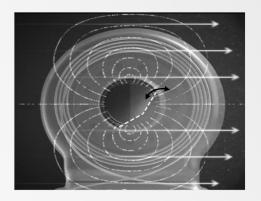








### Self-Adjusting Magnet Optimized for MRI



- Diametrically magnetized internal magnet
- Placed to freely rotate in hermetic housing
- · Aligns parallel to magnetic field
  - Implant magnet never weakens
  - Torque is close to zero
- Addresses increasing popularity of 3.0T scanners
- Patented design

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### **Spontaneous Magnet Displacement**

- BC Mickelson et al 2008: Child with minor head trauma resulting in magnet dislocation, then suffered a repeat dislocation after being hit with a snowball. AB device.
- Reported that 50 dislocations had been experienced (cited industry) and one other repeat dislocation

nternational Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology (2008) 72, 1071-107

International Journal of **Pediatric**Otorhinolaryngology

www.elsevier.com/locate/ijpo

Magnet dislodgement in cochlear implantation: Correction utilizing a lasso technique

Jon-Ivar Mickelson, Frederick K. Kozak\*

Division of Pediatric Otolaryngology, BC Children's Hospital, Division of Otolaryngology, University of British Columbia, 4480 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Received 10 January 2008; received in revised form 20 March 2008; accepted 22 March 2008

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### Magnet Dislodged During MRI

- 2008 Paris Deneuve et al.
- Child with Cochlear device underwent successful MRI. 2<sup>nd</sup> MRI a year later resulted in pain, burning. Both MRIs followed manufacturer's instructions re compression dressing
- Two weeks later the patient developed pain and edema, magnet was found to be out of the pocket.

Otology & Neurotology 00:00-00 © 2008, Otology & Neurotology, Inc

> Cochlear Implant Magnet Displacement During Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Sophie Deneuve, Nathalie Loundon, Nicolas Leboulanger, Isabelle Rouillon, and Erea Noel Garabedian

ENT Department-Hôpital d'Enfants Armand Trousseau, Paris, France

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### **Spontaneous Magnet Displacement**

- 2009 Swiss case report of 3 Cochlear patients who had spontaneous magnet dislocation
  - Magnetic toys that were placed near the implant
  - Impact resulting in dislocation of the magnet
- Authors suggest no longer implanting children with removable magnets!

Magnet displacement: a rare complication following cochlear implantation

Corina Wild - John Allum - Rudolf Probst - Daniel Abeks - Claude Fischer - Daniel Bodmer

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### **Magnet Reversal**

- 2011 Korea
- AB patient presented with opposite magnet polarity after 2<sup>nd</sup> 1.5T MRI with magnet in place (head bandage was used)
- Patient reported temporary sensation of magnet on end



 Authors surmise the magnet flipped in its pocket during the scan

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### Magnet Dislodged During MRI

- 2012 Rome
- Patient underwent MRI without contacting clinic, and without dressing
- Magnet flipped on end, and stayed that way
- Surgeon successfully manipulated magnet back into pocket through the skin

The Laryngoscope © 2012 The American Laryngological, Rhinological and Otological Society, Inc.

Case Report

Noninvasive Management of Cochlear Implant's Inner Magnet Displacement after Magnetic Resonance: A Case Report

Walter Di Nardo, MD; Sara Giannantonio, MD; Lorenzo Schinaia, PhD; Eugenio De Corso, MD; Gaetano Paludetti, MD

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### Magnet Dislodged After MRI

- 2013 CI International Journal, Manchester UK
- Patient with bilateral Cochlear devices
- Pain bilaterally during scan, but images were obtained. 10 days later patient presented with bilateral skin reactions and left magnet displacement. Both magnets were eventually permanently removed for serial scanning.

Case report

Cochlear implants and magnetic resonance scans: A case report and review

Stephen J Broomfield¹, Melville Da Cruz², William P R Gibson²

 $^{1} Manchester\ Cochlear\ Implant\ Centre,\ Manchester,\ UK,\ ^{2} Sydney\ Cochlear\ Implant\ Centre,\ Sydney,\ Australia$ 

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### Retrospective Review: Adverse Events

- 2014 Kim et al Korea
- 18 patients in MRI at various locations / one or multiple scans (30 scans)
- 3 MED-EL patients (one had 4x brain scans + 2 lumbar spine scans). Remaining 15 patients all with "pocket" removable magnet designs (2 CC patients had 3.0T scans)
  - 8 / 15 had pain or discomfort during MRI
  - 5 / 15 MRI couldn't be completed due to pain and discomfort
  - 1 case each of magnet dislocation and magnet reversal
- All scans were uneventful for patients with MED-EL CI

