

**Beaumont Laboratory**  
**Royal Oak • Troy • Grosse Pointe**

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Related Documents:

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## **Noise Level Policy**

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### **Introduction**

Laboratory areas with large automation systems or multiple analyzers or processing devices with moving mechanical parts may generate higher than average noise levels.

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### **Principle**

Permissible noise exposures are based on duration of hours per day and decibel level. Generally speaking the ambient noise level in an employee work area should not exceed an 8-hour time-weighted average of 85 decibels. This level of noise requires shouting to be heard in conversation for a prolonged period.

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### **Purpose**

The purpose of this procedure is to protect laboratory personnel in the event of excessive levels of noise and to outline steps for staff to follow if there is a concern.

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### **Procedure**

#### **Employee:**

Upon concern about a potential high level of noise in any laboratory area that may have a negative effect on hearing normal levels of conversation, the employee shall be responsible to notify the section supervisor or safety officer of any symptoms and/or concerns.

#### **Management:**

Upon receiving noise level concern, the supervisor shall:

- Notify the Laboratory Safety Officer (if not notified by the employee).
- Contact the Safety Department of the hospital to evaluate and if necessary arrange for measurements to be taken.
- Laboratory management and the safety department will determine any additional action if necessary.

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### **References**

MIOSHA-STD-1210, Part 380: Occupation Noise Exposure  
CAP Laboratory General Checklist; Excessive Noise  
Corporate Safety Manual Policy 1950 Personal Protective Equipment; Ear Protection

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### **Authorized Reviewers**

This procedure is monitored by the Beaumont Laboratory Safety Committee.

Laboratory Safety Officer  
Chair, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine  
Beaumont Laboratory Medical Directors, Grosse, Pointe, Royal Oak, Troy, West Bloomfield

## Noise Level Policy

## Document Control

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