Your Journey to Better Hearing
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Pictured on the Cover:
Sarah and Todd M., AB Recipients and parents of Samantha and Tucker also AB Recipients with their grandparents
The Next Step in Your Hearing Journey

Millions of people suffer from hearing loss. This experience changes their lives and the lives of their loved ones. For those who no longer benefit from hearing aids, cochlear implants may be the next best step.

All around the world, hundreds of thousands of people benefit from cochlear implant technology. It provides hearing to those who have never heard and to those who suffer from moderate to profound hearing loss in one or both ears.¹

Cochlear implants are covered by many insurance plans, including Medicare and Medicaid.

At Advanced Bionics, we pride ourselves on delivering the most advanced technology to allow you to hear your best. We look forward to joining you on your hearing journey.

“With my cochlear implant, I'm happy. Participating in conversations is easier and I hear more sounds again. I feel more involved in life!”

— Frances G., AB Recipient
The Wonder of Hearing

“After years of working as an otologic surgeon, it remains a wonder to me that the biological phenomenon of hearing exists.

Hearing connects us to the world and to one another. Unfortunately, this capacity is not fully intact in all people. Hearing loss affects approximately 360 million people, or about 5% of the world’s population. Cochlear implants represent an important advance in our ability to combat disorders of hearing.

It has been a marvel to observe and participate in the remarkable success of cochlear implants, which have provided meaningful, useful sound to hundreds of thousands of people around the world with severe to profound hearing loss.”

— Charles Limb, MD, San Francisco CA

To read more from Dr. Limb, please visit: HearWithAB.com
Harrison E., AB Recipient and his mother
A Life-Changing Decision

This is Harrison. He’s a confident, happy, energetic little boy, and also a real life cochlear implant user. When his hearing loss was discovered, his parents had a life-changing decision to make. As caring parents, they wanted to give Harrison every chance to succeed and took their decision very seriously. As a doctor and engineer, they carefully investigated the technology and how it could impact Harrison’s hearing. After reviewing all of their options, they chose Advanced Bionics.

“We read the research and decided to pursue a cochlear implant for Harrison. We wanted him to hear his best and carefully evaluated our options. We chose Advanced Bionics for their progressive technology. Using the cochlear implant has been incredibly easy and, as a result of our decision, his hearing and speech are amazing! It has been a tremendous journey for us and none of this would have been possible without Advanced Bionics.”

— Mark and Maria E., Parents of Harrison

We, at Advanced Bionics, understand that better technology means better hearing and better hearing leads to better living. Our teams of engineers, scientists, audiologists, surgical specialists, educators, and support staff want to be a part of your success.

With over 70 years of experience developing and delivering innovative hearing technologies, we are dedicated to providing the most complete and natural hearing possible for kids like Harrison, for you, or for someone you love.
How a Cochlear Implant Works

1. The microphone captures sound waves that pass through the air.
2. The sound waves are converted into detailed digital information by the sound processor.
3. The headpiece sends the digital signals to the cochlear implant and electrode array in the inner ear.
4. The electrode array stimulates the hearing nerve.
5. The hearing nerve sends impulses to the brain, where they are interpreted as sound.
Hearing loss generally indicates damage in some portion of the inner ear or cochlea, where sound is transferred to the hearing nerve. Oftentimes, a hearing aid can compensate for the damage by making sounds louder and easier to hear. However, when the loss is too severe, making sounds louder just isn’t enough.

Cochlear implants are the standard treatment for individuals with severe-to-profound hearing loss. The device bypasses the damaged portion of the cochlea and restores hearing by sending sound directly to the nerve, making sounds clearer and easier to understand.

A cochlear implant system consists of an external component, called a sound processor, and a cochlear implant, which is placed by a surgeon.

The quality of the sound delivered by a cochlear implant system is a direct result of the microphone location, digital processing power, and implant technology.
Why the Details of Sound Matter

The human ear processes an amazing range of sounds and delivers vivid detail, allowing you to hear and recognize everything from the tap of a finger to the roar of an engine.

Each and every sound can be described in three dimensions: intensity (loudness), frequency (pitch), and time (changes from moment to moment).

With hearing loss, you lose the ability to capture and process the details of each dimension, which can be incredibly frustrating.