Adverse Events and Discomfort During Magnetic Resonance Imaging in Cochlear Implant Recipients

Hee Nam Kim, MD, PhD; Jin Won Kim, MD; Jeong Jin Park, MD; Sung Hunn Kim, MD, PhD;

Hee Nam Kim, MD, PhD; Jae Young Choi, MD, PhD

JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg. doi:10.1001/jamaoto.2014.2926 Published online November 20, 2014.

Patient No./ Sex/Age at CI, y	CI Device <sup>a</sup>	MRI Site	Reason for MRI	MRI Machine <sup>b</sup>	MRI Field Strength
1/M/24	Nucleus CI 24RE(CA)	Knee	Degenerative osteoarthritis	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
2/F/25	Nucleus CI 24RE(CA)	Lumbar spine (×2)	Malignant ependymoma, spinal cord	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
3/M/17	Nucleus CI 24RE(CA)	Knee (×3)	Ruptured anterior cruciate ligament	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
4/M/1	Nucleus CI 24RE(CA) <sup>c</sup>	Brain	Bacterial meningitis	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
5/F/17	Nucleus CI22M	Knee	Tear of discoid lateral meniscus	Discovery MR750	3.0 T
6/F/66	Nucleus CI 24RE(CA)	Brain	Traffic crash	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
7/F/54	Nucleus CI 24RE(CA)	Cervical spine	Traffic crash	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
8/F/66	Nucleus CI 24RE(CA)	Brain	Optic neuritis	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
9/F/38	Nucleus CI22M	Shoulder	Chronic pain	Philips Achieva	3.0 T
10/F/11	Nucleus CI512	Whole spine	Thoracic scoliosis	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
11/F/25	Clarion CII	Thigh	Degenerative osteoarthritis	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
12/M/2	Clarion CII	Brain	Preoperative evaluation before ABI	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
13/F/65	Clarion HiRes 90K	Right knee Left knee Lumbar spine	Degenerative osteoarthritis	Magnetom Essenza	1.5 T
14/M/4	Clarion HiRes 90K <sup>c</sup>	Brain	Preoperative evaluation before ABI	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
15/M/2 (R) 15/M/9 (L) 15/M/12 (R)	Clarion CII Clarion HiRes 90K Nucleus CI422	Brain (×3)	Diabetes insipidus Langerhans cell histiocytosis	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
16/F/6	MED-EL Combi 40+	Brain (×4) Lumbar spine (×2)	Medulloblastoma	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
17/F/60	MED-EL FLEXsoft	Thoracolumbar spine	Lumbar pain	Philips Achieva	1.5 T
18/M/35	MED-EL Pulsar	Wrist	Chronic pain	SIGNA HDxt	1.5 T

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### **Review of Adverse Events**

- 2015 Carlson et al, Mayo Clinic
- Retrospective case review of all CIs undergoing MRI between 2012-2014
- 19 ears, 34 MRI scans with bandaging and lidocaine (18 Cochlear and 1 AB)
  - 2 pts couldn't tolerate and required magnet removal
  - 1 pt experienced 2 episodes of magnet reversal, requiring surgical repositioning
  - 3 pts had canting of the magnet that was physically repositioned without surgery
  - 1 pt had 3 MRI studies with magnet removal, at 3<sup>rd</sup> surgery a tear was found in the silicone

Magnetic Resonance Imaging with Cochlear Implant
Magnet in Place: Safety and Imaging Quality

Otology & Neurotology 00:00-00 © 2015, Otology & Neurotology, Inc

> \*†Matthew L. Carlson, \*†Brian A. Neff, \*†Michael J. Link, ‡John I. Lane, ‡Robert E. Watson, ‡Kiaran P. McGee, ‡Matt A. Bernstein, and \*†Colin L. W. Driscoll

\*Departments of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, †Neurologic Surgery, and ‡Radiology, Mayo Clinic School of Medicine, Rochester Minnesota, U.S.A.

