

Patient Alarm Fatigue

What

What is Alarm Fatigue?

Exposure to an excessive number of medical device alarms, resulting in sensory overload desensitizing clinical personnel to the noise.



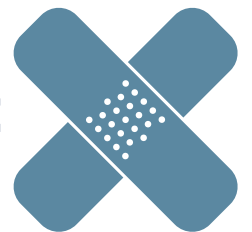
Impact

Resulting in

80 Deaths



13 Permanent Injuries



The Joint Commission, from January 2009–June 2012

Requirement

January 1

2016

EXPANDED REQUIREMENTS

National Patient Safety Goal 06.01.01



Action

New Client Steps Required

- 1** Establish alarm system safety as a hospital priority
 - Multi disciplinary team
 - Senior leader sponsor
- 2** Identify the most important alarm signals to manage
 - Risk if alarm is not attended
 - Potential for patient harm
- 3** Establish policies and procedures for managing alarms
- 4** Educate staff and practitioners
 - Purpose
 - Proper operation of alarm systems

SYSTEMATIC ► **COORDINATED** ► **MANAGEMENT**

Guidance

Minimum Policies and Procedures

- Clinically appropriate settings for alarm
- When alarm signals can be disabled
- When alarm parameters can be changed
- Who in the organization has the authority to set alarm parameters
- Who in the organization has the authority to change alarm parameters
- Who in the organization has the authority to set alarm parameters to “off”
- Monitoring and responding to alarm signals
- Checking individual alarm signals for accurate settings, proper operation and detectability



For more information, visit <http://www.aami.org/htsi/alarms/> or contact Rebecca Welker at +1 314 802 2055 or rwelker@chanllc.com.