



PHILIPS

Clinical Services

Meaningful alarms. **Quieter care settings.**

Take control of your alarm program with help from clinical experts you can trust.

Most alerts don't require any intervention

According to The Joint Commission, the majority of alarm alerts are clinically irrelevant. Something as simple as a patient coughing or a nurse disconnecting a line, can trigger a false positive. Larger issues such as manufacturer settings that are too sensitive or the constant, distracting background noise that is prevalent in hospitals, only confounds the issue of alarm fatigue.

Alarm fatigue: deconstructed



Alarm fatigue occurs when nurses and caregivers hear so many non-actionable alarms each day, that **they become desensitized to them.**¹



This desensitization can cause a loss of staff productivity. Not surprisingly, more than 50% of nursing staff identify themselves as **affected by alarm fatigue.**¹



When sub-critical notifications are missed, patients may recover more slowly, often with extended lengths of stay and possible transfers to critical care settings. When this happens, a true life-threatening event may be lost in a cacophony of noise.³

Take control of your alarm program

We can help you simplify alarm management, reduce alarm fatigue and support your team in clinical decision making. Our solution is an important tool to help you:



Improve patient safety, satisfaction and care.



Reduce the stress and overburdening on staff.



Save your organization operational costs and resources.

Using structured methodology to bring people, processes and technology together



The goal of our end-to-end alarm management solution is simple: Making sure that your staff, processes and technology all work in harmony to respond to clinical events and enhance patient care. To help you achieve your goals, we follow this methodology:

1. Assess

By understanding your starting point – including what policies are in place and how change occurs in your hospital – we're better able to plan for and measure success.

2. Analyze

To help us quantify the problem, we determine how many alarms are in use, which ones are informative and not and identify 'low-hanging fruit that can be quickly and easily changed.

3. Design

Next, we establish a custom program and specific initiatives that are feasible and impactful for your hospital.

4. Execute

To implement the changes, we provide clear organizational and cultural direction. Then, we go live with the technology and procedural changes and set timing and criteria for evaluation.

Alarm fatigue by the numbers

55%

of surveyed nurses indicate that they had probably or definitely **been impacted by alarm fatigue.**¹

50%

of all alarm signals **are not relevant.**²

10 to 50%

of nursing time on a typical unit is consumed by **responding to non-actionable alarms.**³

91%

of nurses believe that noise has a **negative impact on their work.**⁴

1. According to 2012 Web Survey conducted by Juniper Consulting Group (Junicon).

2. Chambrin, M., et al. "Multicentric study of monitoring alarms in the adult intensive care unit (ICU): a descriptive analysis", *Intensive Care Medicine*, 1999, V. 12 E:12, pp. 1360-1366.

3. "Just a Nuisance?", accessed 2017, <https://www.usa.philips.com/c-dam/b2bhc/us/whitepapers/alarm-systems-management/Just-a-Nuisance.pdf>.

4. Ryherd, E., et al. "Noise Pollution in Hospitals: Impacts on Staff", *Journal of Clinical Outcomes Management*, November 2012, V. 19, I: 11, pp. 491-500.



Now is the time to make alarm management a priority³

- Alarm fatigue leads to desensitization, increasing the risk of missing a critical notification.
- Continued exposure to noise at or above 80-85 decibels – common with alarms in hospital settings – can cause hearing loss.
- Alarms stress patients and interrupt sleep. Stress and poor sleep can impact recovery, extend length of stay and result in poorer long-term function.
- Non-actionable alarms waste nursing resources, resulting in unnecessary costs to the healthcare system.

Put our clinical expertise on your side



7,000 installations
in U.S. hospitals



26,000 clinical
deliveries
each year

From support protocols and technology configurations, to clinical best practices, we can help grow your in-house expertise.



Turn down the volume on alarm fatigue

To learn more about our proven alarm management solution, call **1-888-647-4285**.