

Provox Electrolarynx is an electronic device that makes sound for you to produce speech after a laryngectomy.

Why do you need an electrolarynx (EL)?

- Primary speaking method: if you don't have a Tracheoesophageal puncture (TEP) and voice prosthesis.
- Temporary speaking method: an EL can provide a way to communicate while recovering from surgery before you can use your voice prosthesis. It can also be used to be heard over the noise of a crowd.
- Backup speaking method: for speaking while you are waiting to have your voice prosthesis changed.

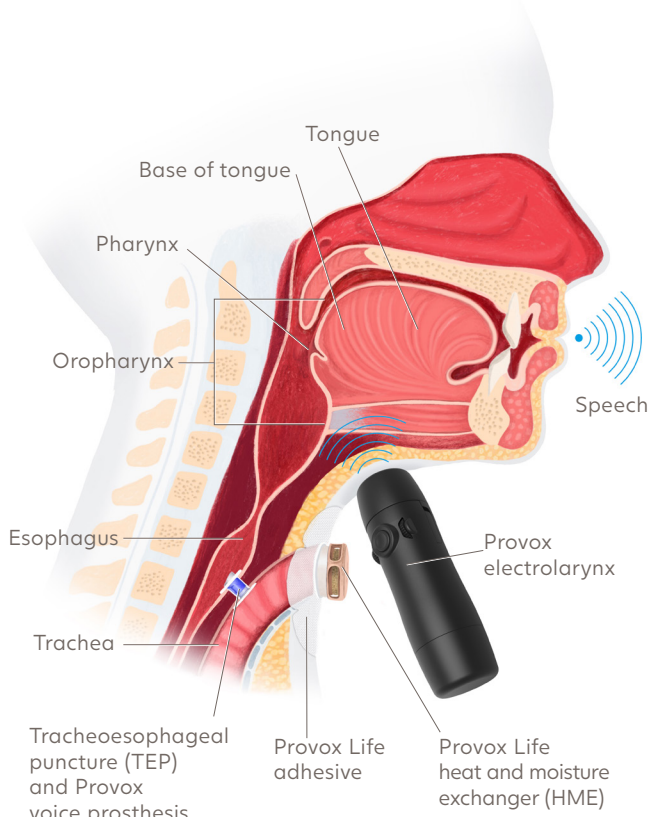
How does an EL work?

An EL is a battery-operated mechanical device that moves a plastic or metal head. This movement generates a sound or tone that serves as an external sound source to replace vocal cord vibration.

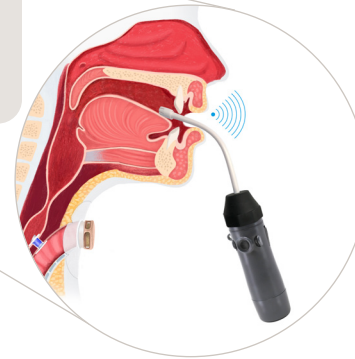
1 When the head of the EL is held against the neck or cheek, tone is transmitted into the oropharynx.

2 Sound is shaped into meaningful speech by movements of the lips, teeth, tongue, and jaw.

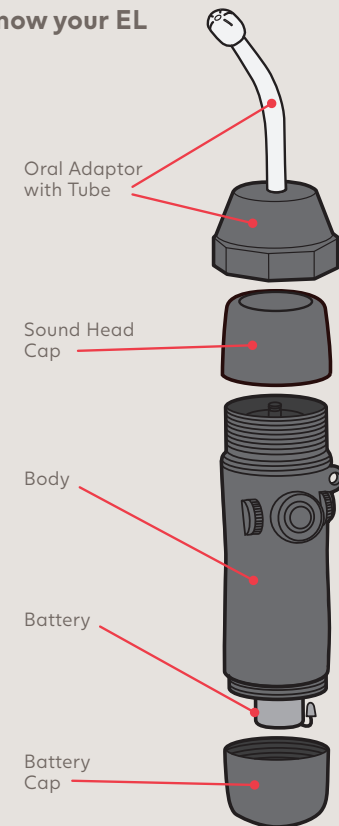
Tone may also be transmitted via an oral adaptor into the oral cavity.



