

Independent Audiologists Australia Inc

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Independent audiologists
australia

Fund	Queensland Country Health Fund Ltd
Code	QCH
Address for Correspondence	PO Box 42 Aitkenvale QLD 4814
Website	https://www.queenslandcountry.health

EXTRAS COVER

Schemes	Premium Extras	Essential Extras	Young Extras / Select Extras	Better Hospital Silver + (combined)
Audiology Description	\$60 paid for a report – limits apply	\$42 paid for a report – limits apply		A benefit amount is provided to use over three Membership Years based on the date of which the purchase of a hearing aid/s is made.
Initial Consult	\$50	\$35		Not specified
Subsequent Consult	\$50	\$35		Note specified
Binaural Devices	Not specified	Not specified		\$1,000 (up to 10 years membership) \$1,500 (10 to 15 years membership) \$2,000 (15+ years membership)
Device Limit	Not specified	Not specified		\$1,000
Device Supply Cycle	Not specified	Not specified		3 years

Notes and Disclaimer - Check individual cover with the health fund.

1. Health funds listed at <https://www.privatehealth.gov.au/dynamic/insurer> . Extras information and Hospital cover accessed July 2021.
2. Information summarised in this table was accessed from each website.
3. Product brochures from Extras and hospital cover were downloaded from each site and information related to audiology and hearing devices was extracted.
4. IAA is not responsible for the accuracy of the information listed, which is intended as a guide only.
5. Accuracy of information is dependent on the information made available by the fund.

HOSPITAL COVER

	Vital Hospital (Bronze +) Budget Hospital (Basic+)	Better Hospital (Silver +)
Initial	No cover for implantation of hearing devices	Cover for implantation of hearing devices
Repair		Up to \$100 per Member per Membership Year for the cost of maintenance fees, repairs, batteries or purchase and/or repairs of a charging dock for hearing aids

Sound Processor Upgrades / Replacements do not require admission to hospital and fall outside of the benefit for implantation of hearing devices.

Replacements / upgrades will usually require pre-approval based on a clinical reason or evidence that a device is no longer working, is not repairable, and is out of warranty. Processors are not usually routinely replaced either because they are out of warranty or because newer products have become available.

The process for securing health fund cover for replacement or upgrades is as follows:

1. Download the request form from https://www.ahsa.com.au/web/hospitals/ahsa_forms_/speech
2. Audiologist completes the request form and provides supporting evidence of clinical benefit, supplier evidence that an aid cannot be repaired)
3. Email both the form and the evidence to: info@queenslandcountry.health
4. Put the patient's fund membership number in the subject line, indicating this is an Exgratia Request.
5. The fund will provide a decision about whether they will fund replacement.
6. Once an approval notice has been issued by the fund, that notice and an order for replacement must be sent to the device supplier.
7. The device supplier will send out the replacement device to the audiologist.
8. The supplier will invoice the health fund directly.

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