

HOW COCHLEAR IMPLANTS WORK

While hearing aids amplify sounds, cochlear implants mimic the inner ear's function by sending sound to the hearing nerve.

4. Implanted receiver/stimulator converts transmitter signals into electric impulses.

Magnet on receiver holds transmitter in place.

5. Electrodes implanted in the cochlea, the main organ of hearing, stimulate the auditory nerve, generating signals to the brain.

3. Transmitter sends signals to surgically implanted receiver.

2. Speech processor separates useful sounds from background noise.

1. Microphone picks up sound from the environment.