"When You Get the Cochlear Implant"...A Case Study



Amy Knackstedt, MA,CED (she, her, hers)

Director

Joanne Parrish Knight Family Center

CID – Central Institute for the Deaf

Cole Renn, EdD, CED, LSLS Cert. AVEd (she, her, hers)

Parent Educator

Joanne Parrish Knight Family Center

CID – Central Institute for the Deaf

## **OBJECTIVES**

- 1. Reflect on a family's recent experience with the cochlear implant candidacy process
- 2. Identify assumptions that can arise for caregivers as they go through the cochlear implant candidacy process
- 3. Determine actionable steps providers can take to better support families throughout the cochlear implant candidacy process

## ASSUMPTIONS THAT AROSE FOR CAREGIVERS GOING THROUGH CI CANDIDACY PROCESS

If I'm asked to choose a CI company (MED-EL, Cochlear, or Advanced Bionics) they must think my child is going to be a candidate.

If my child has a profound hearing loss, they will be able to get a Cl.

When my child receives a CI, they will have the ability to learn to listen and talk.

When a medical professional says, "We should be good to go," I don't have any concerns about my child's candidacy.





WHAT OTHER ASSUMPTIONS CAN ARISE FOR CAREGIVERS GOING THROUGH THE CI CANDIDACY PROCESS?



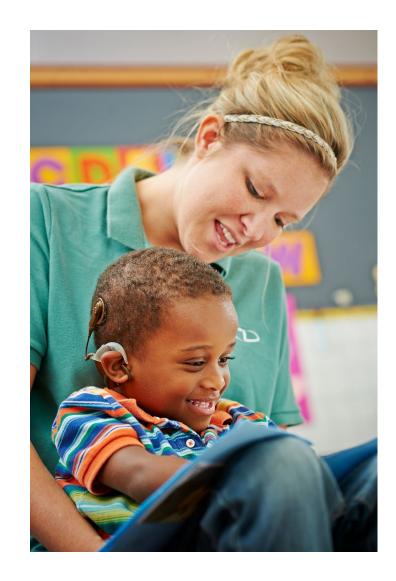
## **CHLOE'S STORY**

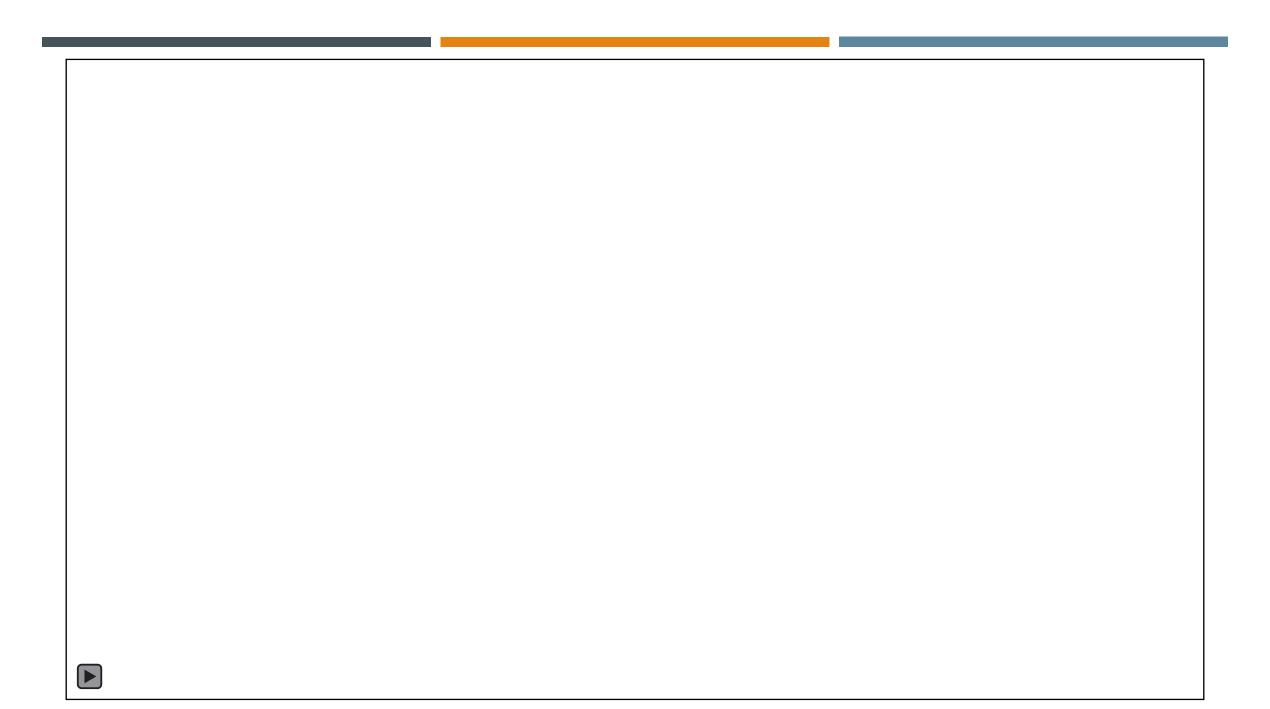
- Identified on NBHS; bilateral, profound sensorineural hearing loss
- Provider attended initial audiology appt with family at medical center
- After audiology, family and provider met with ENT
- Chloe had anatomy scan and the family received results electronically via health portal
- Mom contacted ENT and they met virtually (provider was present)
- Family decided to move forward with a CI
- The ENT and audiologist had a conversation with the family post-surgery
- The family did not have a positive experience at Chloe's activation appointment
- Follow up appointments with audiologist, along with provider guidance, led Mom to a decision she had control over

## WHAT WE CAN DO AS INTERVENTION PROVIDERS

- Focus on what you can control
- Encouraging Advocacy through questions, etc.
- Prep for provider's role in medical appts; family in agreement
- "If," not "when"
- Be specific about criteria for CI candidacy early and often
- Interprofessional collaboration

WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO AS INTERVENTION PROVIDERS?









**QUESTIONS?** 



Amy Knackstedt

<u>Aknackstedt@cid.edu</u>

Cole Renn Crenn@cid.edu