No difficulty seeing necessary brain structures in 94% of pts receiving head MRI

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### Magnet Dislocation Not Visualized on Xray

- 2016 COSM Poster
- 5 year old child sustained a minor head trauma
- Magnet's silicone pocket torn both laterally and medially, with magnet displaced medially and not visible on Xray due to being under the R/S
- Search of manufacturer database revealed 49 cases in a one year period (2014-2015) of dislodged magnet due to trauma

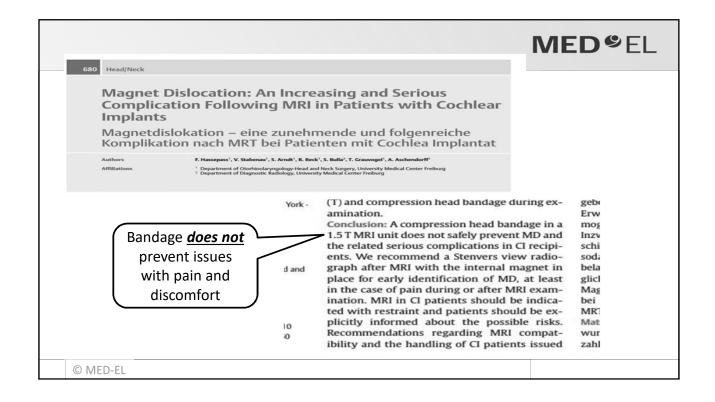
### Medial Displacement of Cochlear Implant Magnet Following Trauma

Mary Lauren Worthen, MD<sup>1</sup>; Arun Gadre, MD, FACS<sup>1</sup>;

<sup>1</sup>Department of Otolaryngology-HNS and Communicative Disorders, University of

Louisville School of Medicine

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### The MRI Landscape Continues to Change

- Rapidly increasing prevalence of 3.0T scanners
- Diagnostic need for increased scanner resolution
- Rapidly increasing rate of MRI usage as diagnostic tool of choice
- Clear desire from the field of medicine to make high resolution scanning more feasible
- Clear desire from recipients with significant medical issues to make MRI easier/more comfortable



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### Tests to Demonstrate MRI Safety

- All testing done to ASTM standards
- Some testing done by MED-EL using a clinical scanner
- Some testing done at external test houses



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### MRI Testing with MED-EL Cochlear Implants

- Force at entrance of scanner vs gravitational force
- If the angle of the attractive force is less than 45 degrees, the implant isn't subjected to a force greater than gravity at the scanner entrance



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### MRI Testing with MED-EL Cochlear Implants - Torque: • Pain • Magnet dislocation thread connected to the force meter

### MRI Testing with MED-EL Cochlear Implants

### Demagnetization

- Magnet weakening occurs within a fraction of a second
- Test before and after
- Repeat x 10
  - Demagnetization isn't linear
  - If orientation angle is unchanged, subsequent scans don't increase the exposure



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### MRI Testing with MED-EL Cochlear Implants

### Magnet dislocation

- Glass model of the head
- Implant affixed with bandage (optional when scanning clinically)
- Tiny CCD camera monitors movement to ensure the magnet does not dislocate during the scan



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### MRI Testing with MED-EL Cochlear Implants

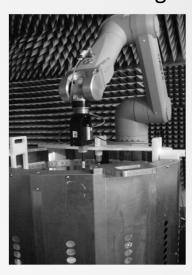
Testing done at external test houses:

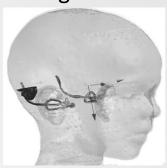
- Heating (gradient fields)
- Heating (RF field)
- Unintended stimulation (gradient fields)
- Unintended stimulation (RF field)
- Robustness against MRI sequences
- Image artifacts



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### **External Testing: Heating**





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Not just the magnetic field but a combination of measurement and stimulation together

- Properties of the skull and brain
- Thermal conductivity
- Thermal capacity
- Electrical capacity
- Electrical conductivity
- Variety of electrode trajectories
- Electrode in liquid vs air

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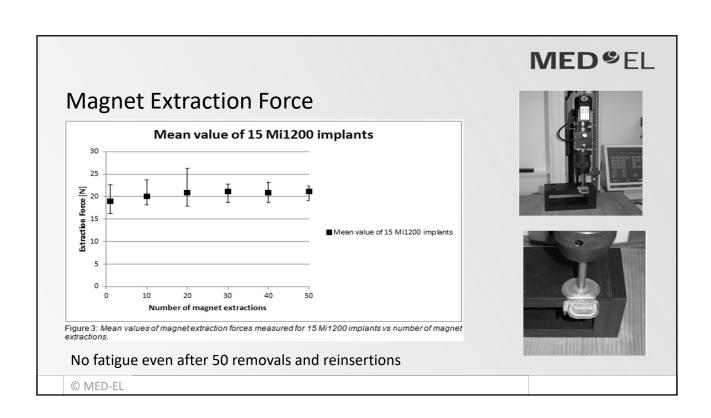
### Magnet Fixation and Removal