When searching for your own solution, it is important that you choose a system capable of distinguishing between a drum and a flute, a high note and a low note, and the voice of a friend from that of a stranger. Many people find that a cochlear implant system from Advanced Bionics gives them these details.

“My audiologist suggested the best device for music was from Advanced Bionics. It really is the most effective CI solution and has provided me real benefits and results. I wear it while I am playing piano without suffering any distortion, and the high pitched sounds are now better defined.”

— Davide S., AB Recipient
The HiRes™ Ultra 3D cochlear implant

**Hassle Free MRI**

MRI is a common imaging technique and the chances are high that you will need one in your lifetime.

With the HiRes Ultra 3D implant, a high resolution 3T MRI scan can be performed pain free without the need to surgically remove the magnet or use head bandaging.

**Thin and Strong**

This thin, small, discreet design is suitable for adults and children.

The HiRes Ultra is designed to exceed industry standards for impact resistance, allowing you or your child to enjoy life’s adventures without concern.

**Protecting your Cochlea**

Once inserted into the cochlea, the tiny electrode array will be used to stimulate the hearing nerve.

The HiRes Ultra offers the surgeon the choice of two electrodes, depending on preferences and anatomical variations. The HiFocus™ SlimJ electrode and the HiFocus™ Mid-Scala electrode are both designed to protect the delicate cochlear structures and provide complete coverage of the cochlea for full-spectrum sound.

**Future-Proof**

The HiRes Ultra implant utilizes forward-thinking technologies, designed to accommodate signal processing improvements for decades to come.

Upgrade your sound processor and enjoy new listening features and expanded capabilities without changing your implant.
The HiRes™ Ultra 3D cochlear implant delivers the proven benefits of clearer speech and a broader range of sound, all in a thin MRI compatible package.
Delivering the Details of Sound

When choosing a device, you should consider that the implantable technology can be with you for a lifetime. So, the device you choose should be capable of delivering all of the details (intensity, frequency, and time) you need to enjoy a world of sound.

The HiRes Ultra cochlear implant from Advanced Bionics was designed for detail. It automatically encodes an incredibly wide range of intensities (up to 80 decibels). It is capable of delivering frequency information to 120 cochlear places using a patented delivery method. It also provides up to 83,000 updates per second.\(^\text{12}\) That is far more detail than any other system can deliver.

We pushed the limits of technology to provide the most detailed representation of sound because we want you to get the most out of every listening experience.

"I received my cochlear implant over 16 years ago and it has worked with four generations of sound processors. Each generation has new features to help me hear more detail, without needing surgery. I’m thankful for these improvements and know that Advanced Bionics is always working to make it even better!"

— Bob B., AB Recipient
Aria S., AB Recipient
Enjoy Conversations and Music

Understanding speech in quiet and in noise allows us to connect to people in intimate and social situations. The key to actively engaging in conversation lies in hearing the subtle differences that can change the meaning of words. Getting the details right gives you confidence to join the conversation in quiet and noisy environments.

Music is an important part of life. It can spark a memory, change your mood, or cause you to sing aloud. However, music is an incredibly complex acoustic event, and in order to hear and appreciate music the way it was intended, you need all the details.

With Advanced Bionics, you get more detail than with any other system on the market. We believe that capturing the widest range of sound levels, delivering the most accurate frequency content, and providing the fastest update rates gives you the detail necessary to make sound meaningful and beautiful. That means you have the best chance to enjoy conversations and music.\textsuperscript{13,14}

“Aria loves dancing to music. She loves singing. She has an appreciation of music, which we were afraid she wouldn’t be able to have.”

— Bruce and Donna S., Parents of Aria
A Powerful Combination

Advanced Bionics and Phonak, together under Sonova ownership since 2009, have combined to bring the most innovative, state-of-the-art solutions for hearing aid users to the field of cochlear implants. For you, this means an easier transition from a hearing aid to a cochlear implant. Thanks to the shared technology, it is also easier for you to use your cochlear implant with a hearing aid in the other ear.

The Naída CI sound processor was built from the same foundation as the most popular hearing aid line from Phonak, giving you the most powerful combination of hearing technologies in the market. Together, we continuously push ourselves to find ways to help you hear your best in the most challenging of listening environments.\(^{15}\)

“Wearing a hearing aid and a cochlear implant has been an answer to my prayers. The two devices communicate with each other and make it really easy to hear and to use. I get to keep using my favorite features in both ears and can even use the same remote control and accessories with both devices. I don’t worry about my hearing anymore. I just enjoy the fact that I have my life back and can be a part of the conversation!”

— Steve D., AB Recipient
Volume Control
simple control for times when you need a little more or a little less

Program Control
an easy way to access advanced programs, should you need them

Universal Headpiece with Microphone
provides an off-ear wearing option for added flexibility

Directional Microphone
a built-in, automatic, directional microphone for understanding in noise

T-Mic™ 2 Microphone
the only in-the-ear microphone for better sound quality, performance, and natural phone use

Battery
rechargeable or disposable options to give you the power you need

PowerCel™
110 Mini
PowerCel™
170 Mini
PowerCel™
170
PowerCel™
230

Zinc Air Battery Pak

Naida CI Color Options
Style and Elegance

This thin, light processor is discreet and comfortable for all-day use.

Blend in or stand out with the nine color options.

Power up with any of our rechargeable or disposable battery options.

Stay in control with simple and intuitive buttons for volume and program.

Effortless Performance and Sound Quality

Enjoy natural sound quality and phone use with the only in-the-ear microphone.\textsuperscript{17}

Hear your best in noise with an automatic directional microphone.\textsuperscript{15}

Don’t miss a sound with automated features for comfort and understanding.

Connectivity

Go wireless with a design-integrated receiver for Bluetooth and remote microphones.

Take a call directly in your ear with a Naída CI compatible home phone from Phonak.

Improve your hearing in noise and over distance with Roger microphone systems.\textsuperscript{18}
Customized Hearing Solutions

Keep both of your ears working together with Naída CI.

The automatic, wireless, ear-to-ear network allows your sound processor to work seamlessly with another hearing device.

Easily customize a solution for your specific hearing needs.

Activity and Flexibility

Dive in and enjoy the sound with our waterproof AquaCase™ enclosure.

Enjoy uncompromised hearing with the only waterproof microphone on the market.¹⁹

Feel secure at your most active with an off-ear clip to keep everything in place.
Introducing the Naída CI Sound Processor

This small and lightweight device delivers an incredibly powerful sound. The Naída CI is the perfect combination of Phonak and Advanced Bionics technology. Phonak hearing aid technology constantly evaluates environmental sounds and automatically applies special sound cleaning features to help you hear your best.\(^{20}\) This means you can have a conversation in a noisy restaurant, go for a walk on windy day, tolerate the sharpest sounds, and get back to enjoying the most challenging listening environments.

Advanced Bionics is the only company to offer an in-the-ear microphone. This microphone location helps you hear sound naturally, the way it would normally reach your ear, and makes it much easier to talk on the phone. Scientists have shown that this microphone placement can help you understand speech in noise.\(^{17}\) Though the system is mostly automatic, the processor includes simple and intuitive controls to allow you to easily and discreetly change your volume or program. While everyone benefits from the same great processing power, we offer a number of color, battery, and accessory options to customize your Naída CI sound processor.
Aisha H., AB Recipient
Simply Automatic

Your listening needs change with your environment and your environment changes many times a day. As you move from a busy street into a quiet classroom, or from a bustling mall into your car, you need to hear your best.

Thanks to the addition of Phonak technology inside of the Naida CI sound processor, you benefit from the same great features enjoyed by millions of hearing aid users around the world. Your sound processor adapts automatically and intelligently to the sound around you. The automatic features are designed for hearing in noise, muting sharp or uncomfortable sounds, calming wind noise, or other challenging conditions.

Phonak, the world leader in hearing aid technology has revolutionized the field of acoustic scene analysis, a sophisticated system for evaluating sounds as they reach the microphone and making important processing decisions. This powerful technology allows your hearing device to adjust quickly and automatically, so you can relax and enjoy the changing sounds of your environment.

“I’m a chef and I have to be able to communicate in a noisy and fast-paced kitchen. With all the commotion, I need to hear the orders, repeat them back, and make sure the team is all working together.

