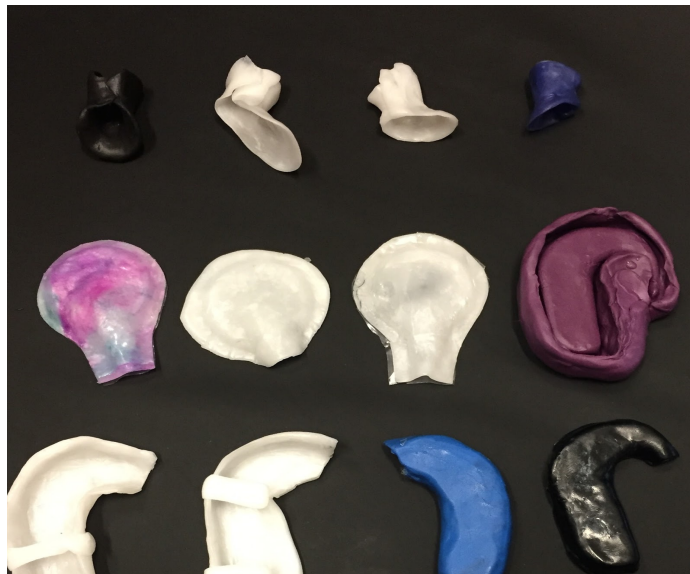


Making sugru (<http://sugru.com/>) sound blockers:

The black covers were made from sugru. Note that they are smoother .



Making sugru (<http://sugru.com/>) sound blockers:

- 1) To protect the cochlear implant and to allow the sugru to be easily removed from the cochlear implant, the first step is to wrap the cochlear implant in saran wrap. The layer should be as thin as possible while also being fitted enough so that it doesn't easily move around. It should also be wrapped so that it can be slipped off the front of the cochlear implant easily.
- 2) Open the package of sugru and knead it until it is soft. Form the sugru into a rectangular shape roughly 3 x 2 x 0.5 cm. Make sure there is some additional material in the center to form the cup shape out of. Note: For the Med-EL XS CI, we used half of the package of sugru for a single piece.
- 3) Wrap the sugru piece around the saran wrapped cochlear implant closing the seam at the bottom.
- 4) Form the cup shape with your thumb and fingers so that its right above the microphone.
- 5) Use your fingers to smooth out the seam and rest of the sugru piece until you're satisfied.
- 6) If you can, leave the sugru and saran wrap on the cochlear implant overnight. If you cannot leave it on the cochlear implant, gently slide the sugru/saran wrap off and place on a table to dry overnight. Try not to let it lay on its side.

7) The next day, the sugru piece should be dried and solid. You will be able to peel off the saran wrap from the inside of the sugru piece.

8) In order to add more grip to the sugru piece so that it wouldn't easily fall off of the cochlear implant, we used dycem (<http://www.dycem-ns.com/node/250>).

We cut very small pieces of dycem and used plastic surgery glue to attach them to the inside front and back of the sugru sound blocker piece