

Cochlear implant “Switch On” Ceremony

On August 4, 2021, at “Erebouni” Medical Center took place cochlear implant “Switch On” ceremony of 16 years old Sargis who lost hearing gradually and was implanted by Dr. Akira Ishiyama, Professor in the UCLA Head and Neck Division during his visit in July 2021. Sargis looked nervous at the beginning when he started to regain his hearing, but a few minutes later he got used to it and enjoyed the world full of sounds with smiles on his face.

The ceremony was attended by Mr. Masanori Fukushima (Ambassador of Japan to Armenia), Mr. Artyon Smbatyan (Deputy Minister of Health), Professor Artur Shuquryan (Head of ENT Department of Erebouni MC), Mr. Michael Plotkowski (Medical Provider at the US Embassy), Dr. Salpy Akaragian (President and Founder of Armenian international Medical Fund) and guests from the respective bodies.

The Government of Japan has been contributing to the treatment of hearing difficulties for Armenian children through Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects, namely “The Project for Improving Newborn Hearing Examination and Developing Education for Children with Hearing Impairment in Yerevan” in 2010 and “The Project for Improving Newborn Hearing Examination in the Republic of Armenia” in 2017.



The start of switch on



Sargis enjoying the hearing test



Congratulated by Artiyum who was one of the first children implanted by Dr. Ishiyama in 2004



Ambassador having an interview