CAPNOGRAPHY MONITORING MATTERS. HERE’S WHY...
BREATHE MONITORING

Breath monitoring, also known as capnography, measures the level of carbon dioxide (CO₂) of your exhaled breath and gives clinicians a view into your respiratory status.

Breath monitoring is important because medication you may be taking can slow down your breathing and heart rate. If that happens, the capnography monitor alarms so clinicians can respond and help.

HOW DOES BREATHE MONITORING WORK?

A small tube is fitted under your nose and is then connected to a capnography monitor. The plastic prongs in the nose and the scoop over the mouth capture samples of your exhaled breath. The breath sample is sent to the monitor to be analyzed. If your breathing becomes shallow, speeds up or slows down, the monitor alarm alerts clinicians.

WHY DO I NEED THE SCOOP OVER MY MOUTH?

Patients who have been sedated and patients on pain medication tend to breathe through their mouths. The oral scoop captures the breath from your mouth. Additionally, with breath sampling from both the nose and the mouth, you will be continuously monitored if you switch between nose breathing and mouth breathing.
THE ALARM ON THE MONITOR IS ANNOYING. IS IT NECESSARY?
Yes. Alarms alert clinicians to a change in your breathing. If an alarm sounds, it means your breathing may be shallow, slow, or fast. Sometimes, especially if you’ve been sedated or if you are on pain medication, your breathing may slow or become shallow. The monitor alarm can serve as a reminder that you should take a deep breath.

CAN I DRINK LIQUIDS WHILE I AM MONITORED?
Your clinician will determine if you can have water or ice chips while you are being monitored. Sipping water or eating ice chips does not interfere with capnography monitoring.

HOW LONG WILL I BE MONITORED?
The length of time differs for every patient. Generally, you are monitored until your physician believes your breathing is stable.