

18/01/2019

Dr Rosie Benneyworth  
Vice chair  
National Institute for Health and Care Excellence  
10 Spring Gardens  
London SW1A 2BU

Dear Dr Benneyworth,

**Re: Final Appraisal Determination – MED-EL UK Ltd.**

Cochlear implants for children and adults with severe to profound deafness  
[ID1469]

MED-EL UK Ltd. would like to appeal against the Final Appraisal  
Determination for the above-mentioned technology appraisal on the following  
grounds:

Ground one: In making the assessment that preceded the recommendation,  
NICE has:

- a) failed to act fairly

**Ground 1a: In making the assessment that preceded the  
recommendation, NICE has: failed to act fairly**

**1a.1** As Phoneme test has a lower difficulty (Vickers *et al.*, 2016), a Phoneme score needs to be higher than AB word score to make the line be more feasible/fairer. MED-EL suggests raising up the Phoneme score to 55% (or greater) rather than set the same score to the AB word. There is also a study to suggest the audiological results of the Monosyllabic (CVC) words for both phonemes and word score. Leigh *et al.*, (2016) suggested that cochlear implantation can be confidently recommended for postlingually deafened adults who obtain open-set phoneme scores in quiet of up to 55%.

**Conclusion**

As Phoneme test has a lower difficulty (Vickers *et al.*, 2016), a Phoneme score needs to be higher than AB word score to make the line be more feasible/fairer. MED-EL suggests raising up the Phoneme score to 55% (or greater) rather than set the same score to the AB word.

If there is any further action we need to make on this, we wish we proceed this at a written appeal.