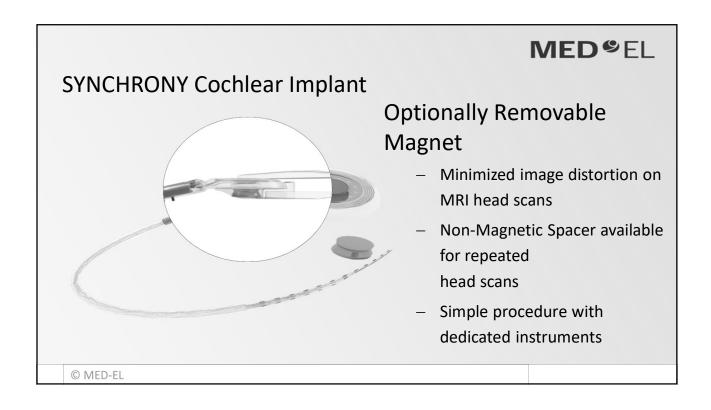


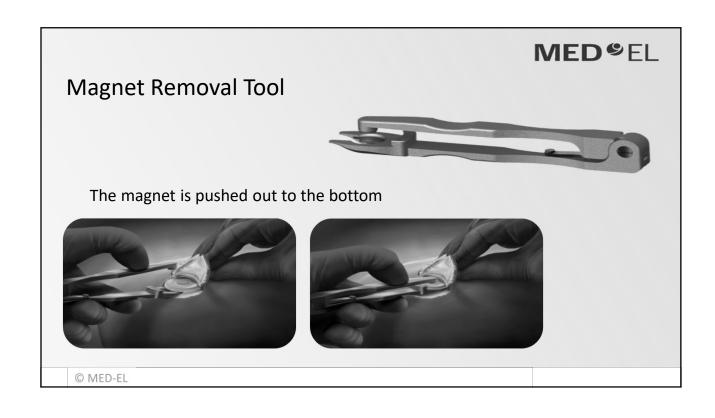
Goal: Remove the magnet only when necessary

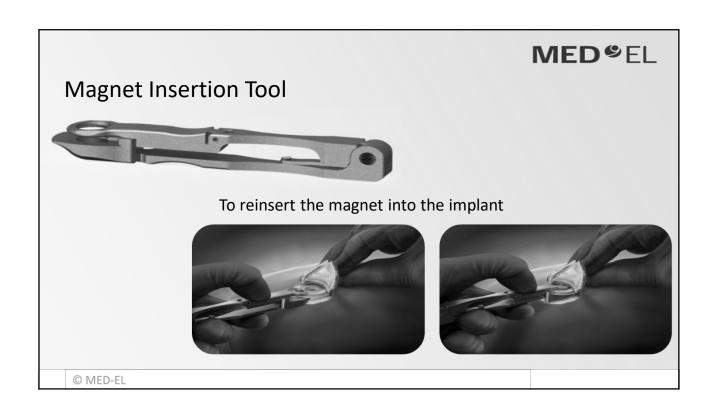
- Magnet housing has double-conical shape in crosssection
- Magnet fixation disc supports snap-in locking mechanism and force distribution
- Thin, smooth polymer coating of titanium housing to prevent cell adhesion
- Magnet removal only in medial direction

