

Your questions – Operation

- Juliet I had my operation at SGH [Southampton General Hospital], and I was very impressed by the way the whole day was arranged. I was in hospital only for one night but the staff were very good. I was completely deaf at that time and they were very careful to make sure I understood exactly what was going on, they wrote down things for me and I would say it helped in all sorts of ways to minimise the stress and upset of the operation. They were all very kind and very thorough
- Stan With the actual operation I had mine in the Wessex Nuffield in Chandlers Ford which I found very efficient, I was told to turn up at midday on the particular day of the operation with the operation planned for 1.30pm, so I turned up um, saw the surgeon Mr Mitchell saw the anaesthetist, at 1.45 I walked down to theatre, 2.00 I was probably out of it completely and by 5.00pm I was out in the recovery and back up into the ward.
- Katherine I had my operation at QA in June 2011. The operation itself - in the run up I was very nervous, but my surgeon Mr Pringle put me at ease. Immediately after the surgery I was very sore, I was very nervous. The staff were excellent right from the nursing staff to the catering staff, everybody. But I would say it was the first 24 hours that I was more disorientated, it took me a while to get my balance.
- Tayseer I had my implant at Southampton General Hospital and I remember I stayed for 2 days, so that is the day of the surgery and then I stayed for another day and then I was discharged.
- Stan It was just an overnight stay at the hospital and back home the next day.
- Margaret I went to the Nuffield at Eastleigh. I was admitted at midday one day and I was home at midday the next day. I did take a photograph of myself in the morning after I had had my operation and was horrified! I had an enormous bandage on my right ear and then the bandage was extended around my head, but when the specialist came around and examined everything the bandages came off and all I had was a small dressing over the ear.
- Tayseer After I woke up from the operation I was feeling that my head was heavy, and a little bit of soreness behind my ear but that was all. I think that probably lasted for maybe a couple of days – 5 days I would say – and then after that it was getting much better.

- Lin I was quite surprised how quick it was. I come around and I was quite surprised to see a 'turban', a big bandage like a turban on my head. When that came off after a day - because I stayed overnight, just a quick 24 hours visit - when that came off I just had a few stitches around my ear. It is a bit bad because you can't wash your hair for about a week, because you have got to keep the stitches and stuff dry, otherwise it was fine, I was quite surprised how quick it was, no problems at all.
- Juliet Waking up with a huge turban like bandage on my head was a little bit strange but not uncomfortable. That bandage comes off as soon as they have taken an x-ray to check that the implant was in the correct position, so you are only really in hospital the best part of a day and off you go and just wait for everything to heal up.
- Juliet I had a little bit of wooziness following the anaesthetic and I think the side of my head was a little bit sore where the implant had gone in but the swelling goes down. Really, it is pretty painless all the way through and they give you plenty of paracetamol to dull the aches and pain. Anyway, it didn't take long to recover from it. I was slightly woozy after for a day or two if I stood up quickly but that wore off very quickly and I think that was only the anaesthetic.
- Margaret I did suffer a little bit of tinnitus after my implant but it only lasted for about a month.
- Jean After the operation I did feel a bit dizzy. I did get dizziness before, but it was quite a lot worse and that really went on for quite a few weeks. In the time between the operation and the switch on, which was six weeks, the dizziness was quite bad. I didn't go back to work until after I had the switch on, partly because I wasn't feeling up to it, but also because I only hear in one ear and I was in a silent world during that period so I didn't really want to go and mix with people at work and things like that.
- Toni The stitches are self-dissolving so no problem there, the wound healed up completely after two and a half weeks, and then I could wash my hair.