

# HOW TO REDUCE NOISE AT **HOSPITALS**

**SOUND**  
SAFETY   
[www.soundsafety.com.au](http://www.soundsafety.com.au)



# WHY ARE HOSPITALS NOISY PLACES?

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## Sources of noise

- Paging systems
- Medical equipment alarms
- Moving bedrails
- Telephones
- Entertainment systems
- Conversation
- Ice machines and disposal bins
- Pneumatic tubes
- Rolling carts and hospital beds
- HVAC systems
- And many more...





## Patients

- Annoyance
- Sleep disruption and awakening
- Decreased oxygen saturation, elevated blood pressure, increased heart and respiration rate among neonatal intensive care patients
- Delayed recovery





## Staff

- Increased perceived work pressure, stress, and annoyance
- Increased fatigue
- Emotional exhaustion and burnout
- Difficulty in communication possibly leading to errors



# IMPACT ON HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATION

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## Healthcare organization

- Lower patient satisfaction and safety scores
- Patient attrition
- Longer length of stay for patients, which could increase the chances for HAI's

(Healthcare associated - infections)

- Higher incidence of re-hospitalization



# HOW TO **MANAGE NOISE**

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## Step 1.

Use sound monitoring devices in corridors and patient rooms to capture noise levels and to create awareness about noise among staff and patients.

## Step 2.

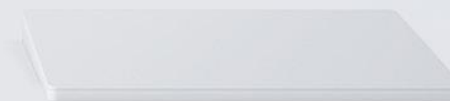
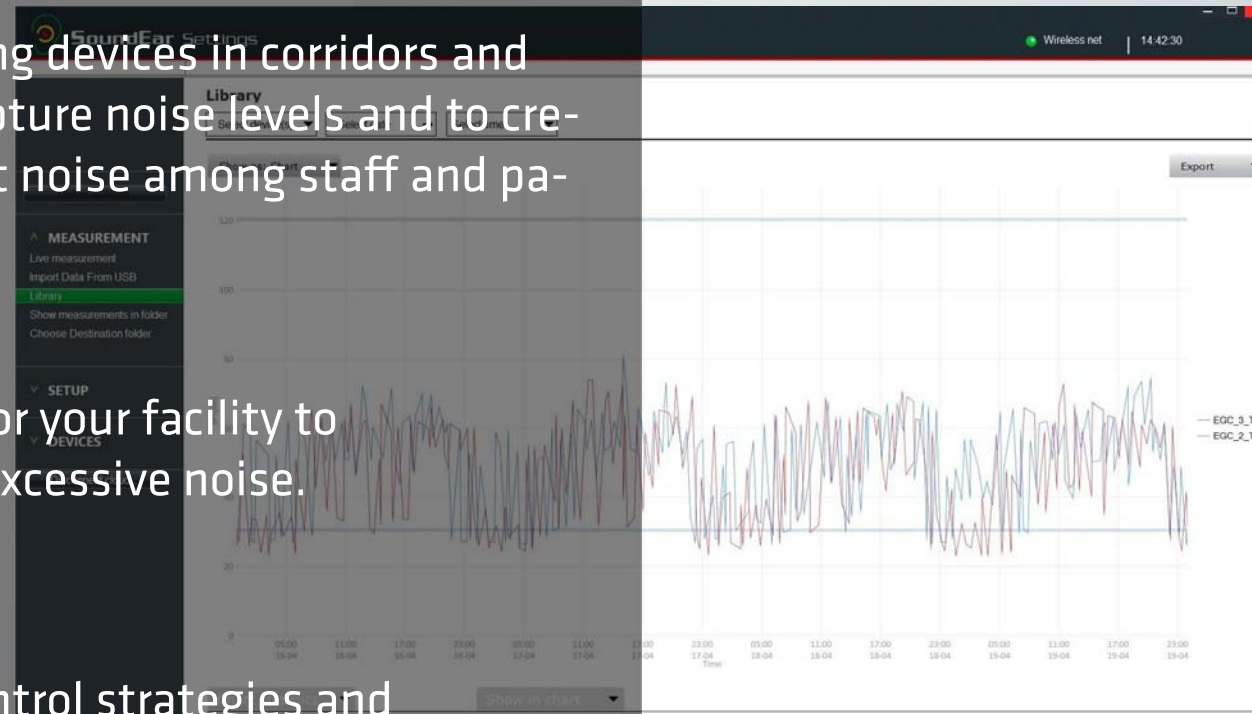
Look at noise data for your facility to identify areas with excessive noise.

## Step 3.

Implement noise control strategies and encourage staff and visitors to respect quiet zones and times.

## Step 4.

Use noise reports over a period of time to monitor progress toward noise reduction goals.



# WHY CHOOSE **SOUNDEAR?**



1. Visualization of noise levels helps people keep noise at a minimum
2. Easy to use and understand
3. No specific knowledge of noise measurements required
4. Automatic noise reports sent to your email (each day, week or shift)
5. Professional and precise noise monitoring solution