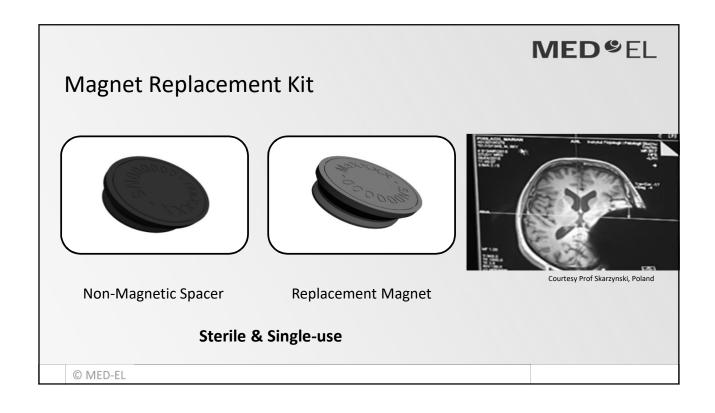
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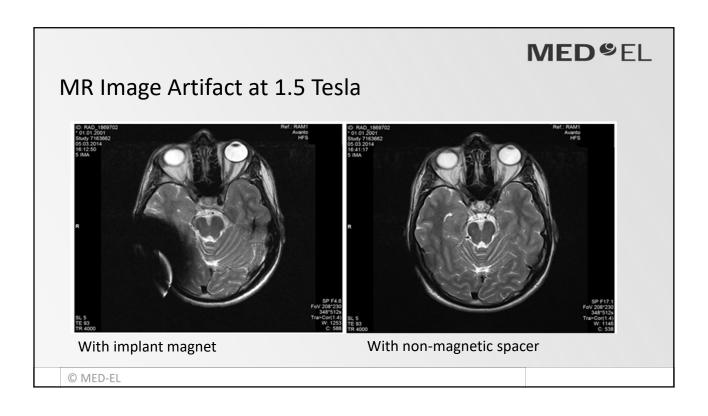


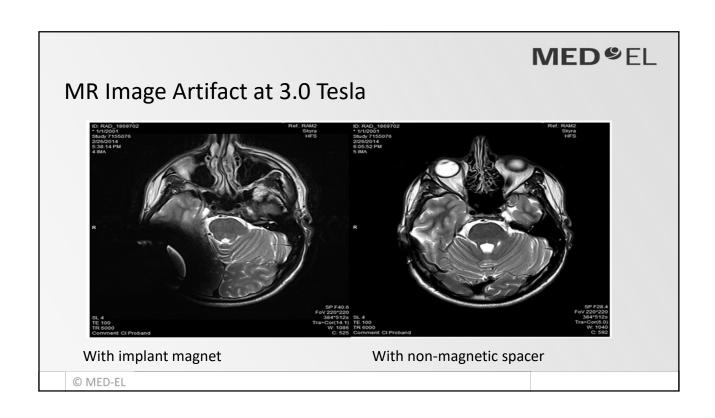


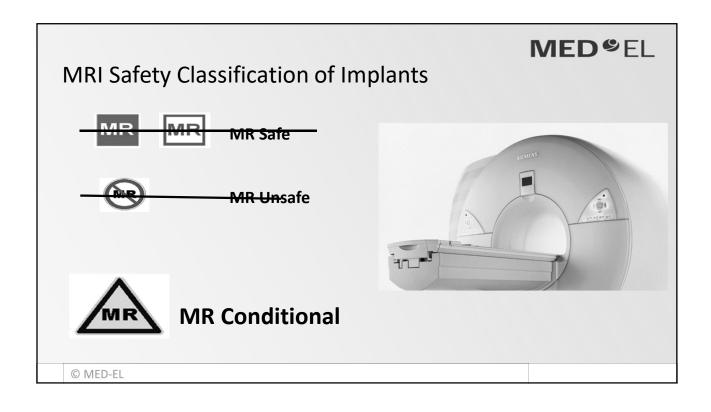












## The SYNCHRONY Implant Patented magnet design FDA approved and labelled as MR conditional at 1.5 and 3.0 Tesla (with magnet in place) Magnet is optionally removable Safe and comfortable for the patient Increased image resolution for the physician

How Often Does the Magnet Really Need to be

Removed?



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### What is the Real Need for Magnet Removal?

- MED-EL "rough estimate": 4-5% of patients may need magnet removal
  - Field experience from earlier days (number of devices implanted vs. number of cases where the implant had to be removed to reduce artifact)
    - A factor of 2-3 added to accommodate for some patients who had CT rather than MRI/removal
  - Global MED-EL ABI experience with NF2 patients who need MRI every 6-12 mos: not one single ABI removed for MRI
  - MRI artifact reduction sequences now available which can reduce artifact by 25-30% may improve efficacy

ABI not FDA approved in the USA

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Overview: Brain MRI

in US hospitals (in 2007 and 2010)

Anatomical region	2007	2010	Portion			
Brain and Neck	32%	29%	30%			
Spine	27%	25%				
Extremity	20%	24%				
Vascular (MRA)	9%	8%				
Pelvic & Abdominal	7%	7%	70%			
Breast	2%	4%				
Chest, other cardiac	3%	4%				
Other (Inc. interventional)	1%	1%	<u> </u>			
0.4450.51						