My devices automatically adjust and make it easy to hear in a noisy kitchen. It has given me my independence back — choosing a cochlear implant from Advanced Bionics was a great decision!”

— Aisha H., AB Recipient
Anthony G., AB Recipient
Connecting to Your World

We all have times when we could use a little help. Whether your goal is to understand speech in noise or over distance, with one speaker or in a group, connect to wireless microphone systems, talk on the phone, watch television, or listen to music, Roger is the answer.

Advanced Bionics and Phonak bring you the ultimate streaming experience with Roger technology. Roger is the new digital wireless standard from Phonak. It bridges the understanding gap, in noise and over distance, by wirelessly transmitting sounds directly to the Naída CI sound processor.18

With the Naída CI and design-integrated Roger receiver, you can connect to a wide array of Roger and other Bluetooth devices. This truly is the ideal option for a great wireless listening experience.

Roger™ System for Schools

Your student needs to hear the school bell, follow the teacher’s lesson, hear the responses from classmates, and even understand the narrator of a documentary. Teachers around the world trust Phonak and Roger technologies to help their students hear their best. With the Naída CI sound processor, your child will have access to both.

With the design-integrated Roger receiver, the teacher’s voice, classmate’s conversations, and multimedia devices can be sent directly to your child’s ear. This allows them to enjoy better sound quality and better speech understanding in noise and over distance.21

“Roger allows me to hear the teacher in class and to stream movies and music. It’s easy to use and really cool!”
— Anthony G., AB Recipient
Staying Active with Naída CI

If you love to run, bike, swim, or play sports, the durable Naída CI sound processor can help you keep moving. The behind-the-ear design is perfect for most activities and environments, and can withstand common elements like rain, sweat, and humidity.

Want to go more extreme? Don’t risk your safety or enjoyment by covering your microphone with a bag or sleeve. The Naída CI system offers the only waterproof microphone. This means you can enjoy uncompromised sound quality in and around the water.19

So, if you have plans to cliff dive, rock climb, complete a triathlon, or just relax by the pool, with Naída CI, you won’t miss a sound!

“Seeing your deaf child playing in the water, hearing the crashing waves, snorkeling, communicating with their friends and siblings at the beach is a dream come true.”
— Terrie K., Mother of Poppy
It is much easier to hear in noisy environments. I am more confident in social situations.”
— Jake M., AB Recipient

If you receive little or no benefit from hearing aids in either ear, you may receive cochlear implants in both ears. Using bilateral (both ears) cochlear implants has a number of advantages. First, you can benefit from hearing symmetry, or the natural benefits of hearing in stereo. Two cochlear implants can provide a sense of balance, a rich and full quality of sound, an ability to easily locate the source of sounds, and allows you to focus on the ear with the best signal.

With bilateral Naída CI sound processors, you get all of the great automation and flexibility of one device, and much, much more. Your Naída CIs will be completely “swappable.” That means you don’t need to worry about which one goes on which ear. Just pick one up and put it on. The sound processor will recognize your ear and automatically load the correct settings. Further, your two devices can work together by sharing controls and sound signals. This means your devices are always synchronized and you can always hear your best in challenging situations. With design-integrated Roger receivers, you can wirelessly stream high-quality audio from Bluetooth devices and remote microphones to both ears, simultaneously.

With bilateral cochlear implants working together in an automatic, wireless, ear-to-ear network, you will always hear your best.

“I have two cochlear implants

“Listening with two cochlear implants allows you to hear equally from both ears and can provide significant benefit for communicating in high levels of noise and in groups.”
— Rene Gifford, Audiologist
“Advanced Bionics has great bimodal features that have benefitted me in so many ways. To me, the sound and clarity improves when using both ears.”

— Samantha D., AB Recipient

I have a cochlear implant and use a hearing aid in my other ear

If you are considering a cochlear implant and have aidable hearing in your other ear, there are many reasons to continue to use a hearing aid. Your hearing aid provides loudness and sound with depth. Your cochlear implant gives you greater clarity. When the devices work together, they can provide the rich sound you want and the speech understanding you need.

