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1. Spahr AJ, Dorman MF, Loiselle LH. (2007) Performance of patients using different cochlear implant systems; effects of input dynamic range. *Ear and Hearing* 28(2):260-275

2. HiRes with Fidelity 120: sound quality and music listening. (2007) In *Auditory Research Bulletin*, Valencia, CA: Advanced Bionics, pp. 40-41



Harmony® HiResolution® Bionic Ear System

Number One in System Reliability
and Durability—Guaranteed



Advanced Bionics®

Selecting the right cochlear implant will open up the world of hearing to you or your child. However, Advanced Bionics recognizes that it can also be challenging and, at times, seem a bit overwhelming. But rest assured that tens of thousands of people just like you have been in the same exact position, and, after careful consideration and deliberation, they chose AB cochlear implants to help restore their hearing or the hearing of their children. Reliability—both of the internal and external components of the system—is a major factor in selecting, and living with, a cochlear implant. So it's important to know the "Total System Reliability" of a cochlear implant before selecting the right one for you. This report will provide you with the Total System Reliability information you need to make an informed, confident decision in choosing the best cochlear implant system for you or your child. AB is confident that after reviewing this information, you'll see that the Harmony® HiResolution® Bionic Ear System (Harmony) is the clear choice.

By choosing AB, you'll enjoy Total System Reliability and the peace of mind that comes with knowing you or your child:

- Can count on your cochlear implant every day for better hearing at work, school, or play.
- Will not experience interruptions in hearing because of a broken sound processor.
- Can take full advantage of future implant innovations without undergoing additional surgery.

Implant Reliability

In accordance with international standards, AB uses Cumulative Survival Rate (CSR) to report the reliability of the implants it builds. CSR conveys the likelihood of a device continuing to function over time, helping to answer the question most often asked by candidates or parents: What is the likelihood that my (or my child's) device will be functioning in one, two, three years and beyond?

According to the international standards, the definition of device failure is "when a device exhibits one or more characteristics outside of the manufacturer's specifications." **AB imposes an even stricter standard** as part of our quality policy by counting all devices removed for other than medical reasons as failed devices. This standard exceeds what's recommended by the

organizations that set the standards and differs, by being more stringent, from the methods used by other cochlear implant manufacturers.

Based on this scrupulous standard, AB's HiRes 90K® implant consistently demonstrates a very high reliability that's comparable to—or exceeds—industry standards (Figure 1). An extremely low number of implants fail: less than 1% after three years of service. If any failures do occur, as determined by AB's vigorous quality testing, they undergo an intense investigation to determine if modifications are necessary to improve internal implant reliability. If modifications can improve reliability, they're made. So you can count on the HiRes 90K implant to deliver reliable service to you or your child for many years to come.

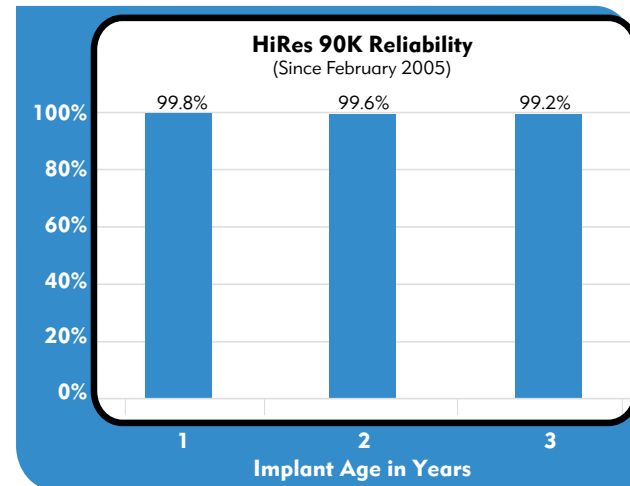


Figure 1. CSR for Harmony (HiRes 90K) implants manufactured since February 1, 2005. This data is representative of the reliability of devices being manufactured today.

External Component Reliability

Total System Reliability is made up of both highly reliable internal **and** external components. In selecting the Harmony System, you'll experience a very high reliability of the internal components, but you'll also get highly reliable external components. The Harmony BTE (behind-the-ear) processor and the body-worn Platinum Series™ Sound Processor (the nothing-on-the-ear option) both have extremely low failure rates of less than 1% (Figure 2).

A major reason for the Harmony BTE's extremely high reliability is its two-fold advanced water protection system. First, its Xylex® case is designed to shed moisture and resist water penetration. Second, the internal circuit

boards have been treated with a "conformal coating," a **waterproof** layer covering all of the internal components. So you or your child can rest assured that Harmony will continue to work in real-world conditions.

	Failure Rate
Harmony BTE	0.95%
Platinum Series™ Sound Processor	0.83%

Figure 2. Average three-month failure rates for returned sound processors (December 2008 – February 2009).

More Hearing, Less Downtime

Harmony's industry-leading Total System Reliability means fewer repairs and minimal unexpected interruptions in hearing. So you or your child can count on your cochlear implant for better hearing at work, school, or play and enjoy peace of mind knowing it'll be there for you when you need it.

In addition, as part of its commitment to "patients first," AB guarantees an expedited return of a working processor within 48 hours, in the unlikely event that your or your child's processor ever does malfunction. This type of guarantee is unique to AB. It's just one of the many ways AB is here to support the hearing of you or your child for a lifetime.



AB—The Best Choice to Hear Your World

AB offers the most reliable, durable, and water-resistant cochlear implant system on the market today. But it doesn't stop there; the people of AB are committed to continually making products that meet or exceed your expectations for quality, performance, and service.

Here are just a few reasons why AB's Harmony is the right choice for you or your child:

- **Technology that provides the best opportunity for you or your child to hear:** Harmony is designed to provide hearing that's the closest to normal hearing of any cochlear implant. Only Harmony provides five times more sound resolution to maximize hearing. Studies have shown that Harmony improves not only hearing in quiet conversations and small groups, but also in noisy places like restaurants and classrooms.¹ Harmony users also enjoy listening to music.²
- **Easy to use:** With AutoSound™, you or your child can go from quiet to noisy environments and still hear at your best—without the need to continually adjust the processor.
- **Wireless connectivity:** This includes connecting to the most popular telephones (including hands-free headsets, such as Bluetooth®), MP3 players (iPod®), and audio systems—the same systems used by people with normal hearing. With Harmony, there are no cumbersome cables or cords. Only AB offers wireless, hands-free, hassle-free hearing.
- **Made in the USA:** AB is the only American manufacturer of cochlear implants, and our reputation for quality and outstanding customer service are second to none. With unmatched service programs and support, AB is dedicated to helping you or your child hear your best all day, every day, for life.

To learn more about the Harmony HiResolution Bionic Ear System, or for any other questions or concerns you may have, please visit AB's website at www.BionicEar.com, contact AB's Bionic Ear Association by calling 866.844.HEAR (4327), or send an email to hear@AdvancedBionics.com.