Hill-Rom
TotalCare® Therapy System
30 Degree Head of Bed Alarm and Trending

At a glance
- Head of Bed Angle Alarm sounds when the head of bed drops below 30 degrees
- The alarm records how many hours and minutes the head of bed was elevated greater than 30 degrees within a 24 hour period
- Eight additional days of statistics available on the Graphical Caregiver Interface (GCI) screen
- Line-of-Stroke angle indicator provides a quick reference point for checking head angle
- These features can monitor head angle and be incorporated into your facility’s ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP) protocols

Ventilator associated pneumonia is a costly issue

Some ventilator associated pneumonia facts:
- Ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP) is reported to be the most common hospital-acquired infection among patients requiring mechanical ventilation.¹
- VAP is the leading cause of death among hospital-acquired infections. The hospital mortality of ventilated patients who develop VAP is 46%.²
- VAP adds an estimated cost of $20,000 to $40,000 per case as well as an increase in length of stay in the ICU.³
- VAP is costly in both dollars and lives, but, with protocols and practices, the incidence can be reduced.

Clinical justification for 30 degrees or greater head of bed positioning

How can you help reduce VAP? One thing you can do is consistently position the head of the bed 30 degrees or higher.
- Compared to supine positioning, studies have shown that simple positioning of the head of bed to 30 degrees or higher significantly reduces gastric reflux and ventilator associated pneumonia (8% versus 34% respectively).⁴
- The CDC recommends elevating at an angle of 30-45 degrees head of the bed for a patient at high risk for aspiration (e.g., a person receiving mechanically assisted ventilation and/or who has an enteral tube in place)
(Note: if not medically contraindicated for head angle more than 30 degrees)⁵
TotalCare® features to help support your VAP reduction protocols

With the Line-of-Site angle indicator and the Head of Bed Angle Alarm and Trending available on TotalCare® bed systems, you now have an accurate way to monitor head angle. These tools can be incorporated into your VAP reduction protocols.

- The Head of Bed Angle Alarm can be easily set to notify caregivers if the head of bed is lowered less than 30 degrees.
- Head angle statistics are visible and provide accurate and up-to-the-minute head angle information in hours and minutes.
- The conveniently-located Line-of-Site angle indicator provides a quick reference for the angle of patient head elevation.

References


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