The Phonak Naída Link Hearing Aid is the only device made specifically to work alongside a cochlear implant sound processor. Together with the Naída CI, you will experience the most natural combination of a cochlear implant and hearing aid. They work easily together, sharing automatic features and sound signals to give you the best sound quality and speech understanding in noise. With design-integrated Roger receivers, you can stream wireless signals from Bluetooth devices and remote microphones to both ears, simultaneously.

With a Naída CI Sound Processor and the Phonak Naída Link Hearing Aid working together in an automatic, wireless, ear-to-ear network, you will always hear your best.1,2

“My patients commonly report that combining a hearing aid and a cochlear implant improves sound quality, speech understanding in quiet and background noise, and helps them enjoy music.”

— Dawna Mills, Audiologist
“I have never seen him so excited while speaking on the phone! He’s able to use the phone even from the non implanted side with the CROS — this is just great!”
— Mother of Harsh T., AB Recipient

If you hear with a cochlear implant in one ear but do not have any hearing in your other ear, you are only hearing half of your world. Thanks to the automatic, wireless, ear-to-ear network of the Naída CI, a Phonak Naída™ Link CROS device can give you complete access to sounds on the other side of your head. This means you are free to sit where you want at dinner, be a passenger or the driver of the car, and never miss a word when talking in a group.

In addition to hearing sounds on both sides of your head, the Naída Link CROS device is equipped with the same great automation and directional microphone system as the Naída CI. The two devices will automatically and simultaneously adapt to different environments, allowing you to hear your best in quiet and in noise.23

The wireless Naída Link CROS is completely automatic, practically invisible, and gives you access to your complete world of sound.

“Unilateral (one ear) cochlear implant users are challenged by a lack of awareness on the non-implanted side. In our experience, a CROS system can really help bridge that gap and expand the sound field.”
— Joseph Chen, Otologist
“It makes the music sound richer and notes are a little more distinct. It is more noticeable with more complex types of music. Beethoven sounds really good.”
— Dwayne C., AB Recipient

The combination of a hearing aid and cochlear implant provides a full, rich sound quality and has been shown to improve speech understanding. This is true when the hearing aid is worn on the same ear as the cochlear implant or in the opposite ear. If you have aidable hearing in your implanted ear, Advanced Bionics offers an all-in-one cochlear implant and hearing aid solution. So, the same great technology of the Phonak Naída Link Hearing Aid can be available for your implanted ear. With this combination, you will get the best of hearing aids and cochlear implants in one ear.¹ ²²

The flexibility of the Naída CI allows you to transition from an in-the-ear microphone (T-Mic2) to a hearing aid with the simple change of an ear hook. The hearing aid component is completely programmable and can be customized for your hearing loss.

If you continue to have hearing in your implanted ear, the Naída CI sound processor and its built-in acoustic capability will help you achieve your goals.

“I have a cochlear implant and a hearing aid in the same ear.”

“Combining a cochlear implant with acoustic hearing in the same ear provides consistent access to speech and a more robust, full sound quality. It can also help you achieve better speech understanding, faster.”
— Sarah Coulthurst, Audiologist
The Simple Way to Hear More

Hearing your best is important and you shouldn’t settle for anything less than a complete solution. This means that you want to keep both of your ears working together and contributing to your hearing experience. The Naída CI sound processor is the only cochlear implant system capable of automatically establishing a wireless network with the hearing device on your other ear, using Phonak Binaural Voicestream Technology. This network allows you to simultaneously adjust your volume or change programs in both ears with a single button press, keeping you perfectly synchronized. The devices can share audio signals, allowing you to stream phone calls to both ears and enjoy better speech understanding in really noisy backgrounds.

The Naída CI can communicate with another Naída CI, a hearing aid, or even a wireless CROS microphone worn on the other ear. With the right combination, you are sure to enjoy the sounds from both ears, no matter where you are on your hearing journey.

The Naída CI sound processor can meet your personal hearing needs. Look inside for examples of the options available to you.

“As someone who wears a cochlear implant and a hearing aid, I appreciate having a custom solution. As an Audiologist, I want to create custom solutions for the hearing demands of each patient and have the ability to adapt that solution when their needs change.”

—Samantha McKinney, Audiologist and AB Recipient
Connect with Us

At Advanced Bionics, our commitment to you goes beyond superior technology. We are dedicated to supporting your needs through every step of your journey.

