

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A system for reducing electronic alarms in a medical patient monitoring system, the system comprising:

an optical sensor configured to transmit optical radiation into a tissue site of a patient and detect attenuated optical radiation indicative of at least one physiological parameter of a patient; and

one or more hardware processors in electronic communication with the optical sensor, the one or more hardware processors configured to:

[measure] determine oxygen saturation values of [a] the patient over a first period of time;

[determine if] when at least one oxygen saturation value obtained over the first period of time exceeds a first alarm threshold[;], determine whether a first alarm should be triggered[based on the determination that the at least one oxygen saturation value obtained over the first period of time exceeds the first alarm threshold];

[determine] access a second alarm threshold to be applied during a second period of time subsequent to the first period of time, the second alarm threshold replacing the first alarm threshold, wherein the second alarm threshold [being determined by:]

[comparing at least a first oxygen saturation value obtained during the first time period with a lower limit associated with oxygen saturation; and]

[computing a second alarm threshold based on the comparison where the second alarm threshold is computed to be at] has a value less than the at least first oxygen saturation value and greater than [the] a lower limit and at an offset from the at least first oxygen saturation value, wherein the offset [is configured to diminish] is diminished as a difference between the at least first oxygen saturation value and the lower limit diminishes;

[measure] determine oxygen saturation values of [a] the patient over the second period of time [to determine at least a second oxygen saturation value]; and

[determine whether] trigger a second alarm [should be triggered by determining if] based on at least one value of the oxygen saturation values obtained [during] over the second period of time [exceeds] exceeding the second alarm threshold [and triggering an alarm if it is determined the second alarm should be triggered].

2. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the one or more hardware processors are configured to calculate a first baseline measurement from the [measured] oxygen saturation values over the first period of time and wherein the at least one [oxygen saturation] value obtained during the first period of time corresponds to the first baseline measurement.

3. (Amended) The system of Claim 2, wherein the one or more hardware processors are configured to calculate a second baseline measurement from the [measured] oxygen saturation values over the second period of time and wherein the at least one [oxygen saturation] value obtained during the second period of time corresponds to the second baseline measurement.

4. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the lower limit is [predefined] predetermined and corresponds to a minimum parameter value for oxygen saturation.

5. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the one or more hardware processors are further configured to wait for a time delay prior to the triggering of the second alarm, and wherein the time delay is a function of the second alarm threshold.

6. (Amended) The system of Claim 5, wherein the time delay decreases as the difference between the at least one [first oxygen saturation] value and the lower limit diminishes.

7. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the first alarm threshold is predetermined.

8. (Amended) A system for reducing electronic alarms in a medical patient monitoring system including a pulse oximeter in communication with an optical sensor, the system comprising one or more hardware processors configured to:

[measure] determine oxygen saturation values of a patient over a first period of time;

determine if at least one oxygen saturation value obtained over the first period of time exceeds a first alarm threshold;

[determine whether a first alarm should be triggered based on the determination that the at least one oxygen saturation value obtained over the first period of time exceeds the first alarm threshold;]

[compare at least a first oxygen saturation value obtained during the first time period with a lower limit associated with oxygen saturation;]

[compute] access a second alarm threshold [based on the comparison];

[determine] apply a time delay based on the [computed] second alarm threshold, wherein the time delay approaches zero as the [first] at least one oxygen saturation value obtained over the first period of time approaches the lower limit;

[measure] determine oxygen saturation values of [a] the patient over [the] a second period of time different from the first period [to determine at least a second oxygen saturation value]; and

trigger [determine whether] a second alarm [should be triggered by determining if] based on the at least one oxygen saturation value obtained during the second period of time [exceeds] exceeding the second alarm threshold [for the time delay and triggering an alarm if it is determined the second alarm should be triggered].

9. (Original) The system of Claim 8, wherein the first alarm threshold is predetermined.

10. (Amended) The system of Claim 8, wherein the lower limit is [predefined] predetermined and corresponds to a minimum parameter value for oxygen saturation.

11. (Amended) The system of Claim 8, where the second alarm threshold is [computed to be] at a value less than the at least first oxygen saturation value and greater than the lower limit and at an offset from the first oxygen saturation value, wherein the offset is [configured to] diminished as a difference between the at least first oxygen saturation value and the lower limit diminishes.

12. (Amended) An electronic method [for] of reducing electronic alarms in a medical patient monitoring system, the electronic method comprising:

measuring, with a pulse oximeter including a light source, an optical detector and one or more hardware processors configured to receive signals responsive to light attenuated by tissue of a patient, oxygen saturation values of [a] the patient over a first period of time;

determining, using the one or more hardware processors, if at least one oxygen saturation value [determined] measured over the first period of time exceeds a first alarm threshold;

[determining whether a first alarm should be triggered based on the determination that at least one oxygen saturation value obtained during the first period of time exceeds the first alarm threshold;]

[comparing at least a first oxygen saturation value obtained during the first time period with a lower limit associated with oxygen saturation;]

[computing the]applying, using the one or more hardware processors, a second alarm threshold [based on the comparison where the second alarm threshold is computed to be] at a value (i) less than [the at least first] an oxygen saturation value of the patient, [and] (ii) greater than [the] a lower limit, (iii) and at an offset from the [first] oxygen saturation value of the patient, wherein the offset [is configured to diminish] is diminished as a difference between the [at least first] oxygen saturation value and the lower limit diminishes and wherein [the second alarm threshold is configured to be applied during a second period of time subsequent to the first period of time,] the second alarm threshold [replacing] replaces the first alarm threshold;

measuring, using the pulse oximeter, oxygen saturation values of [a] the patient over the second period of time to determine at least a second oxygen saturation value; and

determining, using the one or more hardware processors, whether [a] to trigger a second alarm [should be triggered] by at least determining if at least one oxygen saturation value obtained during the second period of time exceeds the second alarm threshold [and triggering an alarm if it is determined the second alarm should be triggered].

13. (Amended) The electronic method of Claim 12, wherein [the one or more hardware processors are configured to] the electronic method further comprises, using the one or more hardware processors, [calculate] calculating a first baseline measurement from the measured oxygen saturation values over the first period of time and wherein the at least one oxygen saturation value obtained during the first period of time corresponds to the first baseline measurement.

14. (Amended) The electronic method of Claim 13, wherein [the one or more hardware processors are configured to] the electronic method further comprises, using the one or more hardware processors, [calculate] calculating a second baseline measurement from the measured oxygen saturation values over the second period of time and wherein the at least one oxygen saturation value obtained during the second period of time corresponds to the second baseline measurement.

15. (Amended) The electronic method of Claim 12, wherein the lower limit is [predefined] predetermined and corresponds to a minimum parameter value for oxygen saturation.

16. (Amended) The electronic method of Claim 12, wherein [the one or more hardware processors are configured to] the electronic method further comprises, using the one or more hardware processors, waiting for a time delay prior to the triggering of the second alarm, and wherein the time delay is a function of the second alarm threshold.

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