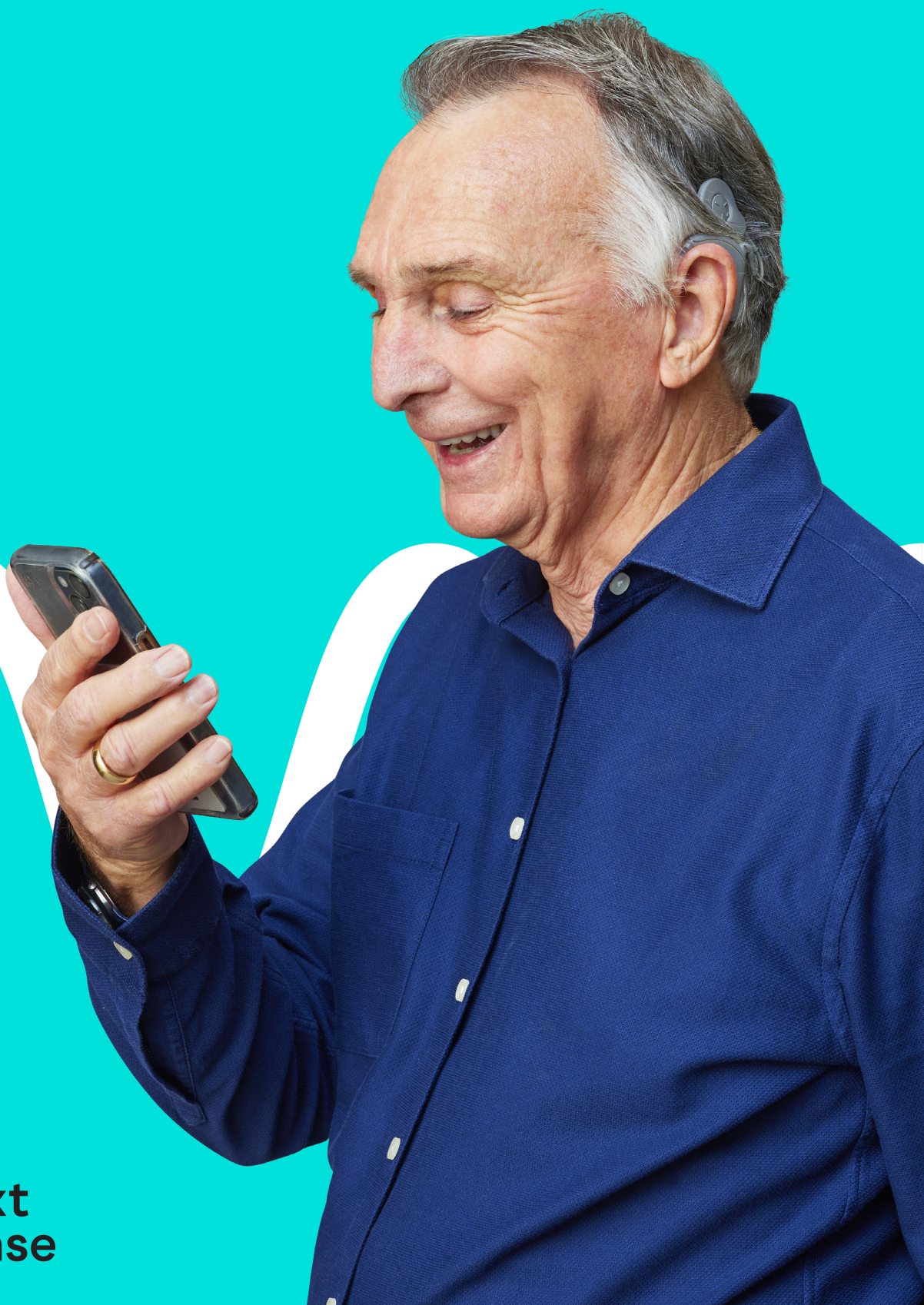


Professionals involved in your cochlear implant journey



Which health professionals will I see?

Referrer

Current audiologist, GP, Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) surgeon, other healthcare professional or organisation

NextSense ENT surgeon

NextSense affiliated surgeon specialising in cochlear implantation




NextSense audiologist

Allied health practitioner who evaluates, diagnoses and treats hearing loss, helping get the best possible access to sound and speech



Throughout your cochlear implant journey, various skilled professionals and organisations will be involved, offering support and care at each stage, from providing initial referral information to offering post-surgery care.

Here, we outline the key roles and responsibilities of each professional to provide you with a clear understanding of what to expect during your journey.

	Roles and responsibilities	What to expect
 Referrer	<p>Current audiologist, GP, Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) surgeon, hearing aid provider, other healthcare professional or organisation</p> <p>Their role is to refer you to NextSense Cochlear Implant Services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once referred and with your consent, the referrer will be kept informed of your progress by NextSense. If you decide to proceed with surgery, some referrers, such as Cochlear, may maintain contact with you to provide necessary information and resources.
 NextSense audiologist	<p>Allied health practitioner who evaluates, diagnoses and treats hearing loss, helping get the best possible access to sound and speech.</p> <p>Their role is to help you explore your options, understand your personal circumstances to determine your best solution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will see an audiologist to test whether a cochlear implant is right for you. They will conduct your assessment and help you navigate the system. After your cochlear implant surgery, you will meet with the same audiologist who will 'switch on' and program ('map') your cochlear implant. The cochlear implant map provides a tailored sound program that is unique to you. Your audiologist will see you regularly as you adjust to the new sound from your cochlear implant, and will continue to see you to ensure the cochlear implant map remains the best it can be.
 NextSense ENT surgeon	<p>NextSense affiliated surgeon specialising in cochlear implantation</p> <p>Their role is to conduct consultation, medical clearance, and perform the surgery.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After your initial assessment with NextSense, we will put you in touch with an ENT surgeon if appropriate. You may wait several weeks or months before meeting with the ENT surgeon for a medical suitability evaluation. Some surgeons may require additional medical testing before the consultation. The ENT surgeon will discuss the procedure, associated costs and hospital options.

Where will I be seen?



NextSense Centre

That's us! We are the service provider responsible for clinical assessments and ongoing audiological care if you decide to proceed with a cochlear implant.

Once you have been assessed, and decide to proceed with implantation, NextSense will continue to support you during surgery wait times. We may perform re-assessments if required.

After surgery, you will return to your local NextSense centre for device activation and regular care from our team of dedicated professionals. Together, we aim to provide you with the best possible hearing outcome and lifelong audiological care.

Hospital

This is where the cochlear implant surgery will take place, providing the necessary medical facilities and support for the surgery.


The hospital (public or private) is independent to NextSense. They will communicate with you before and after the surgery, informing you of any specific requirements or rules related to your healthcare setting.

How can I find a surgeon for my cochlear implant surgery?

NextSense is affiliated with a network of some of the most experienced cochlear implant surgeons in Australia. You can find a list of our surgeons at nextsense.org.au/ent

We also support private surgeons throughout Australia. You can find your closest ENT surgeon on the Australian Society of Otolaryngology website or ask your GP to refer you to an ENT surgeon.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

 1300 581 391

 hello@nextsense.org.au