

June 21, 2004

Sean Tunis, MD
Director, Coverage and Analysis Group
Office of Clinical Standards and Quality
Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244

Re: Revisions to Coverage Issues Manual 65-14; Cochlear Implantation

Dear Dr. Tunis:

Please consider this letter a formal request for a national coverage decision regarding Medicare coverage language for cochlear implantation. We are requesting revision of coverage language at CIM 65-14 to reflect current FDA approved indications and candidacy standards accepted by the cochlear implant medical community.

Included is a review of published literature pertaining to cochlear implants in the senior population. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If I can be of further assistance, or answer any questions, I can be reached at 800-523-5798 (Mountain Time), or via e-mail at jmccclanahan@cochlear.com.

Regards,

John McClanahan
Director of Reimbursement and Funding

enclosure