Our dedicated cochlear implant counseling specialists are happy to connect with you, no matter where you are in your journey. Your specialist will be your guide to all of the services and opportunities we have to offer. They can answer your questions, introduce you to other cochlear implant recipients, or help you find support materials.

Getting started
Our staff of customer service representatives and hearing healthcare professionals can help you with general use, insurance, ordering, troubleshooting, or any other questions you might have.

Making Friends
Let us connect you with an amazing network of mentors and cochlear implant recipients. We have people who want to listen, share their stories, provide direction, and just provide support. We are proud of the many lifelong friendships started by a simple email or by attending a local event.

Learning More
We offer a variety of fun and interactive rehabilitation tools and online activities for children and adults. These tools will support you before and throughout your journey.

For more information on how to get connected, please visit: HearWithAB.com
About Advanced Bionics

From the beginning, AB was founded on the principle of innovation for better hearing. Our commitment to putting patients first and providing the best possible hearing performance remains at the forefront of what we do. To fulfill this commitment, we employ hundreds of engineers, scientists, and hearing professionals who focus exclusively on ways to improve your hearing experience.

Each year, we host educational events for surgeons, audiologists, speech therapists, and cochlear implant candidates and recipients. We sponsor cochlear implant research at some of the most prestigious and influential universities around the globe. We develop training materials for cochlear implant recipients, to help them get the most from their hearing. We continuously work with professionals and recipients to investigate innovative ways to bring you better hearing.

The Advanced Bionics headquarters and manufacturing facilities are located near Los Angeles, California. We are part of Sonova, the world leader of innovative hearing care solutions. In addition to Advanced Bionics and Phonak, Sonova owns other hearing aid manufacturers, retail stores, and other hearing-related businesses. Originated in 1947, the Sonova group is present in over 100 countries around the globe and has over 14,000 dedicated employees and annual sales of over 2 billion dollars.

We are driven by the success of the people who choose Advanced Bionics. We are proud of what we do and honored to have the opportunity to help those with hearing loss enjoy a life without limitations.
Clinic Outreach, Panama
Photo Credit: Silvio G., Filmgerberei
Together for Better Hearing

32 million children worldwide are affected by disabling hearing loss. The majority of them live in low- to middle-income countries and often lack access to any audiological or medical care. With this need in mind, Sonova founded the non-profit Hear the World Foundation in 2006. The foundation supports people in need, and particularly children, with hearing loss around the world and gets involved in hearing loss prevention. Since its establishment, the non-profit has supported over 80 projects in 39 countries with funding, hearing technology, and expertise.

As a member of the Sonova Group, Advanced Bionics is a proud supporter of the Hear the World Foundation. Each year, our employees volunteer their time and talents to participate in mission trips at home and abroad. We have a true passion for bringing everyone the delight of hearing and this is one of the ways in which that passion shows.

For more about the foundation’s worldwide engagement: HearWithAB.com
Scott Hebl, AB Recipient and VP of Research and Development at Advanced Bionics with his family
Take the Next Step

At Advanced Bionics, our mission is to help people find the best hearing solution. We meet with thousands of people each year to discuss their specific needs and to help them achieve their hearing goals. We understand the stress and emotions experienced when dealing with a personal hearing loss or that of a loved one. Our teams of trained hearing professionals and mentors will be there to make your journey to better hearing as easy as possible.

If your personal goal is to hear better, or for your child to understand speech, or for a loved one to enjoy music again, then don’t waste another day. A world of full, rich sound is within your reach.

We’re here to help you take the next step. To connect to a cochlear implant specialist or mentor, please visit: HearWithAB.com

“As an Advanced Bionics recipient and the Vice President of Research & Development, innovation, performance, and corporate integrity matter. My cochlear implants have changed my life and I’m very proud to play a role in bringing that same life-changing experience to so many other people.”

—Scott Hebl, Global VP of AB Research and Development
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Scientific Studies


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Davide S, performing at the event Beats of Cochlear. Photograph courtesy of Professor H. Skarzynski

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AB – A Sonova brand

Not all products are available in all territories and not all features described here are available in all devices

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To find out if you or your loved one is a cochlear implant candidate, contact Advanced Bionics:

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