

Troubleshooting Guide

PROBLEM: Continuous alarm with patient in bed or chair.

SOLUTION: Chair Pad Sensor

- Check that sensor cord and RJ11 plug are clean and undamaged. Check plug connection to alarm.
- Check sensor pad for creases or damage to vinyl cover.
- Check “neck” of chair sensor pad for signs that urine or other liquids have leaked into pad.
- Check that sensor pad is directly under patient’s weight.
 - Pad should be towards front of chair seat if patient normally sits toward front.
 - Pad should be towards back of chair seat if posture support is in use or if patient is at risk of forward sliding.
- Check seating/positioning aids such as wheelchair cushions or wedge cushions. Weight from these may activate alarm, or prevent sensor from activating.
- Check sensor expiration date. A continuous alarm may indicate sensor is “worn-out” and should be replaced.

SOLUTION: Over-Mattress Sensor

- Check that sensor cord and RJ11 plug are clean and undamaged. Check plug connection to alarm.
- Check sensor pad for creases or damage to vinyl cover.
- Check “neck” of over-mattress sensor pad for signs that urine or other liquids have leaked into pad.
- Patient may not be heavy enough to activate sensor.
 - Shoulder Placement – Adjust sensor so it is centered at shoulder blade area and patient makes contact with pad.
 - Try a different sensor location. Most patient weight is normally under buttocks.

Troubleshooting Guide (Continued)

SOLUTION: Over-Mattress Sensor (Continued)

- Buttocks Placement - Check that sensor pad is directly under patient's weight. Shoulder placement may be needed for a very small individual or restless sleeper.
- A foam pad on top of mattress may diffuse patient's weight so sensor does not activate.
 - Reposition over-mattress sensors above foam pad.
- Mattress may not bend easily when head or knee sections are raised or lowered. Some mattresses are very stiff and may form an air pocket between mattress and frame when bed is adjusted. This may prevent weight from touching sensor. Try a different sensor location.
- Check sensor expiration date. A continuous alarm may indicate sensor is "worn-out" and should be replaced.

SOLUTION: Chair Belt Sensor

- Check that sensor cord and RJ11 plug are clean and undamaged. Check plug connection to alarm.
- Check that buckle is securely fastened and there are no loose wires.

SOLUTION: Exit Alarm Mat

- Check that there is no weight on sensor.
- Check that sensor cord and RJ11 plug are clean and undamaged. Check plug connection to alarm.

Troubleshooting Guide (Continued)

PROBLEM: No alarm when patient exits bed or chair.

SOLUTION:

- Make sure alarm is ON (monitoring indicator LED is flashing green).
- Check batteries. If needed, insert four (4) new “AAA” alkaline batteries. DO NOT mix old and new batteries, or different brands of batteries.

SOLUTION: Chair Pad Sensor

- Make sure sensor cord is not folded back under pad.
- Make sure sensor pad air intake (“neck” of chair sensor pad) is clear and not blocked. Air must flow freely in and out of the sensor.
- Check that there is no weight on the sensor such as a box, bag or book.
- Check seating/positioning aides. A heavy wheelchair cushion may prevent alarm from alarming. Try a different position for the sensor pad, such as on top of the cushion.
- Is the sensor getting caught in “hammocking” wheelchair seat? If so, place a foundation cushion on seat, under sensor.
- Try a new sensor if alarm does not sound.

SOLUTION: Over-Mattress Sensors

- Check that all connections are tight and properly plugged into the alarm.
- Check that there is no weight on the sensor such as a box, bag or book.
- When the patient lies down they may not be making contact with the sensor to activate monitoring. Try a different position for the sensor pad. Most patient weight is normally under buttocks.

SOLUTION: Chair Belt Sensor

- Check that all connections are tight and properly plugged into the alarm.

Troubleshooting Guide (Continued)

PROBLEM: Intermittent alarm while the patient is in a bed or chair.

SOLUTION:

- Check that sensor cord and RJ11 plug are clean and undamaged. Check plug connection to alarm.
- Check sensor pad for creases or damage to vinyl cover.
- Check that sensor pad is directly under patient's weight.
- Is the sensor getting caught in "hammocking" wheelchair seat? If so, place a foundation cushion on seat, under sensor.
- Make sure sensor cord is not folded back under pad.
- Make sure sensor pad air intake ("neck" of over-mattress or chair sensor pad) is clear and not blocked. Air must flow freely in and out of sensor.
- Try a new sensor if intermittent alarm cannot be fixed.
- Make sure mattress continues to make contact with the sensor and will activate the alarm when pressure is removed, even if the head or foot of the bed is articulated.
- Apply pressure to sensor in several areas to check that alarm activates.
- Ensure batteries are not corroded.

PROBLEM: Alarm volume is too low or too loud.

SOLUTION:

- Press the VOLUME button on the back of the alarm to change volume setting. Tap the button to scroll through the two choices. The last sample heard is the volume in use.

Troubleshooting Guide (Continued)

PROBLEM: Flashing green indicator light does not illuminate.

SOLUTION:

- Check that the battery connections are tight and batteries are installed properly.
- Replace the old batteries with four (4) new “AAA” alkaline batteries.

PROBLEM: Alarm “chirps.”

SOLUTION:

- A “chirp” sound indicates a low battery. Insert four (4) new “AAA” alkaline batteries. DO NOT mix old and new batteries, or different brands of batteries.

PROBLEM: Sensors slide around when the head of the bed is raised or lowered on beds with foam overlays.

SOLUTION:

- Anchor the sensor(s) on top of the mattress, under the foam overlay with the straps provided.

PROBLEM: In-room alarm activates, but nurse call station does not activate.

SOLUTION:

- Check that all connections are tight and the nurse call cable is connected to the alarm and properly plugged into the facility’s nurse call system. The connections should snap tightly together.
- Check for worn or damaged wires.
- Verify use of proper adapter for the system.

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