A safe and simple procedure
Choosing to have the Ponto bone anchored hearing system is a safe and simple procedure and once you have it you will wonder how you ever managed without it!

**Step 1:**
**Finding out what’s best for you**
The first step is to get an assessment by your surgeon/audiologist to determine whether a bone anchored hearing system is the right solution for you. They will also establish which type of sound processor will provide the greatest benefits.

If possible we recommend testing different sound processors on a soft band or head band. You should wear them in different daily situations for a period of time. Remember that your sound processor will sound even better once properly connected to the abutment. If you need to wear certain headwear or glasses, for instance, this can be taken into account when discussing the positioning of your implant.

**Step 2:**
**A safe and simple surgical procedure**
The surgical procedure is quick and simple and is often performed under local anaesthesia in an outpatient clinic. Your surgeon will place a small titanium implant and abutment in the bone behind your ear. The implant will integrate with the bone and the abutment will protrude through the skin and provide the attachment for the sound processor. After surgery the area will be covered with a dressing.

Reactions to surgery can differ, but most people only need a day or two off work to recover. If you have any personal preferences regarding surgery you can of course discuss these with your doctor.

**Step 3:**
**Healing & osseointegration**
After 10-14 days your skin will have healed sufficiently to allow the stitches to be removed at your clinic. Your implant will need more time to merge with your bone. You will be advised how to clean the abutment area using the soft brush provided in the Ponto Care Kit. This kit also contains useful tips and information on how to care for the skin in the long term.

**Step 4:**
**Fitting the sound processor**
The final step is to have your sound processor fitted by your audiologist. They will programme it so it is customised for your personal hearing requirements and show you how easy it is to use.
Oticon Medical has played a key role in revolutionising the field of bone anchored hearing care. With user needs as our driving force, and the most sophisticated sound technology as our means, we aim to empower and bring freedom of choice to users of bone anchored hearing systems.

Useful links

Find more valuable information on bone anchored hearing systems and access to discussion forums for users by visiting the websites listed below:

- [www.oticonmedical.com](http://www.oticonmedical.com)
  Oticon Medical – website with user stories, product information and brochure download

- [www.baha-users-support.com](http://www.baha-users-support.com)
  The Ear Foundation – BAHA User Support forum (formerly BUSK). Direct link to online forum for users of bone anchored hearing systems

- [www.earfoundation.org.uk/baha](http://www.earfoundation.org.uk/baha)
  The Ear Foundation – English organisation for people with hearing implants

- [www.bana-uk.com](http://www.bana-uk.com)
  British Acoustic Neuroma Association – Support charity for those with acoustic neuroma

- [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)
  – search for “Microtia-and-Atresia-Support-Group”
  Microtia & Atresia Support Group – Support chain for those who have and know loved ones with the congenital deformity called microtia and atresia

You might also find useful information on social media, for example [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) where several user groups are active.

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Information prior to getting a Ponto implant