

HUSH Curtain® | Application Study



Project: Joseph Medical Center
Location: Tacoma, WA

The Goal

To provide a quiet, healing environment for patients, family and staff in the NICU.

The Solution

HUSH Curtain® significantly reduces reflected noise and will quickly reduce the sound reflections from the neonates crying and other incidental noises.

“The noise level in the NICU has changed 100% since the renovations. There is no longer any more echoing, families can have private conversations and the whole unit does not over hear them. We no longer hear the sound of high heels, babies crying and the business of the daily activities. The staff complained initially because they had to really be aware of what alarms are ringing off. It's been wonderful to provide the level of care we do and have the soothing environment necessary for optimal healing and growing.”

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Sound Absorption

HUSH Curtain contributed to a reduction in sound reflectivity to 165% less than the FGI standard. The reduction in sound transmission will make the nursery pods quieter even when there is a significant amount of activity from nurses, patients, phones, and families. An increase in sound absorption makes a space quieter and more intimate, and makes sound very directional, which means nurses can clearly locate the source of crying, and alarms.

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Speech Privacy

“Before the HUSH Curtain® installation, the level of speech privacy was marginal to no privacy. After completion of the renovation and installation of the HUSH Curtain®, the level of speech privacy increased to ‘Normal non-intrusive.’”

“Sounds from alarms and crying will not be attenuated to a level that will put any patients at risk, but will be reduced by 25% to 35% and be clearly audible.”

“With the HUSH Curtain®, the room absorption and speech privacy are improved to give families and nurses a ‘normal’ level of speech privacy. This means that when the curtain is closed for an alcove or pod, that words will only be perceived when someone is trying to attentively listen, but will not be intrusive. The sounds from alarms and crying will not be attenuated to a level that will put any patients at risk, but will be reduced by 25% to 35% and be clearly audible. This should provide a more comforting acoustic environment for the families during this stressful experience.”

“The RNs have commented numerous times on the difference the NICU sounds from the hectic activities of daily living to the soothing, calm environment today. The infants seem to be more relaxed and feeding and growing appropriately.”

