Artifact Recognition and Elimination

**Audience:** All personnel in the Sleep Disorder Center.

**Purpose:** A primary role of a sleep technologist during the acquisition of a polysomnogram is to provide a recording with as minimal artifact as possible. A clean recording provides for more efficient and more accurate interpretation of polysomnograms studies.

**Policy:** All technicians will be able to recognize artifact and inaccurate signal data within 90 seconds.

The following situations will be immediately acted upon by technologist during acquisition:
- SaO2 channel improperly functioning
- Unreadable ECG
- Unreadable EEG in 2 or more channels
- Unreadable airflow and pressure transducer waveform (at least one should be functioning).
- Unreadable waveform in thoraco-abdominal effort belts (at least one should be functioning).
- Unreadable End Tidal CO2 waveform
- If one of the above situations cannot be repaired the manager will be contacted immediately.

All other artifact will be corrected upon the technician’s discretion. It is expected that any deficiencies will be corrected (or significantly attempted to correct) upon the first significant arousal or awakening. Technicians will document all attempts to correct artifact and all observations of artifact.

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