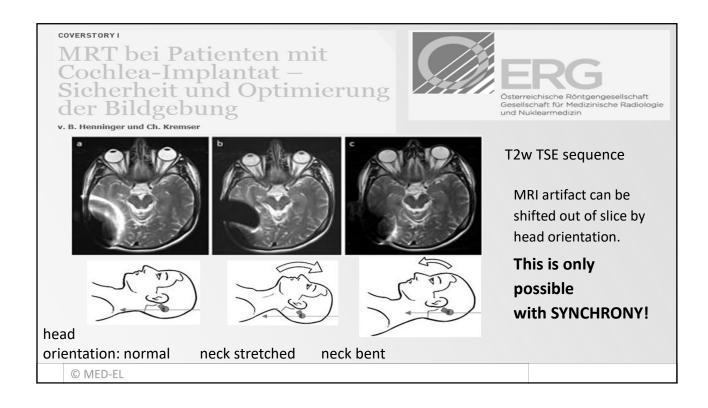
© MED-EL (GIA; Report linker, US, 2010)

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What is the Real Need for Magnet Removal?

- Lifetime prevalence of neurological disorders requiring MRI in patients with CI = 6.25%
  - MacDonald et al "The incidence and lifetime prevalence of neuro disorders in a prospective community' Brain, 2000.
  - Could we assume that only some of these cases would require imaging the region of the brain immediately around the implant that overlaps with artifact?

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e12 Case Report

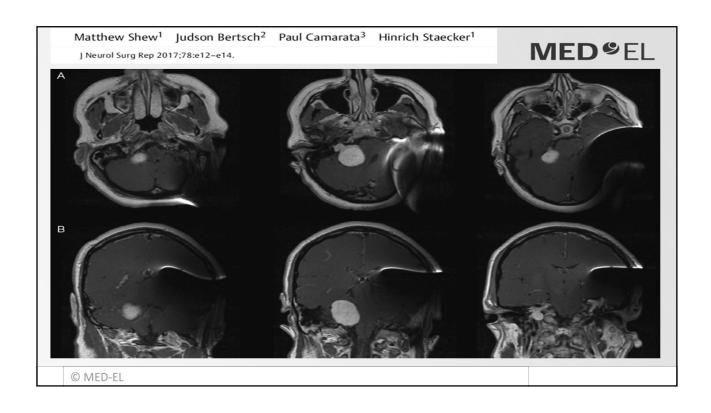


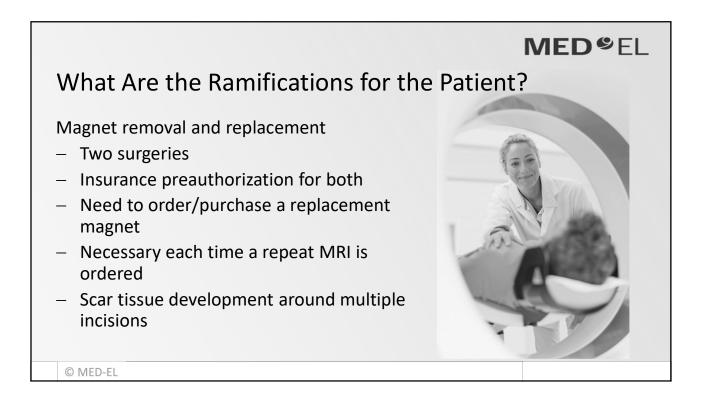
### Magnetic Resonance Imaging in a Neurofibromatosis Type 2 Patient with a Novel MRI-Compatible Auditory Brainstem Implant

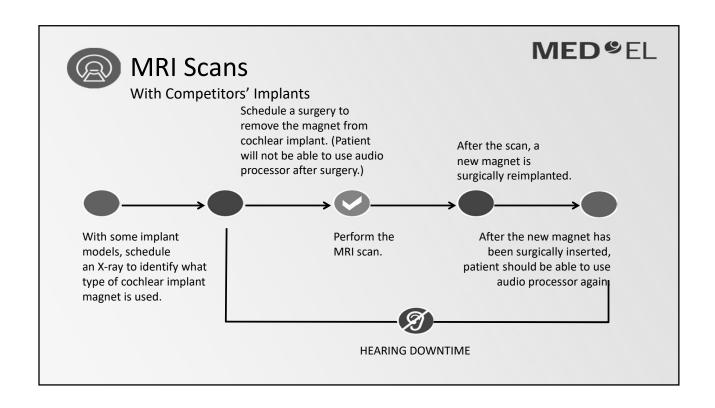
Matthew Shew<sup>1</sup> Judson Bertsch<sup>2</sup> Paul Camarata<sup>3</sup> Hinrich Staecker<sup>1</sup> J Neurol Surg Rep 2017;78:e12-e14.

