



Why is my child using this machine?

Common reasons doctors order a CAM:

- Unusual pauses in breathing
- Unusual heart rate changes
- To alert of possible life-threatening event
- To collect more information about child's condition

How does it work?

The CAM measures the child's breathing and heart rate. This is done by placing two flat pads called electrodes on each side of the child's chest. A signal from these electrodes is read by the monitor and when the child is not breathing normally or the heart rate is too low or too high, the alarm sounds and the alarm light comes on to alert the caregiver what type of event the child had.

- Correct placement of the electrodes is important since they pick up both breathing and heart rate signals.
- The electrodes should be kept clean as well as the skin where the electrodes will be placed.

Getting Started

- Wash your hands with soap and water
- Clean your child's skin
- Attach electrodes to your child's skin
White-Right side of chest
Black-Left side of chest
- Turn on monitor

Helpful Hints

- CAM should be placed on a sturdy table or stand and out of reach of other children
- Never place the CAM in the bed with your child
- Do not use the CAM during your child's bath to avoid electrical shock
- Keep emergency telephone numbers and addresses next to your phone
- Keep skin under electrodes clean and dry and free from oils, lotions, and powders
- To help improve monitoring, you can rub a few drops of water on the electrode

Alarms

*Always look at your child first when alarm sounds.

Check for your child's skin color and check to see if your child is breathing.

There are 2 different alarm sounds: a constant sound and a beeping sound.

- Constant sound means there is an equipment problem.
- Beeping sound means your child may be having an unusual pause in breathing, high heart rate or low heart rate.

*You should respond immediately for either alarm.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Cook Children's Home Health at (800) 747-8242.
A nurse is available 24 hours a day.