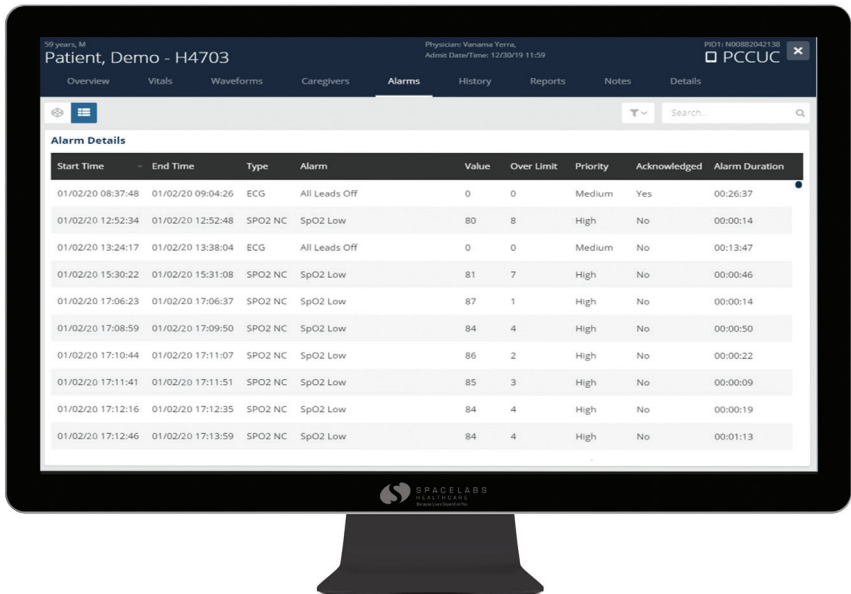


Spacelabs SafeNSound™.

New software delivers efficient telemetry device management.



US hospital saves over \$40,000 annually after SafeNSound implementation.

Misplaced medical devices can decrease productivity, increase spending on replacement equipment, and potentially risk patient safety when devices are not readily available. There are many reasons that devices go missing — including theft, not being returned to the correct department, being lost in the laundry after patients have been discharged or being thrown away accidentally. Keeping track of a constantly changing inventory may seem like an impossible task, but new software from Spacelabs makes device management easy and affordable. SafeNSound offers a way to economically improve device management, decrease lost devices and eliminate the time nursing staff spends searching for essential equipment.

A Challenging Environment

More than one-third of nurses spend at least an hour of each hospital shift searching for equipment, according to a survey by Nursing Times⁽¹⁾, and this problem is growing as the number of devices per hospital bed increases and nursing staff is stretched to its capacity.

Frost & Sullivan research found that in a typical 500-bed public hospital, about \$1.8 million worth of mobile assets are being used at only about 60 percent of their capacity⁽²⁾. Most of this inefficiency is related to misplaced devices and the resulting search-and-find expeditions. Not knowing where critical equipment is or who might be using it threatens the already tight profit margins in healthcare and raises costs for both hospitals and patients.

US Hospital >300 beds	Year	Missing Telemetry Devices	Cost to replace cardiac telemetry devices at this hospital was \$2,100 each. (Verify with your facility)
Before SafeNSound implemented	2103	19	\$39,900
	2014	20	\$42,000
	2015	18	\$37,800
	2016	21	\$44,100
Total		78	\$163,800
After SafeNSound implemented	2017	0	\$0
	2018	1	\$2,100
	2019	1	\$2,100
Total		2	\$4,200

A need for change.

Every hospital department needs visibility to all their devices to optimize resource use.

This visibility provides organizations with a better idea of where items in their inventory are located, how much they are utilized, when new accessories need to be ordered, and when the devices need to be serviced to keep them in working order. With an accurate working knowledge of where each device is located and how it is being used, hospitals can avoid overbuying assets to increase purchasing power.

Some hospitals have tried to address this problem by employing Real-Time Location System (RTLS) or tracking devices. An RTLS can provide immediate tracking and management of medical equipment, staff, and patients within all types of patient care environments. While these systems may increase asset utilization and aid in deterring theft, they can cost millions of dollars to purchase and install⁽³⁾. They also become a management problem of their own by doubling the number of devices to manage in the hospital.

Spacelabs SafeNSound software offers a better way to manage the most misplaced hospital inventory—telemetry devices. Advanced reports break down device details by department and usage, and automatically flags misplaced devices so they can be tracked down before leaving the hospital property. The network even allows other hospitals within the organization to help identify a device if it arrives at their facility so that it can be promptly returned to the owner facility.

While many device manufactures may be focused on selling you more devices, Spacelabs is focused on helping you better utilize the devices you currently own to decrease capital expenditures.

Consider the tracking of lost telemetry devices at one hospital. This facility realized they had an issue with misplacing telemetry devices and were looking for a better way to manage their inventory. With SafeNSound implemented, lost telemetry device tracking improved by over 97% saving the hospital more than \$40,000 annually. Implementing SafeNSound not only saved money in lost devices, it improved efficiencies such as saving valuable nursing time looking for devices ultimately improving patient care.



Providing valuable insights.

Spacelabs SafeNSound offers much more than device management, providing real-time reports on communications and throughput management, and retrospective information on patient events, providing valuable insights to clinical directors and managers. Bedside caregivers and monitor technicians can take advantage of automated communications and ADT capabilities for associating and dissociating a device to a patient. Automated ADT provides accountability, reduces errors, and creates detailed logs for additional tracking.

If you are interested in learning more about SafeNSound or any of the points made in this case study, please call us at 1-800-522-7025, or register for a demo at www.spacelabshealthcare.com/datapower. We can arrange a video conference or an on-site discussion at your convenience.

References

- (1) <https://www.nursingtimes.net/archive/nurses-waste-an-hour-a-shift-finding-equipment-10-02-2009/>
- (2) <https://www.ge.com/reports/08-12-2014gone-gurney-new-hospital-asset-tracker-solves-the-mystery/>
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