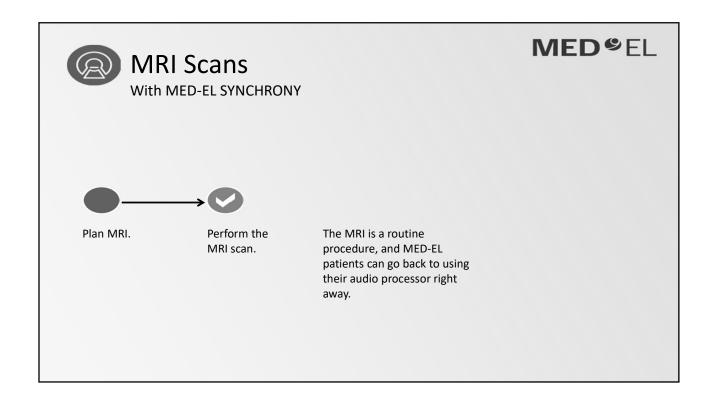
- Case report on 1.5 Tesla MRI in a NF2 Patient with SYNCHRONY ABI in the US
- Synchrony was chosen (FDA exemption) because of MRI need and the high level of MRI safety of SYNCHRONY
- All together 7 MRI scans successfully performed
- Good visibility of tumor in cerebellopontine angle

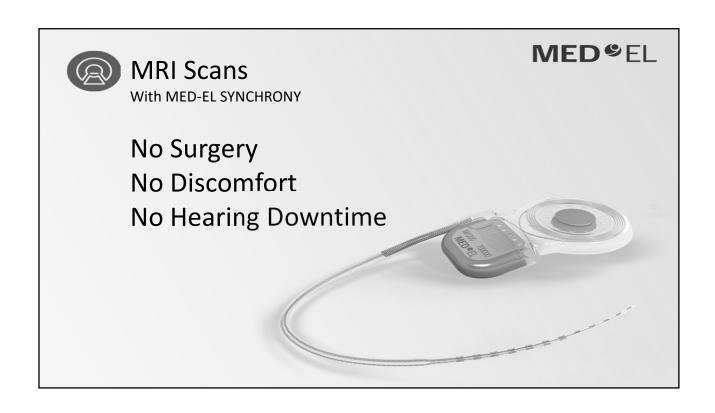
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### **SYNCHRONY Implant**

Feedback & field experience June 2017:

- 38 months since market introduction,
   27 months on US market
- Very positive clinical experience
- Not a single magnet has been weakened in MRI
- Not a single magnet dislocated in the course of an MRI or due to a mechanical impact over the implant
- So far only four cases of SYNCHRONY magnet removal for MRI, one completed here in the US

@3.0 Tesla

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### Where to Easily Find Scanning Instructions

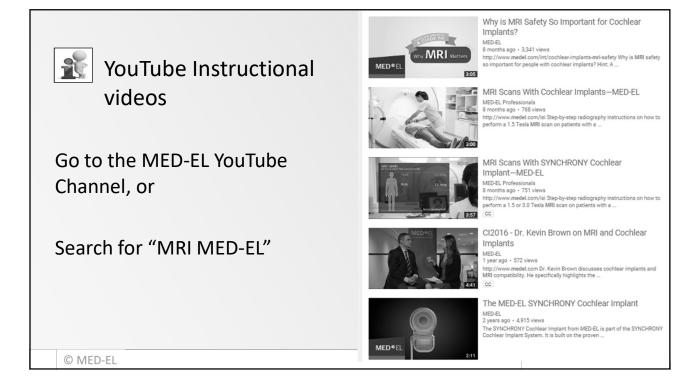
 Important Safety Information link, found at the bottom of all MED-EL web pages



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- How likely are you to stress the importance of MRI compatibility with cochlear implant candidates?
  - Very likely
  - Somewhat likely
  - Not likely

Do you feel more confident discussing MRI issues with recipients and candidates?

- Yes
- No

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