

# Put real-time values into context

How can I manage blood pressure using vasopressor therapy? How can I personalize monitoring and alarms for specific clinical scenarios?

## **Horizon Trends**

Horizon Trends are real-time graphical displays of changes in vital signs.

The instantly recognizable illustrations help you quickly identify deviations and aid decision-making. When you display a parameter in Horizon Trends, you'll see three components:

- A **deviation bar** shows the current measurement in relation to a baseline you define (for example, a target goal of therapy).
- An **arrow shows the general trend** of the patient's measurements over the past two, five, or ten minutes.
- An optional **graphic trend** shows the measurements over the past 30 minutes to 12 hours.



Example of Horizon Trend of respiration rate: The patient's airway respiratory rate is trending downwards at seven breaths per minute, under the target set at 15 breaths per minute.

#### Stay on target

Using vasopressor therapy to manage blood pressure is a fairly routine practice in the critical care setting. However, since patients on vasoactive blood pressure support are typically hypoperfused, they are at increased risk of myocardial hypoperfusion and cardiac ischemia.

Most current bedside physiologic monitoring systems rely on audible alarms, which are only triggered when the patient's blood pressure fluctuates enough to push above – or drop below – alarm thresholds.

When you're aiming for a steady target though, why wait for values to rise or fall enough to hit these limits? How can you find the right balance and keep control of blood pressure?

## Watch for trends to steer steady treatment

When you can see where your patient's values are trending, you can carefully steer them through therapy.

### "The use of Horizon Trends helps us visually see how we are doing with IV medication titration in keeping our blood pressures at goal. It is nice being able to see trends with one quick look."

Tara Drew, RN and Jody Case, RN, Clinical Leaders, ICU, Concord Hospital, Concord, NH, U.S.A.



During vasopressor therapy, use Horizon Trends to display arterial blood pressure. Instead of only seeing a section of recent values, you'll immediately see whether the patient's blood pressure is above or below target, by how much, and which way it's trending.

In a busy intensive care unit, you may only have time to briefly glance at monitor screens as you walk past patients. Instead of generally scanning the landscape for signs of danger, with Horizon Trends you're in control. You set the baselines, watch for signs, and direct patient care accordingly.

#### Tailor screens to your needs

Just as you choose monitoring parameters specific for each ICU patient, you can also design screen displays according to different clinical scenarios. Use Horizon Trends to set up patient profiles for personalized care.

In a noisy ICU, Horizon Trends can also help you manage alarms and support your goals in reducing "alarm fatigue." Watch measurement trends to help you identify less severe, non-actionable changes. Then depending on patient needs, set alarm limits wider to only alert you on severe conditions. As well as adjusting to patient needs, you can also configure displays according to your viewing preferences – including horizontal or vertical orientations.

| For these monitoring situations            | You could use these Horizon Trends<br>parameters             |
|--|--|
| Conscious sedation                         | etCO <sub>2</sub> , heart rate, respiratory rate             |
| Ventilator weaning trial                   | Heart rate, respiratory rate, etCO <sub>2</sub> , NBP or ABP |
| Early sepsis                               | Heart rate, respiratory rate, temperature, ABP mean/systolic |
| Sepsis Resuscitation Bundle                | Heart rate, CVP, SVO <sub>2</sub> , ABP mean                 |
| Patient going back to sleep<br>in the PACU | Heart rate, respiratory rate, $etCO_2$                       |
| Pentobarbital-induced coma                 | BIS, BIS ratio   |
| ST changes from selected<br>ECG leads      | ST measurements  |
| Increased intracranial pressure            | Heart rate, ICP  |
| Hypovolemia                                | Heart rate, ABP, CVP   |
| Titrating vasoactive drugs                 | Heart rate, ABP  |

Turn Horizon Trends on for certain measurements to customize your monitor display for the situation and tasks at hand. For example, for patients with head injuries requiring pentobarbital-induced comas, you may want to monitor the depth of anesthesia. With Horizon Trends displaying Bispectral Index (BIS) measurement and BIS ratio, you can set a baseline to watch as you titrate pentobarbital.

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