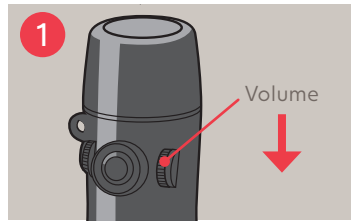
(A voice prosthesis is not needed for an EL to produce speech.)



Get to know your EL

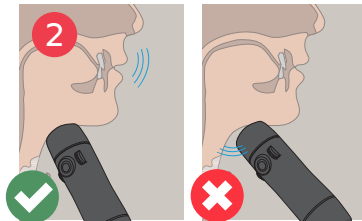


GETTING STARTED: Neck placement



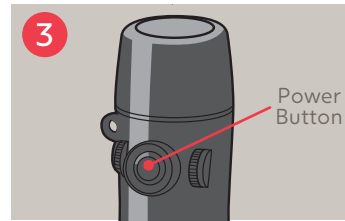
▶ **LOWER** the volume to about 50% of maximum to reduce excess buzzing.

Tip: Make adjustments in real time: Press and hold the power button with your left thumb. Listen to the loudness and adjust appropriately with your right thumb.



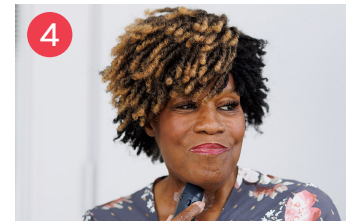
▶ **PRESS** the top of the EL firmly, but gently, onto the soft area of your neck so the entire cap is in contact with your neck tissue. Avoid any bones or hard spots.

When placing on neck, make sure the cap is fully sealed against the neck tissue.



▶ **PRESS** the power button when you begin to talk.

Tip: Release the power button every 3-5 words, or when you would naturally pause, to help reduce excess buzzing.



▶ **FIND** the “sweet spot” where you get the best sound transmission, so you can be clearly heard. Keep moving the EL around your neck or under your chin until you find it.

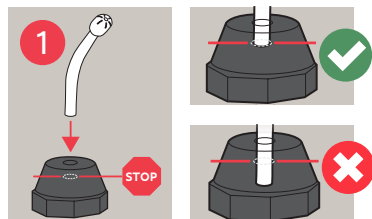
Tip: Find a soft spot on your neck that allows for the best sound transmission.



▶ **MOUTH** the words “Hello, how are you?” If you or your caregiver do not understand what you said, move the EL to another soft spot on your neck and try again.

Tip: Just mouth your words. Do not force air out of your stoma when trying to speak.

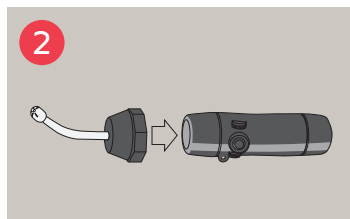
GETTING STARTED: Intraoral use



▶ **INSERT** the oral tube into the opening on top of the adapter cap.

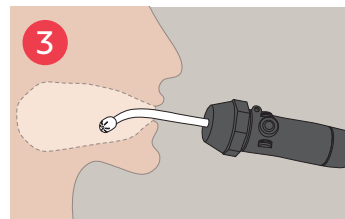
Do not insert the oral tube beyond stop. Ensure that the tube does not protrude into the cap area.

Tip: When inserting the oral tube, make sure the bottom of tube does NOT extend THROUGH the oral adapter cap.



▶ **PLACE** the oral adapter on top of the EL so it fits snugly.

Tip: Use fingertips to apply light pressure to the oral adapter as it is placed onto the sound head cap. Avoid pressing too hard or the cap could get stuck.



▶ **PLACE** the oral tube in your mouth. Aim the tip towards an open area to make sure the tip has space for the sound to transmit. Make sure the tip of the tube isn't touching your tongue, cheek, or saliva.

Tip: Release the power button every 3-5 words, or when you would naturally pause, to help reduce excess buzzing.



▶ **PRESS** the power button when you begin to talk. Keep the tube in your mouth while articulating clearly.

Tip: When using the oral adapter do not cover your mouth. Many listeners read lips to help them understand what you are saying.

Watch the video “How to Speak with an Electrolarynx”:
<https://www.atosmedical.us/videos/how-to-speak-with-an-electrolarynx>
 or scan this QR code:

