

(19)



(11)

EP 1 860 993 B1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

(45) Date of publication and mention
of the grant of the patent:

23.01.2019 Bulletin 2019/04

(51) Int Cl.:

A61B 5/00 (2006.01)

(86) International application number:

PCT/US2006/007536

(21) Application number: **06736797.9**

(22) Date of filing: **01.03.2006**

(87) International publication number:

WO 2006/094168 (08.09.2006 Gazette 2006/36)

(54) **NONINVASIVE MULTI-PARAMETER PATIENT MONITOR**

NICHTINVASIVER MULTIPARAMETER-PATIENTENMONITOR

MONITEUR PATIENT MULTIPARAMETRIQUE NON INVASIF

(84) Designated Contracting States:

**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC NL PL PT RO SE SI
SK TR**

(30) Priority: **01.03.2005 US 657596 P**

01.03.2005 US 657759 P

01.03.2005 US 657268 P

01.03.2005 US 657281 P

(43) Date of publication of application:

05.12.2007 Bulletin 2007/49

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US-A- 5 645 059 US-A1- 2002 038 081

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EP 1 860 993 B1

DescriptionField of the Disclosure

[0001] The present disclosure relates to the field of noninvasive patient monitors. More specifically, the disclosure relates to monitors displaying measurements derived using signals from optical sensors.

Background

[0002] Spectroscopy is a common technique for measuring the concentration of organic and some inorganic constituents of a solution. The theoretical basis of this technique is the Beer-Lambert law, which states that the concentration c_i of an absorbent in solution can be determined by the intensity of light transmitted through the solution, knowing the pathlength d_λ , the intensity of the incident light $I_{0,\lambda}$, and the extinction coefficient $\varepsilon_{i,\lambda}$ at a particular wavelength λ . In generalized form, the Beer-Lambert law is expressed as:

$$I_\lambda = I_{0,\lambda} e^{-d_\lambda \cdot \mu_{0,\lambda}} \quad (1)$$

$$\mu_{0,\lambda} = \sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon_{i,\lambda} \cdot c_i \quad (2)$$

where $\mu_{0,\lambda}$ is the bulk absorption coefficient and represents the probability of absorption per unit length. The minimum number of discrete wavelengths that are required to solve Equations 1-2 are the number of significant absorbers that are present in the solution.

[0003] A practical application of this technique is pulse oximetry, which utilizes a noninvasive sensor to measure oxygen saturation (SpO_2) and pulse rate. In general, the sensor has light emitting diodes (LEDs) that transmit optical radiation of red and infrared wavelengths into a tissue site and a detector that responds to the intensity of the optical radiation after absorption (e.g., by transmission or transreflectance) by pulsatile arterial blood flowing within the tissue site. Based on this response, a processor determines measurements for SpO_2 , pulse rate, and can output representative plethysmographic waveforms. Thus, "pulse oximetry" as used herein encompasses its broad ordinary meaning known to one of skill in the art, which includes at least those noninvasive procedures for measuring parameters of circulating blood through spectroscopy. Moreover, "plethysmograph" as used herein (commonly referred to as "photoplethysmograph"), encompasses its broad ordinary meaning known to one of skill in the art, which includes at least data representative of a change in the absorption of particular wavelengths of light as a function of the changes in body tissue resulting from pulsing blood.

[0004] US 5,645,059 provides an encoding mechanism for a medical sensor which uses a modulated signal to provide the coded data to a remote analyzer. The modulated signal could be, for instance, a pulse width modulated signal or a frequency modulated signal. This signal is amplitude independent and thus provides a significant amount of noise immunity.

[0005] Pulse oximeters capable of reading through motion induced noise are available from Masimo Corporation ("Masimo") of Irvine, California. Moreover, portable and other oximeters capable of reading through motion induced noise are disclosed in at least U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,770,028, 6,658,276, 6,157,850, 6,002,952, and 5,769,785.

[0006] Such reading through motion oximeters have gained rapid acceptance in a wide variety of medical applications, including surgical wards, intensive care and neonatal units, general wards, home care, physical training, and virtually all types of monitoring scenarios. Document US5645059 discloses a physiological monitor that determines a type of noninvasive optical sensor attached, the physiological monitor comprising a device capable of determining a number of light emitting sources that are to be activated during operation of a noninvasive optical sensor.

Summary

[0007] The invention is defined by the features of the independent claims. Further preferred embodiments of the invention are defined in the dependent claims.

[0008] Despite the success of read through motion oximeter systems, there is a need to provide patient monitors capable of displaying multiple physiological parameters, other than or in addition to SpO_2 , plethysmograph waveforms, or pulse rates. For example, in accessing a patient's condition, caregivers often desire knowledge of other blood constituents, including for example, a percent value for arterial carbon monoxide saturation ("HbCO") or a percent value for methemoglobin saturation ("HbMet") or the like. For example, in an embodiment, the display advantageously displays

one or more of the following: pulse rate, plethysmograph waveform data, perfusion index, values of blood constituents in body tissue, including for example, HbCO, HbMet, total hemoglobin ("Hbt"), arterial oxygen saturation ("SpO₂"), fractional arterial oxygen saturation ("SpaO₂"), or the like. In other embodiments, the monitor may advantageously and accurately determine values for one or more of HbO₂, Hb, blood glucose, water, the presence or absence of therapeutic drugs (aspirin, Dapson, nitrates, or the like) or abusive/recreational drugs (methamphetamine, alcohol, steroids, or the like), concentrations of carbon dioxide ("CO₂") or oxygen ("O"), ph levels, bilirubin, perfusion quality, signal quality or the like. Accordingly, the present disclosure includes a multi-parameter patient monitor capable of determining one or more of the foregoing parameters, other than or in addition to, SpO₂, plethysmograph waveforms, or perfusion quality index.

[0009] In an embodiment, the display of a noninvasive multi-parameter patient monitor advantageously includes a plurality of display modes enabling more parameter data to be displayed than the available physical display area or real estate. In an embodiment, a user may cycle different parameter values through an area of the display common to both parameters even when one parameter is shifted, through, for example, actuation of a user input key. The patient monitor may also display different parameters as color-coded. For example, when the following measured parameters are within "normal" ranges, SpO₂ may be displayed red, pulse rate (BPM) may be displayed green, HbCO may be displayed orange, HbMet may be displayed blue, or the like. In an embodiment, measured values of SpO₂ may be displayed in white, BPM may be displayed in yellow green or aquamarine, PITM may be displayed in violet, Hbt may be displayed in grass green, HbMet may be displayed in blue or light blue, HbCO may be displayed in orange, and SpaO₂ may be displayed in electric blue.

[0010] Moreover, parameter trend data may also be displayed using the same or similar color coding, especially when multiple trends are displayed on one or more display graphs. In addition, more coarse or gross parameter indications may be displayed for quick reference to indicate to a caregiver whether any of a variety of monitored parameters, such as, for example, SpO₂, HbCO or HbMet is within acceptable ranges. The monitor may advantageously include additional display information, such as, for example, parametric displays where one parameter is displayed as a function of another, three dimensional displays (for example, extending a parametric display along time or an additional parameter), directional indicators predicting where a parameter is likely heading or reporting a general direction a parameters has been trending, or the like.

[0011] In addition to the foregoing, caregivers often desire to more closely monitor parameters that are close to, approaching, or beyond normal safe thresholds. In an embodiment, the patient monitor provides an indication that the caregiver should change display modes to view more critical monitored parameters. In alternative embodiments, the patient monitor automatically changes display modes to show parameters moving closer to or beyond normal thresholds.

[0012] In an embodiment, the patient monitor includes an audible or visual indication of a type of sensor communicating with the monitor. For example, the monitor may determine how many wavelengths a particular attached sensor will emit through communication with memory devices associated with the attached sensor or cable.

[0013] Additional embodiments include audio or visual alarms for each of multiple monitored parameters, combinations of parameters, an indication of perfusion in the tissue of the measurement site, an indication of the confidence the signal processing has in its output measurements, or the like.

[0014] For purposes of summarization, certain aspects, advantages and novel features are described herein. Of course, it is to be understood that not necessarily all such aspects, advantages or features need to be present in any particular embodiment.

[0015] In an embodiment, a physiological monitor that determines the type of noninvasive optical sensor attached is disclosed. The physiological monitor includes a device capable of determining a number of light emitting sources that are to be activated during operation of the noninvasive optical sensor. In an embodiment, the device includes a processor capable of receiving information from an information element associated with one or more of a cable and the noninvasive optical sensor, the information being usable to determine the number of light emitting sources available to the monitor. In an embodiment, the device includes a presence or absence of a mechanical key associated with one of a cable and the noninvasive optical sensor.

[0016] In an embodiment, a physiological monitoring system is disclosed. The physiological monitoring system includes a first sensor including a first number of light emitting sources usable to determine measurements of at least one blood parameter, a second sensor including a second number of light emitting sources usable to determine measurements of at least one blood parameter, the first number of light emitting sources different than the second number, and a patient monitor including a device which determines which of the first and second sensors is attached to the patient monitor. In an embodiment, the monitor includes an indicator responsive to the device to inform a user which of the first and second sensors is attached to the patient monitor. In an embodiment, the indicator activates to inform the user which of the first and second sensors is attached when the physiological monitor is powered on. In an embodiment, the indicator activates to inform the user which of the first and second sensors is attached when one of the first and second sensor is attached to the physiological monitor. In an embodiment, the indicator is continuously active to inform the user. In an embodiment, the indicator includes a visual indicator. In an embodiment, the visual indicator includes a color. In an embodiment, the

visual indicator includes an LED. In an embodiment, the LED changes color based on which of the first and second sensors is attached. In an embodiment, the LED color includes red when the first sensor is attached and another color when another sensor is attached. In an embodiment, the indicator includes an audible indicator. In an embodiment, the audible indicator includes one or more tones. In an embodiment, the audible indicator emits a first tone when the first sensor is attached and a different second tone when the second sensor is attached. In an embodiment, the audible indicator perceptibly changes emission sound based on which of the first and second sensor is attached.

[0017] In an embodiment, the first and second blood parameters include the same blood parameter. In an embodiment, the first and second blood parameters include different blood parameters. In an embodiment, the device includes a processor. In an embodiment, the processor communicates with a memory device to determine which of the first and second sensors is attached to the patient monitor. In an embodiment, the memory device includes a first memory device associated with a first sensor and a second memory device associated with the second sensor.

[0018] In an embodiment, a method of informing a user of a patient monitor about one of a type of sensor communicating with the patient monitor and a type of physiological parameter determinable using the sensor communicating with the patient monitor is disclosed. The method includes the steps of receiving information from an information element associated with one of an optical sensor and a communication cable between a patient monitor and an optical sensor, determining a number of wavelengths emitted by the optical sensor from the information, and activating an indicator based on the number wavelengths emitted by the optical sensor. In an embodiment, the indicator includes a display of data determined using signals from the optical sensor. In an embodiment, the indicator includes a visual indicator. In an embodiment, the visual indicator includes a color. In an embodiment, the visual indicator includes an LED. In an embodiment, the LED changes color based on which of the first and second sensors is attached. In an embodiment, the LED color is red when the first sensor is attached and another color when another sensor is attached. In an embodiment, the indicator includes an audible indicator. In an embodiment, the audible indicator includes one or more tones. In an embodiment, the audible indicator emits a first tone when the first sensor is attached and a different second tone when the second sensor is attached.

[0019] In an embodiment, a physiological parameter monitor capable of improving performance by activating more light emission sources of an optical sensor is disclosed. The monitor includes a processor capable of determining a number of light emission sources available for activation on an attached sensor and capable of activating two of the plurality of light emission sources and capable of activating more than two of the plurality of light emission sources. In an embodiment, the processor activates two of the plurality of light emission sources to measure a first physiological parameter. In an embodiment, the processor activates more than two of the plurality of light emission sources to measure a second physiological parameter. In an embodiment, the processor activates more than two of the plurality of light emission sources to more accurately measure the first physiological parameter. In an embodiment, the processor activates more than two of the plurality of light emission sources to measure a second physiological parameter.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[0020] The drawings and the associated descriptions are provided to illustrate embodiments of the disclosure and not to limit the scope of the claims.

Fig. 1 illustrates a block diagram of an exemplary embodiment of a patient monitoring system including a sensor and a multi-parameter patient monitor.

Fig. 2 illustrates a top elevation view of an exemplary handheld noninvasive multi-parameter patient monitor capable of displaying at least HbCO, such as, for example, the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**.

Fig. 3 illustrates an exemplary display of the patient monitor of **Fig. 2**.

Fig. 4 illustrates the display of **Fig. 3** showing measured values of SpO₂, BPM, perfusion, and type of sensor according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**.

Fig. 5 illustrates the display of **Fig. 3** showing measured values of HbCO, perfusion, and type of sensor according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**.

Fig. 6 illustrates the display of **Fig. 3** showing measured values of SpO₂, HbCO, BPM, perfusion, and type of sensor, according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**.

Fig. 7 illustrates a top elevation view of an exemplary handheld noninvasive multi-parameter patient monitor capable of displaying at least HbCO and HbMet, such as, for example, the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**.

Fig. 8 illustrates an exemplary display of the patient monitor of **Fig. 7**.

Fig. 9 illustrates the display of **Fig. 8** showing measured values of SpO₂, BPM, HbCO, HbMet, and type of sensor according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**.

Fig. 10 illustrates the display of **Fig. 8** showing measured values of HbCO, HbMet, and type of sensor according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**.

Fig. 11A illustrates a perspective view of an exemplary noninvasive multi-parameter patient monitor such as, for

example, the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**.

Figs. 11B - 11H illustrate display screens of the patient monitor of **Fig. 11A**.

Detailed Description of Preferred and Alternative Embodiments

[0021] Embodiments of the present disclosure include a portable or other multi-parameter patient monitor capable of determining multiple physiological parameters from one or more signals output from one or more light sensitive detectors capable of detecting light attenuated by body tissue carrying pulsing blood. For example, in an embodiment, the monitor advantageously and accurately determines a wide variety of physiological parameters or other calculations as discussed above.

[0022] In an embodiment, the display of patient monitor advantageously includes a plurality of display modes enabling more parameter data to be displayed than the available physical display real estate. For example, the patient monitor may include one or more user input keys capable of toggling through measurement data. In an embodiment, the displays include mode indicators providing caregivers easily identifiable visual queues, such as LED's, text, icons, or other indicia providing readily identifiable queues as to which parameter is being displayed. In an embodiment, the display may shift, may be parameter color-coded, or the like to further ensure quick comprehension of which measured parameter is the displayed parameter. For example, in an embodiment, the monitor displays SpO₂ in white, pulse rate (BPM) in green, HbCO in orange, and HbMet in blue when the respective measured parameter is within a "normal" range.

[0023] In an embodiment, the patient monitor provides an indication that the caregiver should change display modes to view more critical or time sensitive measured parameters, specific caregiver selected parameters, or the like. For example, the patient monitor may advantageously sound audio or visual alarms that alert the caregiver to particular one or more of worsening parameters, parameters changing in a predetermined pattern or rate, parameters stabilizing below user defined or safe thresholds, caregiver selected parameters, or the like. The monitor may also use alerts that provide audio or visual indications of the severity of the condition, severity of the change, or the like. In alternative embodiments, the patient monitor may automatically change display modes when a particular parameter crosses one or more thresholds. For example, a patient monitor may be displaying a first parameter, such as a plethysmograph, and upon determining measurements indicating that HbMet is trending toward an alarm condition, the monitor may automatically switch from displaying the first parameter to the alarming parameter, or in this case, a trend of the alarming parameter.

[0024] In an embodiment, a switch is provided to allow a user to switch displays to view an alarming measurement. In an embodiment, during an alarm condition, a parameter display may switch to a trend graph in the same or different color, line weight, flash, flash rate, intensity, size, or the like.

[0025] The patient monitor may also include one or more displays capable of displaying trend data for any one or more of the monitored or derived patient parameters. For example, the trend data may be displayed in graph form, may include multiple trend lines, each representing a different monitored or derived patient parameter. Moreover, each trend line may be color-coded to facilitate quick comprehension of which trend line represents which measured parameter. However, an artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein a large number of identification techniques including color-coding, identifying text, or the like. Additionally, user input may toggle displayed trend data, may select which parameters to display simultaneously, or the like.

[0026] In an embodiment, the patient monitor includes an audible or visual indication of a type of sensor communicating with the monitor. For example, the patient monitor may provide a particular audio or visual indication, such as a beep, LED activation, graphic activation, text messages, voice messages, or the like, to indicate communication with or connection to an approved sensor, patient cable, combination, or the like. In an embodiment, the indication may change based on the manufacturer, type of sensor recognized or not recognized, type of patient, type of physiological parameters measurable with the attached sensor, or the like. Additional embodiments include an indication of perfusion in the tissue of the measurement site and an indication of the confidence the signal processing has in its output measurements or input signal quality.

[0027] To facilitate an understanding of the disclosure, the remainder of the description references exemplary embodiments illustrated in the drawings. Moreover, in this application, reference is made to many blood parameters. Some references that have common shorthand designations are referenced through such shorthand designations. For example, as used herein, HbCO designates carboxyhemoglobin, HbMet designates methemoglobin, and Hbt designates total hemoglobin. Other shorthand designations such as COHb, MetHb, and tHb are also common in the art for these same constituents. These constituents are generally reported herein in terms of a percentage, often referred to as saturation, relative concentration or fractional saturation. Total hemoglobin is generally reported as a concentration in g/dL. The use of the particular shorthand designators presented in this application does not restrict the term to any particular manner in which the designated constituent is reported.

[0028] **Fig. 1** illustrates a block diagram of an exemplary embodiment of a patient monitoring system **100**. As shown in **Fig. 1**, the system **100** includes a patient monitor **102** comprising a processing board **104** and a host instrument **108**. The processing board **104** communicates with a sensor **106** to receive one or more intensity signal(s) indicative of one

or more parameters of tissue of a patient. The processing board **104** also communicates with a host instrument **108** to display determined values calculated using the one or more intensity signals. According to an embodiment, the board **104** comprises processing circuitry arranged on one or more printed circuit boards capable of installation into the monitor **102**, or capable of being distributed as some or all of one or more OEM components for a wide variety of host instruments monitoring a wide variety of patient information. In an embodiment, the processing board **102** comprises a sensor interface **110**, a digital signal processor and signal extractor ("DSP" or "processor") **112**, and an instrument manager **114**. In general, the sensor interface **110** converts digital control signals into analog drive signals capable of driving sensor emitters, and converts composite analog intensity signal(s) from light sensitive detectors into digital data.

[0029] In an embodiment, the sensor interface **110** manages communication with external computing devices. For example, in an embodiment, a multipurpose sensor port (or input/output port) is capable of connecting to the sensor **106** or alternatively connecting to a computing device, such as a personal computer, a PDA, additional monitoring equipment or networks, or the like. When connected to the computing device, the processing board **104** may upload various stored data for, for example, off-line analysis and diagnosis. The stored data may comprise trend data for any one or more of the measured parameter data, plethysmograph waveform data acoustic sound waveform, or the like. Moreover, the processing board **104** may advantageously download from the computing device various upgrades or executable programs, may perform diagnosis on the hardware or software of the monitor **102**. In addition, the processing board **104** may advantageously be used to view and examine patient data, including raw data, at or away from a monitoring site, through data uploads/downloads, or network connections, combinations, or the like, such as for customer support purposes including software maintenance, customer technical support, and the like. Upgradable sensor ports are disclosed in copending U.S. App. No. 10/898,680, filed on July 23, 2004, titled "Multipurpose Sensor Port," incorporated by reference herein.

[0030] As shown in **Fig. 1**, the digital data is output to the DSP **112**. According to an embodiment, the DSP **112** comprises a processing device based on the Super Harvard ARChitecture ("SHARC"), such as those commercially available from Analog Devices. However, a skilled artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein that the DSP **112** can comprise a wide variety of data and/or signal processors capable of executing programs for determining physiological parameters from input data. In particular, the DSP **112** includes program instructions capable of receiving multiple channels of data related to one or more intensity signals representative of the absorption (from transmissive or reflective sensor systems) of a plurality of wavelengths of emitted light by body tissue. In an embodiment, the DSP **112** accepts data related to the absorption of eight (8) wavelengths of light, although an artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein that the data can be related to the absorption of two (2) to sixteen (16) or more wavelengths.

[0031] **Fig. 1** also shows the processing board **104** including the instrument manager **114**. According to an embodiment, the instrument manager **114** may comprise one or more microcontrollers controlling system management, including, for example, communications of calculated parameter data and the like to the host instrument **108**. The instrument manager **114** may also act as a watchdog circuit by, for example, monitoring the activity of the DSP **112** and resetting it when appropriate.

[0032] The sensor **106** may comprise a reusable clip-type sensor, a disposable adhesive-type sensor, a combination sensor having reusable and disposable components, or the like. Moreover, an artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein that the sensor **106** can also comprise mechanical structures, adhesive or other tape structures, Velcro wraps or combination structures specialized for the type of patient, type of monitoring, type of monitor, or the like. In an embodiment, the sensor **106** provides data to the board **104** and vice versa through, for example, a patient cable. An artisan will also recognize from the disclosure herein that such communication can be wireless, over public or private networks or computing systems or devices, or the like.

[0033] As shown in **Fig. 1**, the sensor **106** includes a plurality of emitters **116** irradiating the body tissue **118** with differing wavelengths of light, and one or more detectors **120** capable of detecting the light after attenuation by the tissue **118**. In an embodiment, the emitters **116** comprise a matrix of eight (8) emission devices mounted on a flexible substrate, the emission devices being capable of emitting eight (8) differing wavelengths of light. In other embodiments, the emitters **116** may comprise twelve (12) or sixteen (16) emitters, although other numbers of emitters are contemplated, including two (2) or more emitters. As shown in **Fig. 1**, the sensor **106** may include other electrical components such as, for example, a memory device **122** comprising an EPROM, EEPROM, ROM, RAM, microcontroller, combinations of the same, or the like. In an embodiment, other sensor components may include a temperature determination device **123** or other mechanisms for, for example, determining real-time emission wavelengths of the emitters **116**.

[0034] The memory **122** may advantageously store some or all of a wide variety data and information, including, for example, information on the type or operation of the sensor **106**; type or identification of sensor buyer or distributor or groups of buyer or distributors, sensor manufacturer information, sensor characteristics including the number of emitting devices, the number of emission wavelengths, data relating to emission centroids, data relating to a change in emission characteristics based on varying temperature, history of the sensor temperature, current, or voltage, emitter specifications, emitter drive requirements, demodulation data, calculation mode data, the parameters for which the sensor is capable of supplying sufficient measurement data (e.g., HpCO, HpMet, HbT, or the like), calibration or parameter coefficient

data, software such as scripts, executable code, or the like, sensor electronic elements, whether the sensor is a disposable, reusable, multi-site, partially reusable, partially disposable sensor, whether it is an adhesive or non-adhesive sensor, whether the sensor is a reflectance, transmittance, or transreflectance sensor, whether the sensor is a finger, hand, foot, forehead, or ear sensor, whether the sensor is a stereo sensor or a two-headed sensor, sensor life data indicating whether some or all sensor components have expired and should be replaced, encryption information, keys, indexes to keys or hash functions, or the like, monitor or algorithm upgrade instructions or data, some or all of parameter equations, information about the patient, age, sex, medications, and other information that may be useful for the accuracy or alarm settings and sensitivities, trend history, alarm history, or the like. In an embodiment, the monitor may advantageously store data on the memory device, including, for example, measured trending data for any number of parameters for any number of patients, or the like, sensor use or expiration calculations, sensor history, or the like.

[0035] Fig. 1 also shows the patient monitor **102** including the host instrument **108**. In an embodiment, the host instrument **108** communicates with the board **104** to receive signals indicative of the physiological parameter information calculated by the DSP **112**. The host instrument **108** preferably includes one or more display devices **124** capable of displaying indicia representative of the calculated physiological parameters of the tissue **118** at the measurement site. In an embodiment, the host instrument **108** may advantageously comprise a handheld housing capable of displaying one or more of a pulse rate, plethysmograph data, perfusion quality such as a perfusion quality index ("PITM"), signal or measurement quality ("SQ"), values of blood constituents in body tissue, including for example, SpO₂, HbCO, HbMet, Hbt, or the like. In other embodiments, the host instrument **108** is capable of displaying values for one or more of Hbt, Hb, blood glucose, bilirubin, or the like. The host instrument **108** may be capable of storing or displaying historical or trending data related to one or more of the measured values, combinations of the measured values, plethysmograph data, or the like. The host instrument **108** also includes an audio indicator **126** and user input device **128**, such as, for example, a keypad, touch screen, pointing device, voice recognition device, or the like.

[0036] In still additional embodiments, the host instrument **108** includes audio or visual alarms that alert caregivers that one or more physiological parameters are falling below predetermined safe thresholds. The host instrument **108** may include indications of the confidence a caregiver should have in the displayed data. In a further embodiment, the host instrument **108** may advantageously include circuitry capable of determining the expiration or overuse of components of the sensor **106**, including, for example, reusable elements, disposable elements, or combinations of the same.

[0037] Although described in terms of certain embodiments, other embodiments or combination of embodiments will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art from the disclosure herein. For example, the monitor **102** may comprise one or more monitoring systems monitoring parameters, such as, for example, vital signs, blood pressure, ECG or EKG, respiration, glucose, bilirubin, or the like. Such systems may combine other information with intensity-derived information to influence diagnosis or device operation. Moreover, the monitor **102** may advantageously include an audio system, preferably comprising a high quality audio processor and high quality speakers to provide for voiced alarms, messaging, or the like. In an embodiment, the monitor **102** may advantageously include an audio out jack, conventional audio jacks, headphone jacks, or the like, such that any of the display information disclosed herein may be audibilized for a listener. For example, the monitor **102** may include an audible transducer input (such as a microphone, piezoelectric sensor, or the like) for collecting one or more of heart sounds, lung sounds, trachea sounds, or other body sounds and such sounds may be reproduced through the audio system and output from the monitor **102**. Also, wired or wireless communications (such as Bluetooth or WiFi, including IEEE 801.11a, b, or g), mobile communications, combinations of the same, or the like, may be used to transmit the audio output to other audio transducers separate from the monitor **102**.

[0038] For example, patterns or changes in the continuous noninvasive monitoring of intensity-derived information may cause the activation of other vital sign measurement devices, such as, for example, blood pressure cuffs.

[0039] Fig. 2 illustrates a perspective view of an exemplary handheld noninvasive multi-parameter patient monitor **200**, such as, for example, the patient monitor **102** of Fig. 2. Patient monitors **200** exhibiting combinations of many of the features described herein are advantageously commercially available from Masimo under the brand name "Rad 57c." As shown in Fig. 1, the monitor **200** includes a patient cable connector **202** capable of mechanical mating with a patient cable to establish communication between the board **104** and the sensor **106**. In an embodiment, the connector **202** comprises a multipurpose cable connector such as that disclosed in the incorporated U.S. App. No. 10/898,680, titled "Multipurpose Sensor Port," disclosing communication between the board **104** and an external computing device.

[0040] The monitor **202** also comprises a HbCO indicator **204** advantageously providing a visual queue that a HbCO capable sensor is properly connected through the connector **202**. For example, the HbCO indicator **204** may advantageously activate when a sensor is connected that communicates sufficient information to determine HbCO, such as, for example, a sensor capable of emitting sufficient different wavelengths of light, a sensor storing sufficient data on the memory **122**, a sensor having appropriate encryption data or key, combinations of the same, or the like. For example, in an embodiment, the processor **112** may receive information from a memory **122** indicating a number of available LED wavelengths for the attached sensor. Based on the number of wavelengths, or other information stored on the memory **122**, the processor **112** may determine whether an HbCO-ready sensor has been attached to the monitor **200**. An artisan will also recognize from the disclosure herein that the HbCO indicator **204** may advantageously comprise a HbMet

indicator, Hbt indicator, or the like, which activates to a predetermined color associated with a parameter, or any color, or deactivates the same, to convey a type of attached sensor. Moreover, the artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein other parameters that may use other sensor components and the monitor **200** may include indicators capable of indicating communication with those types of sensors.

[0041] In an embodiment, the monitor **200** may also audibly indicate the type of sensor connected. For example, the monitor **200** may emit predetermined number or frequency of beeps associated with recognition of a particular sensor, a particular manufacturer, failure to recognize the sensor, or the like. Moreover, the sensor type may be indicative of the componentry, such as, for example, whether the sensor produces sufficient data for the determination of HbCO, HbMet, Hbt and SpO₂, SpO₂ only, SpO₂ and HbMet, any combination of the foregoing or other parameters, or the like. Additionally, the sensor type may be indicative of specific sensors designed for a type of patient, type of patient tissue, or the like. In other embodiments, the monitor **200** may announce the type of connector through speaker **236**.

[0042] An artisan will also recognize from the disclosure herein that other mechanical (such as keys), electrical, or combination devices may inform the monitor **202** of the type of attached sensor. In an embodiment, the processor **112** also may select to drive less emitters that are currently available, such as, for example, in the presence of low noise and when power consumption is an issue.

[0043] The monitor **202** also comprises a multi-mode display **206** capable of displaying, for example, measurements of SpO₂ and HbCO (or alternatively, HbMet). In an embodiment, the display **206** has insufficient space or display real estate to display the many parameters capable of being measured by the monitor **200**. Thus, the multi-mode display **206** may advantageously cycle through two or more measured parameters in an area common to both parameters even when shifted. In such embodiments, the monitor **200** may also advantageously include parameter indicators **208**, **210**, providing additional visual queues as to which parameter is currently displayed. In an embodiment, the display may also cycle colors, flash rates, or other audio or visual queues providing readily identifiable information as to which measured parameter is displayed. For example, when the multi-mode display **206** displays measured values of SpO₂ that are normal, the numbers may advantageously appear in green, while normal measured values of HbCO may advantageously appear in orange, and normal measured values of HbMet may appear in blue. Moreover, in an embodiment, the display **206** flashes at a predefined rate when searching for saturation and at another predefined rate when a signal quality is below a predetermined threshold.

[0044] The monitor **202** also comprises a HbCO bar **212** where in an embodiment a plurality of LED's activate from a bottom toward a top such that the bar "fills" to a level proportional to the measured value. For example, the bar **212** is lowest when the dangers from carbon monoxide poisoning are the least, and highest when the dangers are the greatest. The bar **212** includes indicia **214** that provide an indication of the severity of carbon monoxide saturation in a patient's blood. As shown in **Fig. 2**, the bar **212** and the indicia **214** continuously indicate the concentration of HbCO in about 5% increments. The indicia **214** indicate a measurement of HbCO saturation percentage between about 0 and about 50% with a granularity of about 5%. However, an artisan will also recognize from the disclosure herein a wide variety of ranges and granularities could be used, the indicia **214** could be electronically displayed in order to straightforwardly increase or decrease resolution, or the like. For example, HbCO may advantageously be displayed with greater resolution than \pm about 5% in a lower portion of the scale. For example, an HbCO bar may advantageously include a scale of about <3%, about 6%, about 9%, about 12%, about 15%, about 20%, about 25%, about 30%, about 35%, and about >40%.

[0045] As is known in the art, carbon monoxide in the blood can lead to serious medical issues. For example and depending upon the particular physiology of a patient, about 10% carbon monoxide saturation can lead to headaches, about 20% can lead to throbbing headaches, or dyspnea on exertion, about 30% can lead to impaired judgment, nausea, dizziness and/or vomiting, visual disturbance, or fatigue, about 40% can lead to confusion and syncope, and about 50% and above can lead to comas, seizures, respiratory failure and even death.

[0046] In an embodiment, the bar **212** is the same or similar color as the multi-mode display **206** when displaying HbCO. In other embodiments, the bar **212** is lowest and green when the dangers from carbon monoxide poisoning are the least, and highest and red when the dangers are the greatest. In an embodiment, as HbCO increases, the entire bar **212** may advantageously change color, such as, for example, from green to red, to provide a clear indication of deepening severity of the condition. In other embodiments, the bar **212** may advantageously blink or flash, an audio alarm may beep or provide a continuation or rise in pitch or volume, or the like to alert a caregiver of deepening severity. Moreover, straightforward to complex alarm rules may be implemented to reduce false alarms based on, for example, knowledge of the physiological limitations on the rate of change in HbCO or the like.

[0047] Additionally, the monitor **200** may be capable of storing and outputting historical parameter data, display trend traces or data, or the like. Although the foregoing bar **212** has been described in terms of certain preferred embodiments, other embodiments will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art from the disclosure herein.

[0048] **Fig. 2** also shows the monitor **200** including a pulse display **216** displaying measured pulse rate in beats per minute ("BPM"). In an embodiment, the display **212** flashes when searching for a pulse. The pulse display **216** advantageously displays measured pulse rates from about zero (0) to about two hundred and forty (240) BPM. Moreover,

when the measured pulse rates are considered normal, the pulse display **216** is advantageously green. Similar to other displays associated with the monitor **200**, the pulse display **216** may employ a variety of color changes, audio alarms, or combinations of the same to indicate measured BPM below predetermined safe thresholds. In an embodiment, the pulse rate display **216** displays the measured pulse rate during the display of SpO₂ and displays message data during the display of other parameters. For example, during the display of HbCO, the display **216** may advantageously display the term "CO." In an embodiment, the display of the message data may be in the same or similar color as the other displays. For example, in an embodiment, the multi-mode display **206**, the bar **212**, and the pulse display **216** may all display data or messages in orange when the multi-mode display **206** displays measured HbCO values.

[0049] Fig. 2 also illustrates the monitor **200** comprising user input keys **218**, including a HbCO button **220**, mode/enter button **222**, next button **224**, power on/off button **226**, up/down button **228**, and alarm silence button **230**. In an embodiment, activation of the HbCO button **220** toggles the measured value displayed in the multi-mode display **206**. For example, activation of the HbCO button **220** toggles the multi-mode display **206** from displaying measured values of SpO₂ to HbCO for about ten (10) seconds. Activation of the mode/enter button **222** or the next button **224** during the ten (10) second period returns the multi-mode display **206** back to SpO₂. A skilled artisan will also recognize that activation of the HbCO button **220** may advantageously toggle through a plurality of measured values, and that such values may be displayed for short segments and then return to SpO₂, may remain displayed until further activation of the button **220**, or the like.

[0050] Activation of the mode/enter button **222** cycles through various setup menus allowing a caregiver to select or activate certain entries within the menu setup system, including alarm threshold customizations, or the like. Activation of the next button **224** can move through setup options within the menu setup system and in an embodiment is not active during normal patient monitoring. For example, a caregiver may activate the mode/enter button **222** and the next button **224** to specify high and low alarm thresholds for one or more of the measured parameters, to specify device sensitivity, trend settings, display customizations, color code parameters, or the like. In an embodiment, the high alarm setting for SpO₂ can range from about two percent (2%) to about one hundred percent (100%) with a granularity of about one percent (1%). The low alarm setting for SpO₂ can range from about one percent (1%) to about one hundred percent (100%) with a granularity of about one percent (1%). Moreover, the high alarm setting for pulse rate can range from about thirty (30) BPM to about two hundred and forty (240) BPM with a granularity of about five (5) BPM. The low alarm setting for pulse rate can range from about twenty five (25) BPM to about two hundred and thirty five (235) BPM with a granularity of about five (5) BPM. Other high and low ranges for other measured parameters will be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art from the disclosure herein.

[0051] In a further embodiment, a caregiver may activate the mode/enter button **222** and the next button **224** to specify device sensitivity, such as, for example, device averaging times, probe off detection, whether to enable fast saturation calculations, or the like. Various embodiments of fast saturation calculations are disclosed in U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 101213,270, filed August 5, 2002, titled "*Variable Indication Estimator*" and incorporated by reference herein. Using the menus, a caregiver may also advantageously enter appropriate information governing trend collection on one or more of the measured parameters, input signals, or the like.

[0052] Fig. 2 also shows the power on/off button **226**. Activation of the power on/off button **226** activates and deactivates the monitor **200**. In an embodiment, press-and-hold activation for about two (2) seconds shuts the monitor **200** off. In an additional embodiment, activation of the on/off button **226** advantageously initiates detection of a type of attached sensor. For example, activation of the on/off button **226** may advantageously cause the monitor **200** to read information from a memory on an attached sensor and determine whether sufficient wavelengths exist on the sensor to determine one or more the physiological parameters discussed in the foregoing.

[0053] An artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein that the on/off button **226** may advantageously cause an electronic determination of whether to operate in at powers consisted with the U.S. (60 Hz) or another nationality (50 Hz). In an embodiment, such automatic determination and switching is removed from the monitor **200** in order to reduce a likelihood of problematic interfering crosstalk caused by such power switching devices.

[0054] Activation of the up/down button **228** may advantageously adjust the volume of the pulse beep tone. Additionally, activation of the up/down button **228** within the menu setup system, causes the selection of values with various menu options.

[0055] Moreover, activation of the alarm silence button **230** temporarily silences audio alarms for a predetermined period, such as, for example, about one hundred and twenty (120) seconds. A second activation of the alarm silence button **230** mutes (suspends) the alarm indefinitely, while a third activation returns the monitor **200** to standard alarm monitoring. Fig. 2 also shows the alarm silence button **230** includes an alarm silenced indicator **232**. The alarm silenced indicator **232** may advantageously flash to indicate one or more alarms are temporarily silenced, may illuminate solid to indicate the alarms have been muted, or the like. Moreover, an artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein a wide variety of alarm silencing methodologies.

[0056] The monitor **202** also includes a battery level indicator **234** indicating remaining battery life. In the illustrated embodiment, four LED's indicate the status of the battery by incrementally deactivating to indicate proportionally de-

creasing battery life. In an embodiment, the four LED's may also change color as the battery charge decreases, and the final LED may begin to flash to indicate that the caregiver should replace the batteries.

[0057] Fig. 2 also shows the monitor **202** including an audio transducer or speaker **236**. The speaker **236** advantageously provides audible indications of alarm conditions, pulse tone and feedback for key-presses, or the like. Moreover, the monitor **202** includes a low signal quality indicator ("SQ" or "SIQ™") **238**. The signal IQ indicator **238** activates to inform a caregiver that a measured value of the quality of the incoming signal is below predetermined threshold values. For example, in an embodiment, the measured value for signal IQ is at least partially based on an evaluation of the plethysmograph data's correspondence to predetermined models or characteristics of physiological signals. In an embodiment, the signal IQ indicator **238** output may be associated with the displayed parameter. For example, the output may be associated with one threshold for the display of SpO₂ and another for the display of other parameter data.

[0058] The monitor **202** also comprises a perfusion quality index ("PI™") bar **240** (which quantifies the measure of perfusion of the patient) where in an embodiment a plurality of LED's activate from a bottom toward a top such that the bar "fills" to a level proportional to the measured value. In one embodiment, the PI™ bar **240** shows a static value of perfusion for a given time period, such as, for example, one or more pulses. In another embodiment, or functional setting, the PI™ bar **240** may advantageously pulse with a pulse rate, may hold the last reading and optionally fade until the next reading, may indicate historical readings through colors or fades, or the like. Additionally, the PI™ bar **240** may advantageously change colors, flash, increasingly flash, or the like to indicate worsening measured values of perfusion.

[0059] The PI™ bar **240** can be used to simply indicate inappropriate occlusion due, for example, to improper attachment of the sensor **106**. The PI™ bar **240** can also be used as a diagnostic tool during low perfusion for the accurate prediction of illness severity, especially in neonates. Moreover, the rate of change in the PI™ bar **240** can be indicative of blood loss, sleep arousal, severe hypertension, pain management, the presence or absence of drugs, or the like. According to one embodiment, the PI™ bar **240** values may comprise a measurement of the signal strength of the arterial pulse as a percentage of the total signal received. For example, in one preferred embodiment, the alternating portion of at least one intensity signal from the sensor **106** may advantageously be divided by the static portion of the signal. For example, an infrared intensity signal may advantageously be used as it is less subjective to noise.

[0060] In an embodiment, a measurement below about 1.25% may indicate medical situations in need of caregiver attention, specifically in monitored neonates. Because of the relevance of about 1.25%, the PI™ bar **240** may advantageously include level indicia **242** where the indicia **242** swap sides of the PI™ bar **240**, thus highlighting any readings below about that threshold. Moreover, behavior of the PI™ bar **240**, as discussed above, may advantageously draw attention to monitored values below such a threshold.

[0061] As discussed above, the monitor **200** may include output functionality that outputs, for example, trend perfusion data, such that a caregiver can monitor measured values of perfusion over time. Alternatively or additionally, the monitor **200** may display historical trace data on an appropriate display indicating the measured values of perfusion over time. In an embodiment, the trend data is uploaded to an external computing device through, for example, the multipurpose sensor connector **202** or other input output systems such as USB, serial or parallel ports or the like.

[0062] The monitor **200** also includes an alarm indicator **244** capable of providing visual queues of the status of one or more of the measured parameters. For example, the alarm indicator **244** may advantageously be green when all of the measured parameters are within normal conditions, may gradually fade to red, may flash, increasing flash, or the like, as one or more of the measured values approaches or passes predetermined thresholds. In an embodiment, the alarm indicator **244** activates when any parameter falls below an associated threshold, thereby advantageously informing a caregiver that perhaps a nondisplayed parameters is at an alarm condition. In another embodiment, the alarm indicator **244** may indicate the status of the parameter displayed on the multi-mode display **206**. In an embodiment, the speaker **236** may sound in conjunction with and/or in addition to the indicator **244**. Moreover, in an embodiment, an alarming parameter may automatically be displayed, may be emphasized, flashed, colored, combinations of the same or the like to draw a user's attention to the alarming parameter.

[0063] Although the foregoing invention has been described in terms of certain preferred embodiments, other embodiments will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art from the disclosure herein.

[0064] Fig. 3 illustrates an exemplary display of the patient monitor **200**. As shown in Fig. 3, the display includes the multi-mode display **206**, the pulse rate display **216**, parameter indicators **208**, **210**, the HbCO bar **212** and indicator **204**, the PI™ bar **240**, and the alarm indicator **244**. In an embodiment, the multi-mode display **206** and the pulse rate display **216** each comprise a plurality of seven segment displays **302** capable of displaying alpha-numeric information. As disclosed in the foregoing, the exemplary display may advantageously include color-coded parameter displays. Moreover, the exemplary display may include color progressions, flashing, flashing progressions, audible alarms, audible progressions, or the like, indicating worsening measured values of physiological data. In addition, in an embodiment, some or all of the displays may flash at a first rate to indicate attempts to acquire data when actual measured values are unavailable. Moreover, some or all of the display may flash at a second rate to indicate low signal quality where confidence is decreasing that the measured values reflect actual physiological conditions.

[0065] Fig. 4 illustrates the display of Fig. 3 showing measured values of SpO₂, BPM, perfusion, and type of sensor,

according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**. As shown in **Fig. 4**, the multi-mode display **206** is displaying a percentage value of SpO₂, and the pulse rate display **216** is displaying a pulse rate in beats per minute. Accordingly, the parameter indicator **210** is activated to confirm the display of measured values of SpO₂. As disclosed in the foregoing, in an embodiment, the multi-mode display **206** is red, indicating blood oxygen measurements while the pulse rate display **216** is green, indicating normal values of a patient's pulse.

[0066] **Fig. 4** also shows the PI™ bar **240** almost fully activated, representing good perfusion. In addition, the HbCO indicator **204** is showing communication with a sensor producing insufficient data to determine measured values of additional parameters, such as, HbCO. In an embodiment, such sensors may comprise sensors capable of emitting light at about two (2) different wavelengths, may comprise sensors with insufficient data stored on a memory associated therewith, or the like.

[0067] **Fig. 5** illustrates the display of **Fig. 3** showing measured values of HbCO, perfusion, and type of sensor, according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**. As shown in **Fig. 5**, the multi-mode display **206** is displaying a percentage value of HbCO, and the pulse rate display **216** is displaying an appropriate message indicating the HbCO measurement, such as, for example, "CO". Also, the multi-mode display **206** has shifted the data to the left to quickly and efficiently indicate that the displayed parameter is other than SpO₂. Accordingly, the parameter indicator **208** is also activated to confirm the display of measured values of HbCO. As disclosed in the foregoing, in an embodiment, the multi-mode display **206** and pulse rate display message **216** are orange.

[0068] **Fig. 5** also shows the PI™ bar **240** almost fully activated, representing good perfusion. In addition, the activation of the HbCO indicator **204** represents communication with a sensor capable of producing sufficient data to determine measured values of HbCO. In an embodiment, such sensors may comprise sensors capable of emitting light at about eight (8) or more different wavelengths; however, such sensors may comprise about two (2) or more different wavelengths. Moreover, such sensors may have appropriate data stored on a memory associated therewith, or the like. **Fig. 5** also shows the HbCO measurement being about 20% (as illustrated on the HbCO bar **212** and multi-mode display **206**) thereby indicating a potentially dangerous situation that if exacerbated, will become quite problematic. Therefore, the alarm indicator **244** is also activated, and in some embodiments, the speaker **236** as well.

[0069] **Fig. 6** illustrates the display of **Fig. 3** showing measured values of SpO₂, HbCO, BPM, perfusion, and type of sensor, according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**. In contrast to **Fig. 4**, **Fig. 6** shows that the monitor **200** is communicating with a sensor capable of producing sufficient data to determine measured values of HbCO, even though the displayed values are that of SpO₂ and BPM. Thus, **Fig. 6** shows the activation of the HbCO indicator **204**, and the continuous monitoring of HbCO by the HbCO bar **212**. **Fig. 6** also shows a high value of HbCO, and therefore, the indication of an alarm condition by activation of the alarm indicator **244**. In an embodiment, upon determination of an alarm condition on a nondisplayed parameter, the monitor **200** may advantageously provide an alarm indication through speaker and alarm indicator activation, automatic toggle to the nondisplayed parameter on the multi-mode display **206** for a defined or undefined time, or the like.

[0070] **Fig. 7** illustrates a top elevation view of an exemplary handheld noninvasive multi-parameter patient monitor **700** capable of displaying at least HbCO and HbMet, such as, for example, the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**. Patient monitors exhibiting combinations of many of the features described herein are advantageously commercially available from Masimo under the brand name "Rad 57cm." As shown in **Fig. 7**, the monitor **700** comprises a monitor similar to monitor **200** disclosed with reference to **Fig. 2**. Moreover, monitor **700** further includes a multi-mode display **706** capable of displaying, for example, measurements of HbMet and BPM. In an embodiment, the display **706** has insufficient space or display real estate to display the many parameters capable of being measured by the monitor **700**. Thus, the multi-mode display **706** may advantageously cycle through two or more measured parameters. In such embodiments, the monitor **700** may also advantageously include parameter indicators **708**, **710**, providing additional visual queues as to which parameter is currently displayed. In an embodiment, the display **706** may also cycle colors, flash rates, or other audio or visual queues providing readily identifiable information as to which measured parameter is displayed. For example, when the multi-mode display **706** displays measured values of BPM that are normal, the numbers may advantageously appear in green, while normal measured values of HbMet may appear in blue. Moreover, in an embodiment, the display **706** may flash at a predefined rate when searching for saturation and at another predefined rate when a signal quality is below a predetermined threshold.

[0071] **Fig. 7** also illustrates the monitor **700** comprising user input keys **718**, including an HbCO/HbMet button **720**. In an embodiment, activation of the HbCO/HbMet button **720** toggles the measured value displayed in the multi-mode display **706**. For example, activation of the HbCO/HbMet button **720** toggles the multi-mode display **206** from displaying measured values of SpO₂ and BPM, to HbCO and HbMet for about ten (10) seconds. Activation of the mode/enter button **722** or the next button **724** during the ten (10) second period returns the multi-mode display **706** back to SpO₂ and BPM. A skilled artisan will also recognize that activation of the HbCO/HbMet button **720** may advantageously toggle through a plurality of measured values, and that such values may be displayed for short segments and then return to SpO₂ and BPM, may remain displayed until further activation of the button **720**, or the like.

[0072] The monitor **700** also comprises a coarser indication of HbMet through an HbMet bar **740**. In an embodiment,

a plurality of LED's activate from a bottom toward a top such that the bar "fills" to a level proportional to the measured value, with increments at about 0.5%, about 1%, about 2%, about 3%, about 4%, about 5%, about 7.5%, about 10%, about 15% and greater than about 20%, although an artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein other useful delineations. Additionally, the HbMet bar **740** may advantageously change colors, flash, increasingly flash, or the like to indicate worsening measured values of perfusion.

[0073] Although disclosed with reference to the HbMet bar **740**, and artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein other coarse or even gross indications of HbMet, or any measured parameter. For example, a single LED may advantageously show green, yellow, and red, to indicate worsening coarse values of HbMet. Alternatively, a single LED may simply light to indicate an alarm or approaching alarm condition.

[0074] **Fig. 8** illustrates an exemplary display of the patient monitor **700** of **Fig. 7**. As shown in **Fig. 8**, the display includes the multi-mode displays **206**, **706**, parameter indicators **208**, **210**, **708**, **710**, the HbCO bar **212** and indicator **204**, the HbMet bar **740**, and the alarm indicator **244**. In an embodiment, the multi-mode display **706** is similar to multi-mode display **206**, comprising a plurality of seven segment displays **302** capable of displaying alpha-numeric information, and capable of altering its display characteristics or aspects in a wide variety of configurations discussed with reference to the display **206**.

[0075] **Fig. 9** illustrates the display of **Fig. 8** showing measured values of SpO₂, BPM, HbCO, HbMet, and type of sensor according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**. **Fig. 9** also shows the HbMet bar **740** near the bottom and corresponding to about 1%, representing acceptable HbMet, while the HbCO bar **212** hovers at a dangerous near 20%. In addition, the HbCO indicator **204** is showing communication with a sensor producing sufficient data to determine measured values of additional parameters, such as, HbMet, HbCO or the like. In an embodiment, such sensors may comprise sensors capable of emitting light of more than two (2) different wavelengths, preferably more than four (4) different wavelengths, and more preferably eight (8) or more different wavelengths.

[0076] **Fig. 10** illustrates the display of **Fig. 8** showing measured values of HbCO, HbMet, and type of sensor according to an exemplary embodiment of the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**. As shown in **Fig. 10**, the multi-mode display **706** is displaying a percentage value of HbMet that is shifted using the parameter indicator **708**. The data has been advantageously shifted to the left to quickly and efficiently indicate that the displayed parameter is other than BPM. Accordingly, the parameter indicator **708** is also activated to confirm the display of measured values of HbMet. As disclosed in the foregoing, in an embodiment, the multi-mode display **706** is blue.

[0077] **Fig. 10** also shows the HbMet bar **740** nearly empty, representing acceptable HbMet. In addition, the activation of the HbCO indicator **204** represents communication with a sensor capable of producing sufficient data to determine measured values of HbCO. In an embodiment, such sensors may have appropriate data stored on a memory associated therewith, or the like. **Fig. 10** also shows the HbCO measurement being about 20% (as illustrated on the HbCO bar **212** and multi-mode display **206**) thereby indicating a potentially dangerous situation that if exacerbated, will become quite problematic. Therefore, the alarm indicator **244** is also activated, and in some embodiments, the speaker **236** as well.

[0078] **Fig. 11A** illustrates a perspective view of an exemplary noninvasive multi-parameter patient monitor **1100**, such as, for example, the patient monitor of **Fig. 1**. Moreover, **Figs. 11B - 11E** illustrate exemplary display screens of the patient monitor of **Fig. 11A**. As shown in **Figs. 11A - 11B**, an embodiment of the monitor **1100** includes a display **1101** showing a plurality of parameter data. For example, the display may advantageously comprise a CRT or an LCD display including circuitry similar to that available on oximeters commercially available from Masimo Corporation of Irvine, California sold under the name Radical™, and disclosed in the U.S. patents referenced above and incorporated above. However, an artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein many commercially available display components capable of displaying multiple parameter data along with the ability to display graphical data such as plethysmographs, trend traces, and the like.

[0079] In an embodiment, the display includes a measured value of SpO₂ **1102**, a measured value of pulse rate **1104** in BPM, a plethysmograph **1106**, a measured value of HbCO **1108**, a measured value of HbMet **1110**, a measured value of a perfusion quality **1112**, a measured value of Hbt **1114**, and a derived value of fractional saturation "SpaO₂" **116**. In an embodiment, SpaO₂ comprises HbO₂ expressed as a percentage of the four main hemoglobin species, i.e., HbO₂, Hb, HbCO, and HbMet.

[0080] In an embodiment, one or more of the foregoing parameter includes trending or prediction indicators **1118** showing the current trend or prediction for that corresponding parameter. In an embodiment, the indicators **1118** may advantageously comprise an up arrow, a down arrow, and a hyphen bar to indicate up trending/prediction, down trending/prediction, or neutral trending/prediction.

[0081] **Fig. 11C** illustrates an exemplary display screen showing trend graph **1140** including trend line **1142** for HbMet. In an embodiment, the trend line **1142** may be advantageously colored for quick straightforward recognition of the trending parameter, may be associated with any one or more of the foregoing alarm attributes, may include trending lines for other parameters, or the like. The display screen also shows trending directional indicators **1142**, **1144** for many of the displayed physiological parameters. In an embodiment, the directional indicators **1142**, **1144** may advantageously comprises arrows showing the recent trend, predicted trend, user-customizable trend, combinations thereof, or the like

for the associated parameters. In an embodiment, the directional indicators **1142**, **1144** comprises an up arrow indicating a rising trend/predicted trend, a middle bar indicating a somewhat stable trend/predicted trend, and a down arrow indicating a lowering trend/predicted trend. An artisan will recognize a wide variety of other directional indicators **1142**, **1144** from the disclosure herein.

[0082] Fig. **11D** shows an exemplary display screen in vertical format. Such vertical format could be user actuated or based on a gravity switch. Figs. **11E** - **11F** illustrate additional displays of various physiological parameters similar to those discussed in the foregoing, being As shown in Fig. **11G**, the display includes a measured value of SpO₂ **1162**, a measured value of pulse rate **1164** in BPM, a plethysmograph **1166**, a HbCO bar **1168**, and a HbMet bar **1170**. In an embodiment, the HbCO bar **1168** and HbMet bar **1170** may advantageously behave the same or similarly to the HbCO bar **212** and HbMet bar **712**. Moreover, similar bars may advantageously display any of the physiological parameters discussed herein using display indicia appropriate to that parameter. For example, a SpO₂ or SpaO₂ bar may advantageously range from about 0% to about 100%, and more preferably range from about 50% to about 100%, while a Hbt bar may advantageously range from about 0 to about 30.

[0083] Moreover, similar to the disclosure above, the measured value of SpO₂ **1162** may advantageously toggle to measured values of HbCO, HbMet, Hbt, or the like based on, for example, actuation of user input keys, or the like.

[0084] In addition to the foregoing, the display may also include graphical data showing one or more color-coded or other identifying indicia for traces of trend data. Moreover, other graphical presentations may advantageously provide readily identifiable indications of monitored parameters or combinations of monitored parameters of the patient. For example, in an embodiment, the display includes a SpaO₂ graph **1172**. The SpaO₂ graph **1172** plots SpO₂ as a function of other blood analytes (1-SpaO₂), where SpaO₂ comprises HbO₂ expressed as a percentage of the four main hemoglobin species, i.e., HbO₂, Hb, HbCO, and HbMet. Thus, as shown in Fig. **11C**, as the slope of the displayed line or arrow increases, the caregiver can readily note that the majority of hemoglobin carriers are being used to carry oxygen, and not, for example, harmful carbon monoxide. On the other hand, as the slope decreases, the caregiver can readily and advantageously note that the number of hemoglobin species available to carry oxygen is decreasing, regardless of the current value of SpO₂. Moreover, the length of the arrow or line also provides an indication of wellness, e.g., the higher the line the more oxygen saturation, the lower the line, the more likely there may be desaturation event, or the like.

[0085] Thus, the SpaO₂ graph **1172** provides the caregiver with the ability to recognize that even though the measured value of SpO₂ may be within acceptable ranges, there are potentially an unacceptable number of hemoglobin carriers unavailable for carrying oxygen, and that other potential problems may exist, such as, for example, harmful carbon monoxide levels, or the like. In an embodiment, various alarm conditions may cause the graph **1172** to change color, flash, or any combination of alarm indications discussed in the foregoing. Moreover, Fig. **11I** illustrates yet an additional display of the foregoing parameters.

[0086] An embodiment may also include the monitor **1100** advantageously defining regions of wellness/severity of the monitored patient. For example, because the graph **1172** comprises two dimensions, the monitor **1100** may advantageously define regions where the patient's measured physiological parameters are considered acceptable, regions where the patient is considered at risk, regions where the patient is critical, and the like. For example, one region of acceptability may include a high SpO₂ and a low 1-SpaO₂, another region of risk may include a high SpO₂ and a high 1-SpaO₂, and another critical region may include a low SpO₂ and a high 1-SpaO₂. Moreover, an artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein that different parameters may also be combined to provide readily identifiable indications of patient wellness.

[0087] In addition to or as an alternative to the two dimensional SpaO₂ graph **1172**, the monitor **1100** may also include a three dimensional graph, such as, for example, extending the graph **1172** along the variable of time. In this embodiment, the foregoing regions advantageously become three dimensional surfaces of wellness. Moreover, trend data may also be advantageously added to the surface to provide a history of when particular monitored parameters dipped in and out of various surfaces of wellness, risk, criticality, or the like. Such trend data could be color-coded, text identified, or the like. An artisan will also recognize that such surfaces may be dynamic. For example, measurements of HbCO > about 5 may dictate that trend data showing SpO₂ < about 90% should be considered critical; however, measurements of HbCO < about 5 may dictate only SpO₂ < about 85% would be critical. Again, an artisan will recognize from the disclosure herein other parameter combinations to create a wide variety of wellness/critical regions or surfaces that provide readily available visual or audio indications of patient well being, trigger specific alarms, or the like.

[0088] Moreover, the monitor **1100** may advantageously employ enlargement or reorganization of parameter data based on, for example, the severity of the measurement. For example, the monitor **1100** may display values for HbCO in a small portion of the screen or in the background, and when HbCO begins to approach abnormal levels, the small portion may advantageously grown as severity increases, even in some embodiments to dominate the display. Such visual alarming can be combined with audio alarms such as announcements, alarms, rising frequencies, or the like, and other visual alarms such as flashing, coloration, or the like to assist a caregiver in noticing the increasing severity of a monitored parameter. In an embodiment, a location of the display of an alarming value is changed to be displayed in a larger display area, such as **1102**, so as to be readily noticeable and its display values readily ascertainable.

[0089] Although the foregoing invention has been described in terms of certain preferred embodiments, other embodiments will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art from the disclosure herein. For example, the monitor 100 may advantageously be adapted to monitor or be included in a monitor capable of measuring physiological parameters other than those determined through absorption spectroscopy, such as, for example, blood pressure, ECG, EKG, respiratory rates, volumes, inputs for blood pressure sensors, acoustical sensors, and the like. Moreover, the monitor 100 may be adapted for wireless communication to and from the sensor 106, and/or to and from other monitoring devices, such as, for example, multi-parameter or legacy monitoring devices.

[0090] Also, other combinations, omissions, substitutions and modifications will be apparent to the skilled artisan in view of the disclosure herein. Accordingly, the present invention is not intended to be limited by the reaction of the preferred embodiments, but is to be defined by reference to the appended claims.

Claims

1. A physiological monitor capable of communication with at least two types of noninvasive optical sensors through a common sensor port,
the first type of noninvasive optical sensor having a different number of light emitting sources than the second type of noninvasive optical sensor,
the physiological monitor capable of determining which type of noninvasive optical sensor is attached,
the physiological monitor comprising a device capable of determining a number of light emitting sources that are to be activated during operation of a noninvasive optical sensor,
capable of activating two of the light emitting sources on the noninvasive optical sensor to measure a first physiological parameter,
capable of activating more than two of the light emitting sources on the noninvasive optical sensor to measure a second physiological parameter, and
capable of selectively driving fewer than all of the light emitting sources that are available on the noninvasive optical sensor in the presence of low noise or for power consumption purposes.
2. The physiological monitor of Claim 1, wherein the device comprises a processor capable of receiving information from an information element associated with one or more of a cable and the noninvasive optical sensor, the information being usable to determine the number of light emitting sources available to the physiological monitor.
3. The physiological monitor of Claim 1, wherein the device comprises a presence or absence of a mechanical key associated with one of a cable and the noninvasive optical sensor.
4. The physiological monitor of Claim 1, comprising an indicator responsive to the device to inform a user which of the first type of noninvasive optical sensor and the second type of noninvasive optical sensor is attached to the physiological monitor.
5. The physiological monitor of Claim 4, wherein the indicator comprises a display of data determined using signals from the noninvasive optical sensor.
6. The physiological monitor of Claim 4, wherein the indicator comprises a visual indicator.
7. The physiological monitor of Claim 6, wherein the visual indicator comprises a color.
8. The physiological monitor of Claim 6, wherein the visual indicator comprises an LED.
9. The physiological monitor of Claim 8, wherein the LED changes color based on whether the type of noninvasive optical sensor attached to the physiological monitor is the first type of noninvasive optical sensor or the second type of noninvasive optical sensor.
10. The physiological monitor of Claim 8, wherein a color of the LED comprises red when the first type of noninvasive optical sensor is attached to the physiological monitor and another color when the second type of noninvasive optical sensor is attached to the physiological monitor.
11. The physiological monitor of Claim 1, wherein each of the light emitting sources on the noninvasive optical sensor is configured to emit a different wavelength of light.

12. The physiological monitor of Claim 11, wherein a total number of light emitting sources on the noninvasive optical sensor is eight.

13. The physiological monitor of Claim 1, wherein the light emitting sources on the noninvasive optical sensor comprise a matrix of emission devices that are mounted on a flexible substrate.

14. A method of operating the physiological monitor of any one or more of Claims 1-13; the method comprising the following steps:

activating two of the light emitting sources on the noninvasive optical sensor to measure a first physiological parameter,
activating more than two of the light emitting sources on the noninvasive optical sensor to measure a second physiological parameter, and
selectively driving fewer than all of the light emitting sources that are available on the noninvasive optical sensor in the presence of low noise or for power consumption purposes.

Patentansprüche

1. Physiologischer Monitor, der mit mindestens zwei Arten von nichtinvasiven optischen Sensoren über einen gemeinsamen Sensorport kommunizieren kann,

wobei die erste Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor eine unterschiedliche Anzahl von Lichtabstrahlquellen als die zweite Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor hat,
der physiologische Monitor bestimmen kann, welche Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor angebracht ist, der physiologische Monitor eine Vorrichtung aufweist, die eine Anzahl von Lichtabstrahlquellen bestimmen kann, die im Betrieb eines nichtinvasiven optischen Sensors zu aktivieren sind,
zwei der Lichtabstrahlquellen am nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor aktivieren kann, um einen ersten physiologischen Parameter zu messen,
mehr als zwei der Lichtabstrahlquellen am nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor aktivieren kann, um einen zweiten physiologischen Parameter zu messen, und
weniger als alle Lichtabstrahlquellen, die am nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor verfügbar sind, in Gegenwart von niedrigem Rauschen oder für Stromverbrauchszwecke selektiv ansteuern kann.

2. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 1. wobei die Vorrichtung einen Prozessor aufweist, der Informationen von einem Informationselement in Zuordnung zu einem Kabel und/oder dem nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor empfangen kann, wobei die Informationen verwendbar sind, um die Anzahl von Lichtabstrahlquellen zu bestimmen, die für den physiologischen Monitor verfügbar sind.

3. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 1. wobei die Vorrichtung ein Vorhandensein oder Fehlen eines mechanischen Schlüssels in Zuordnung zu einem Kabel oder dem nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor aufweist.

4. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 1, der einen Indikator aufweist, der auf die Vorrichtung reagiert, um einen Benutzer zu informieren, welche Art von der ersten Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor und der zweiten Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor am physiologischen Monitor angebracht ist.

5. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 4, wobei der Indikator eine Anzeige von Daten aufweist, die mit Hilfe von Signalen vom nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor bestimmt werden.

6. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 4, wobei der Indikator ein Schauzeichen aufweist.

7. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 6, wobei das Schauzeichen eine Farbe aufweist.

8. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 6, wobei das Schauzeichen eine LED aufweist.

9. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 8, wobei die LED ihre Farbe aufgrund dessen ändert, ob die Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor, der am physiologischen Monitor angebracht ist, die erste Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor oder die zweite Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor ist.

10. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 8, wobei eine Farbe der LED rot aufweist, wenn die erste Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor am physiologischen Monitor angebracht ist, und eine andere Farbe, wenn die zweite Art von nichtinvasivem optischem Sensor am physiologischen Monitor angebracht ist.

11. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 1, wobei jede der Lichtabstrahlquellen am nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor so konfiguriert ist, dass sie eine unterschiedliche Lichtwellenlänge abstrahlt.

12. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 11, wobei eine Gesamtzahl von Lichtabstrahlquellen am nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor acht beträgt.

13. Physiologischer Monitor nach Anspruch 1, wobei die Lichtabstrahlquellen am nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor eine Matrix aus Abstrahlbauelementen aufweisen, die auf einem flexiblen Substrat angebaut sind.

14. Verfahren zum Betreiben des physiologischen Monitors nach einem oder mehreren der Ansprüche 1 bis 13; wobei das Verfahren die folgenden Schritte aufweist:

Aktivieren zweier der Lichtabstrahlquellen am nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor, um einen ersten physiologischen Parameter zu messen,
 Aktivieren von mehr als zwei der Lichtabstrahlquellen am nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor, um einen zweiten physiologischen Parameter zu messen, und
 selektives Ansteuern von weniger als allen Lichtabstrahlquellen, die am nichtinvasiven optischen Sensor verfügbar sind, in Gegenwart von niedrigem Rauschen oder für Stromverbrauchszwecke.

Revendications

1. Moniteur physiologique capable de communication avec au moins deux types de détecteurs optiques non invasifs par l'intermédiaire d'un port de détecteur commun,
 le premier type de détecteur optique non invasif présentant un nombre différent de sources émettant de la lumière que le second type de détecteur optique non invasif,
 le moniteur physiologique étant capable de déterminer quel type de détecteur optique non invasif est fixé,
 le moniteur physiologique comprenant un dispositif capable de déterminer un nombre de sources émettant de la lumière qui doivent être activées pendant le fonctionnement d'un détecteur optique non invasif,
 capable d'activer deux des sources émettant de la lumière sur le détecteur optique non invasif pour mesurer un premier paramètre physiologique,
 capable d'activer plus de deux des sources émettant de la lumière sur le détecteur optique non invasif pour mesurer un second paramètre physiologique, et
 capable de commander sélectivement moins de la totalité des sources émettant de la lumière qui sont disponibles sur le détecteur optique non invasif en présence de bruit faible ou à des fins de consommation électrique.

2. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 1, dans lequel le dispositif comprend un processeur capable de recevoir de l'information d'un élément d'information associé à un ou plusieurs d'un câble et du détecteur optique non invasif, l'information étant utilisable pour déterminer le nombre de sources émettant de la lumière disponibles pour le moniteur physiologique.

3. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 1, dans lequel le dispositif comprend la présence ou l'absence d'une clé mécanique associée à un d'un câble et du détecteur optique non invasif.

4. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 1, comprenant un indicateur de réponse au dispositif pour informer un utilisateur duquel du premier type de détecteur optique non invasif et du second type de détecteur optique non invasif est fixé au moniteur physiologique.

5. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 4, dans lequel l'indicateur comprend un affichage de données déterminées en utilisant des signaux du détecteur optique non invasif.

6. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 4, dans lequel l'indicateur comprend un indicateur visuel.

7. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 6, dans lequel l'indicateur visuel comprend une couleur.

8. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 6, dans lequel l'indicateur visuel comprend un LED.
9. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 8, dans lequel le LED change de couleur sur la base de quel type de détecteur optique non invasif fixé au moniteur physiologique est le premier type de détecteur optique non invasif ou le second type de détecteur optique non invasif.
10. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 8, dans lequel une couleur du LED comprend du rouge lorsque le premier type de détecteur optique non invasif est fixé au moniteur physiologique et une autre couleur lorsque le second type de détecteur optique non invasif est fixé au moniteur physiologique.
11. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 1, dans lequel chacune des sources émettant de la lumière sur le détecteur optique non invasif est configurée pour émettre une longueur d'onde de lumière différente.
12. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 11, dans lequel un nombre total de sources émettant de la lumière sur le détecteur optique non invasif est huit.
13. Moniteur physiologique selon la revendication 1, dans lequel les sources émettant de la lumière sur le détecteur optique non invasif comprennent une matrice de dispositifs d'émission qui sont fixés sur un substrat flexible.
14. Procédé de fonctionnement du moniteur physiologique selon une ou plusieurs des revendications 1-13 ; le procédé comprenant les étapes suivantes :
- d'activation de deux des sources émettant de la lumière sur le détecteur optique non invasif pour mesurer un premier paramètre physiologique,
 - d'activation de plus de deux des sources émettant de la lumière sur le détecteur optique non invasif pour mesurer un second paramètre physiologique, et
 - de commande sélective de moins de la totalité des sources émettant de la lumière qui sont disponibles sur le détecteur optique non invasif en présence de bruit faible ou à des fins de consommation électrique.

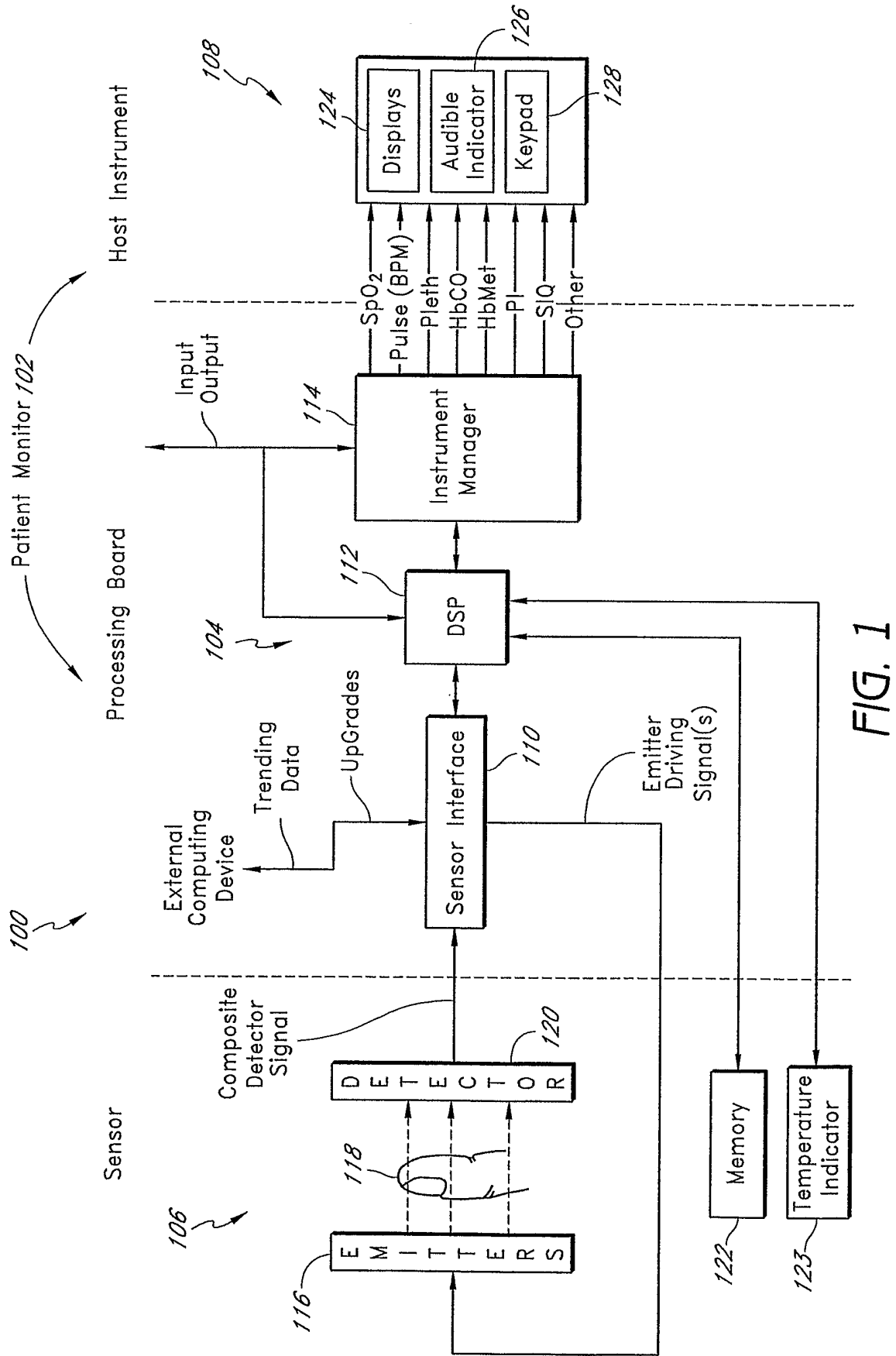


FIG. 1

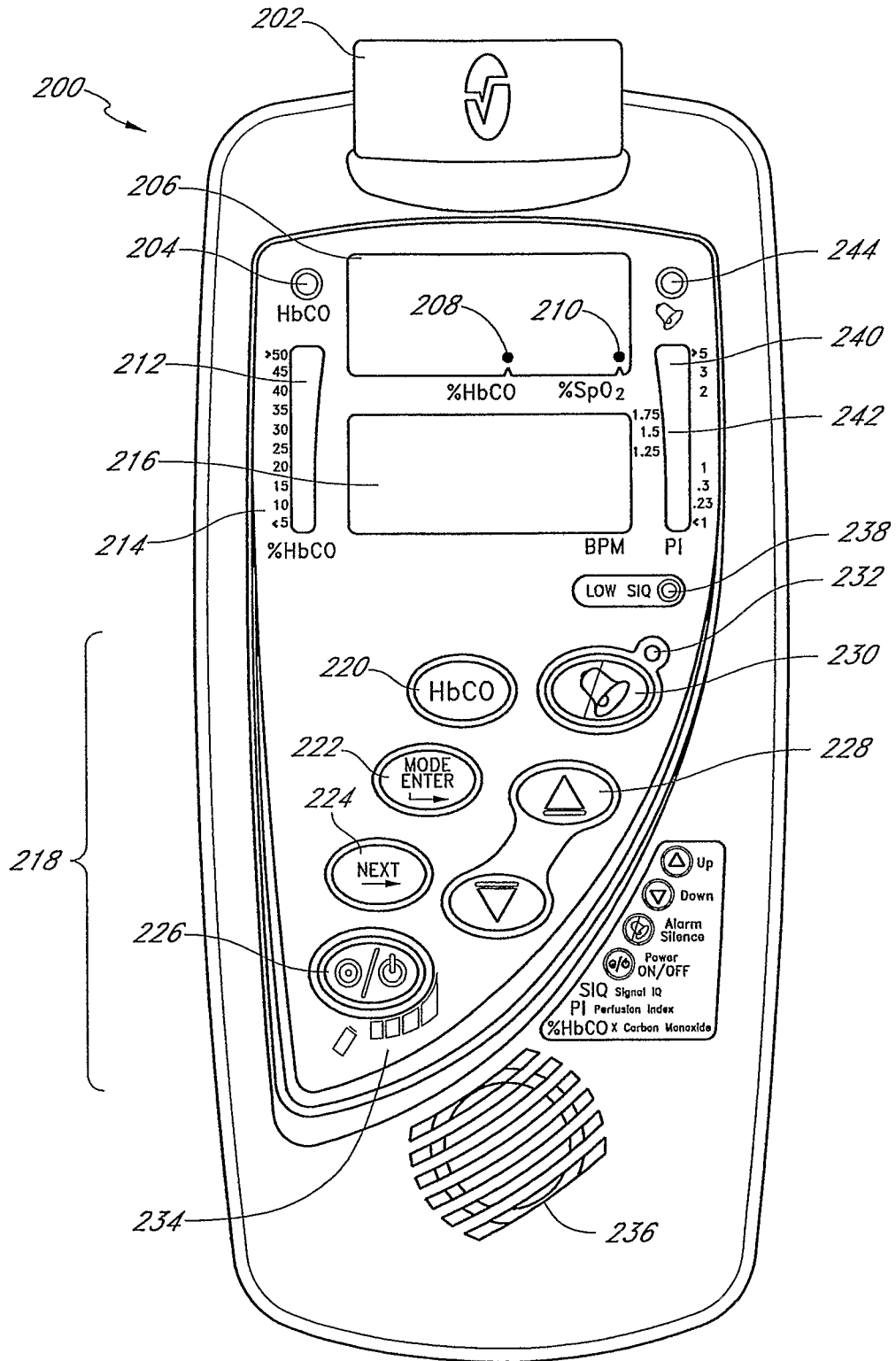


FIG. 2

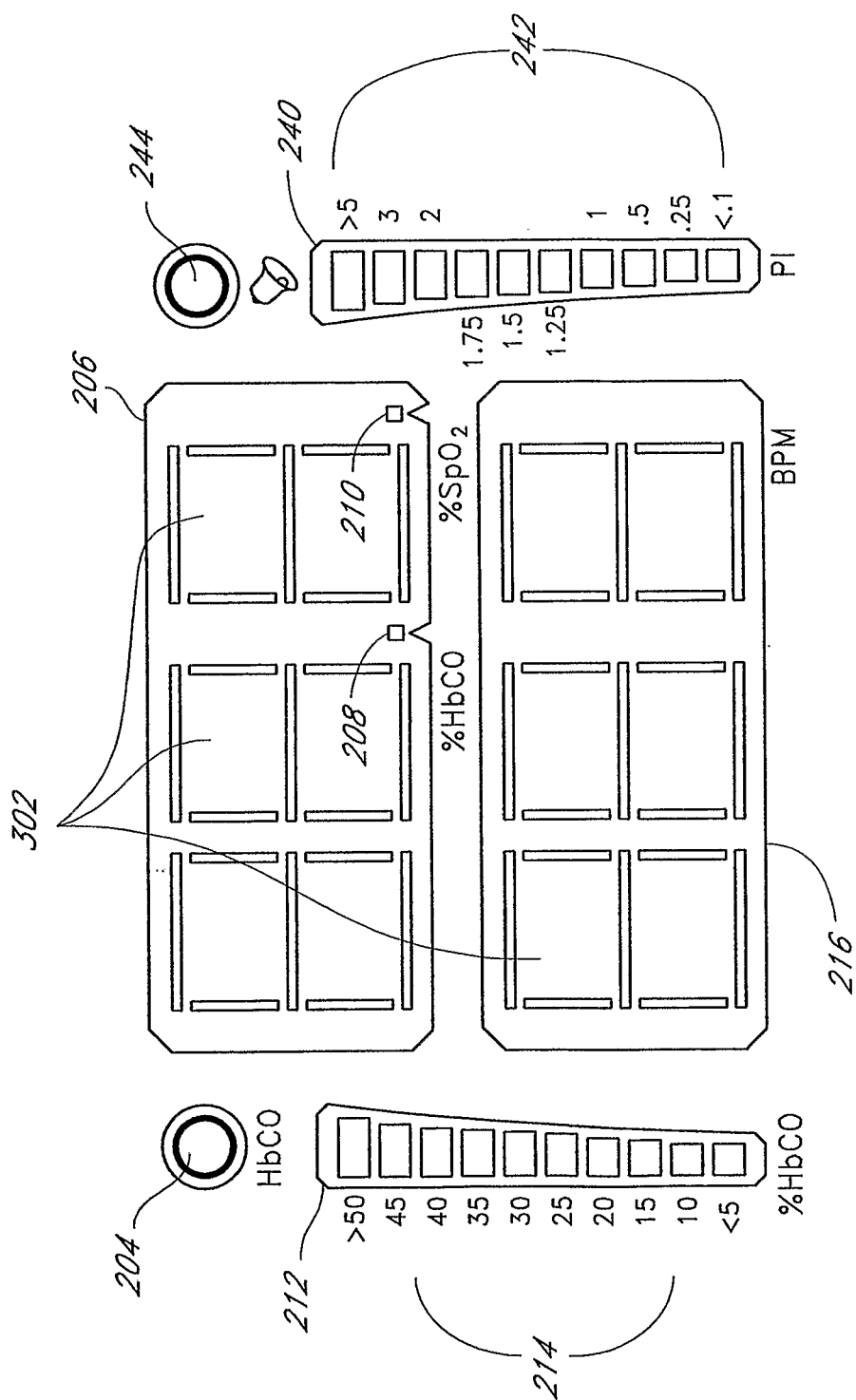


FIG. 3

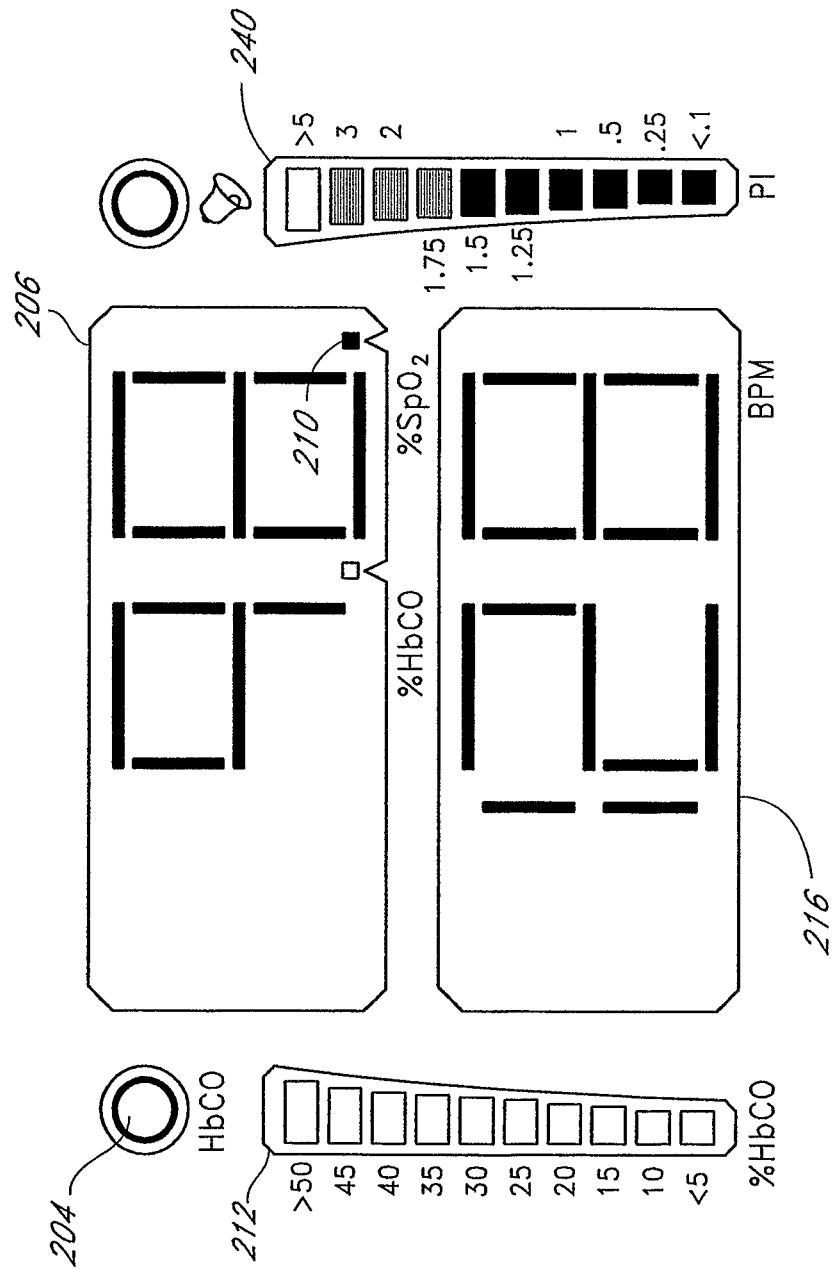


FIG. 4

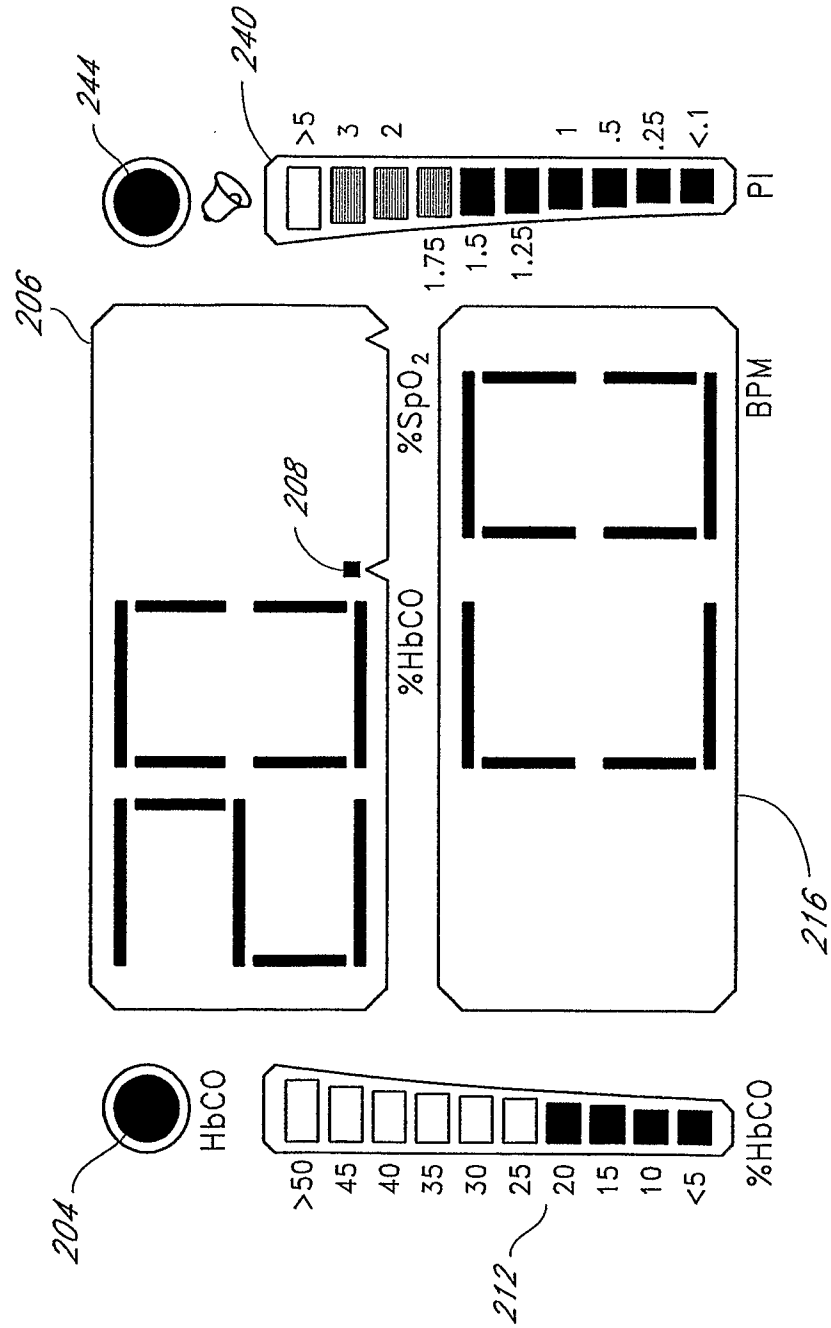


FIG. 5

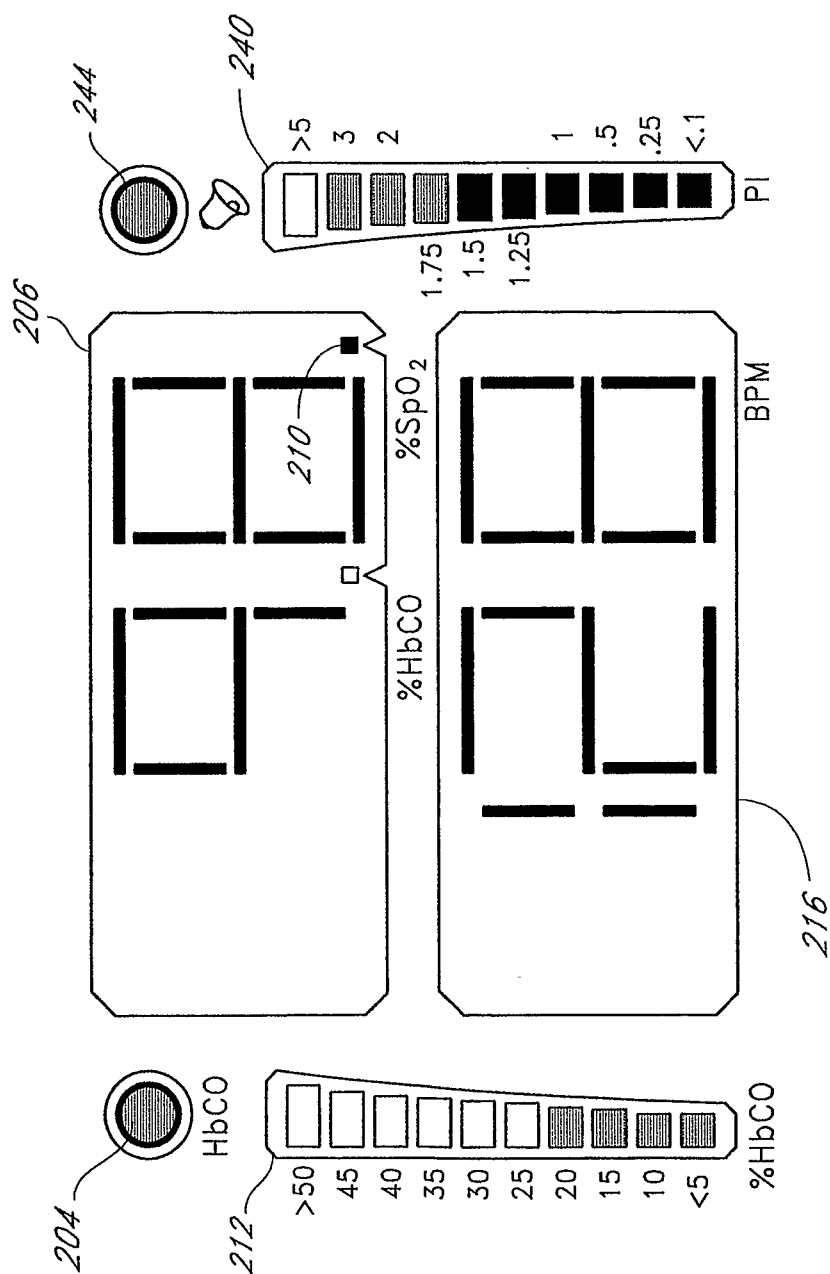


FIG. 6

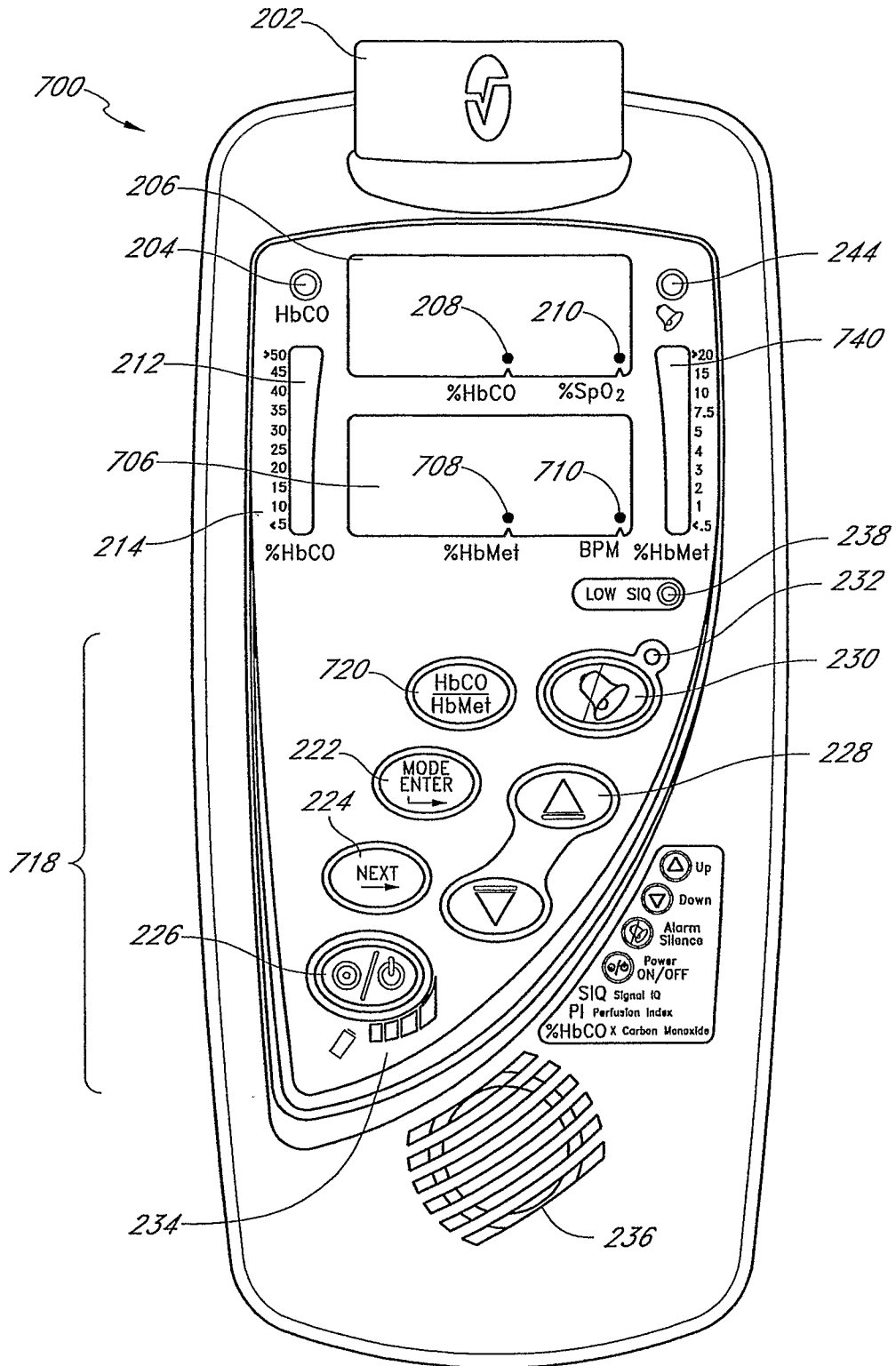


FIG. 7

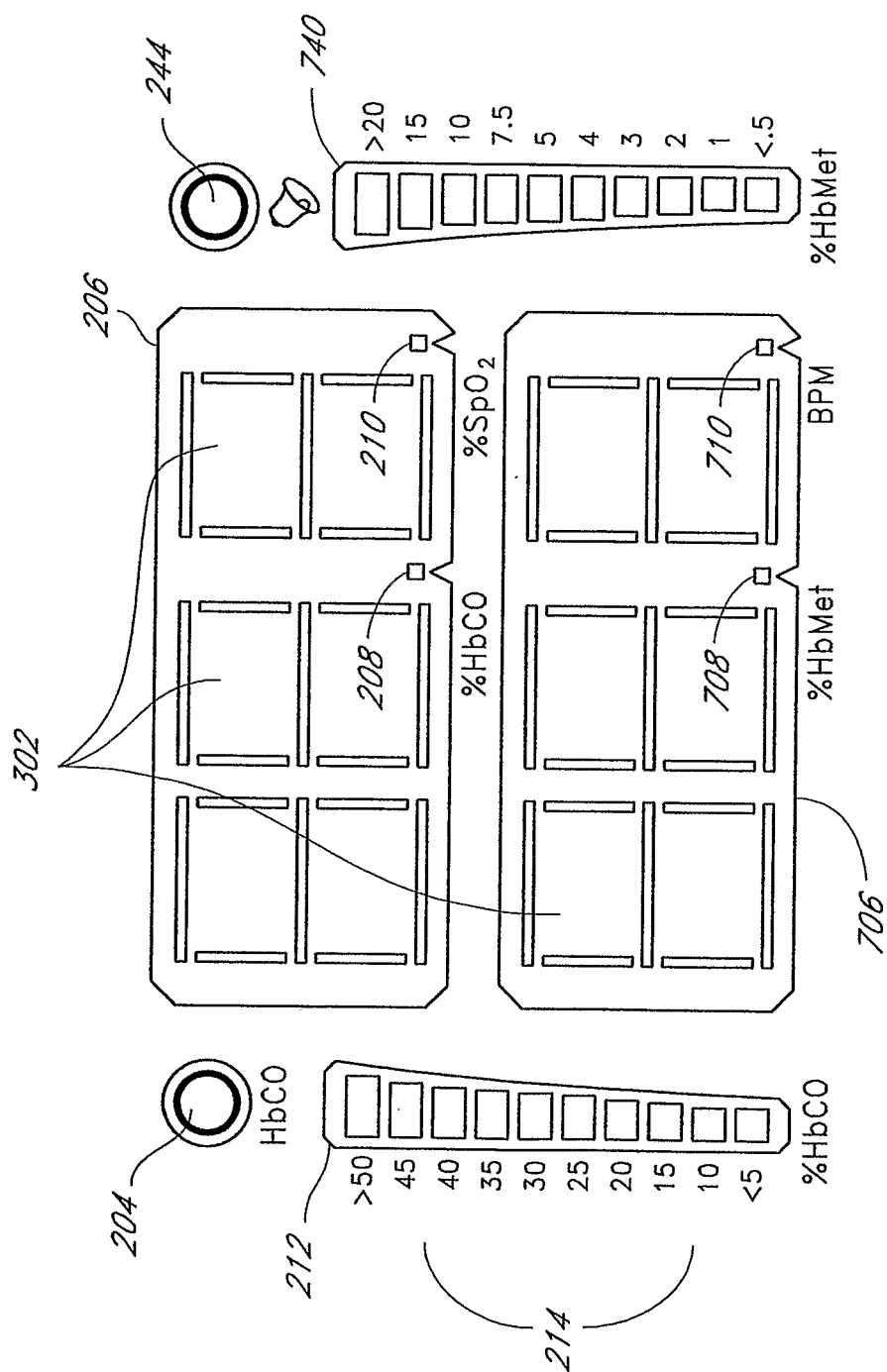


FIG. 8

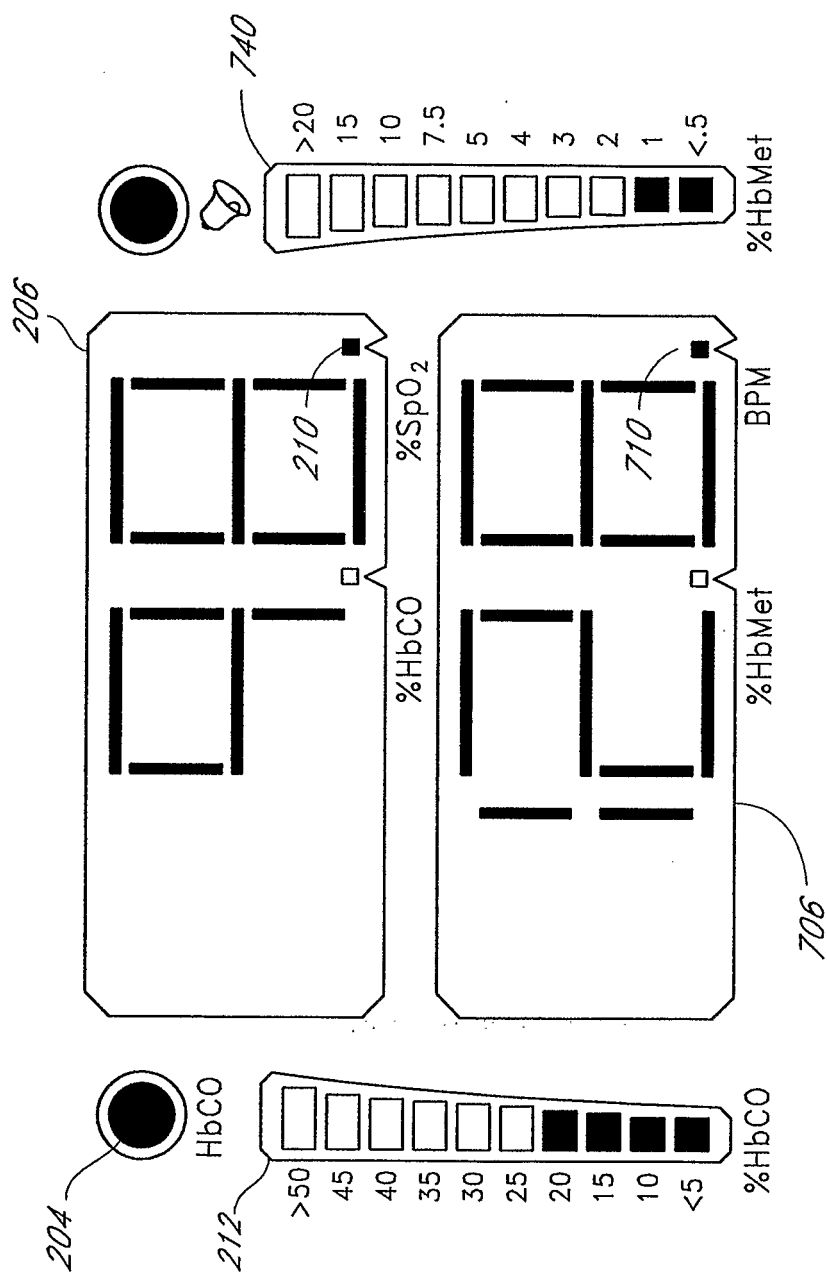


FIG. 9

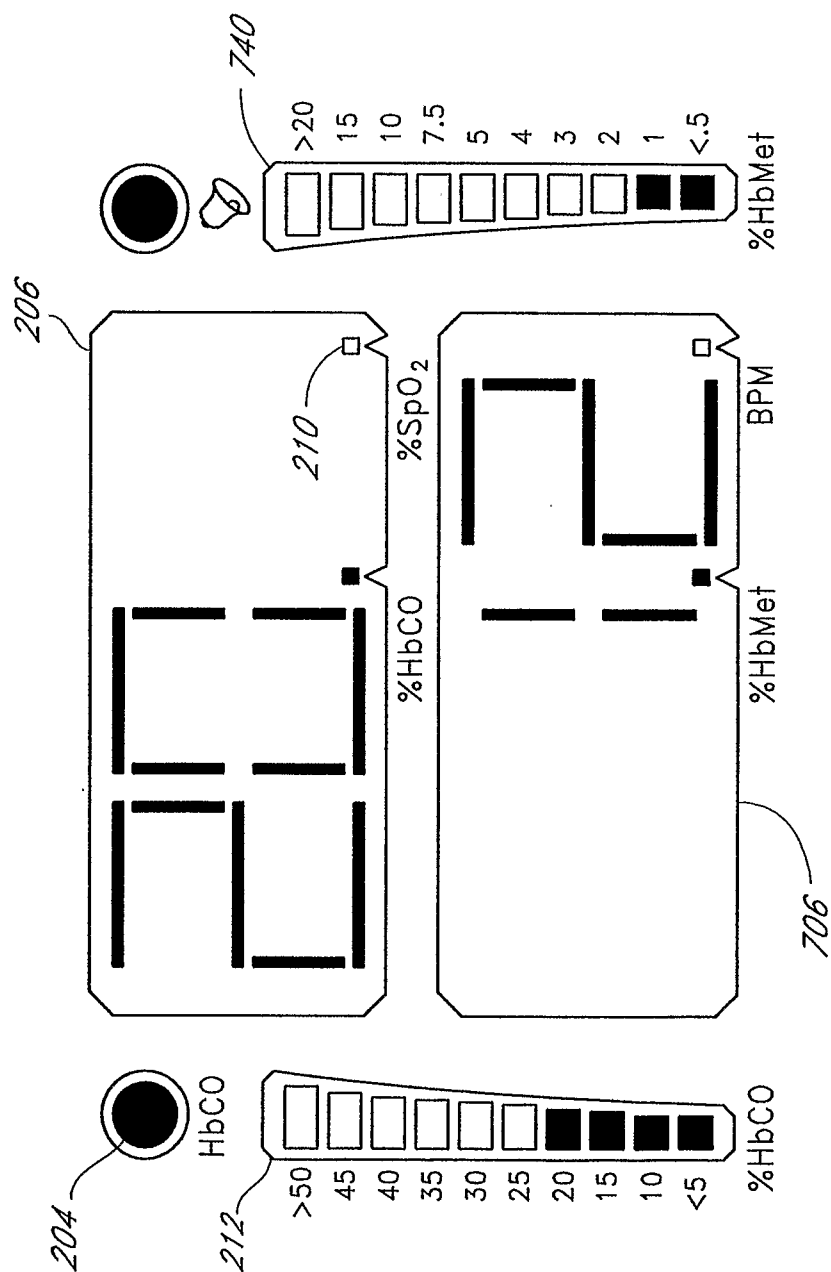


FIG. 10

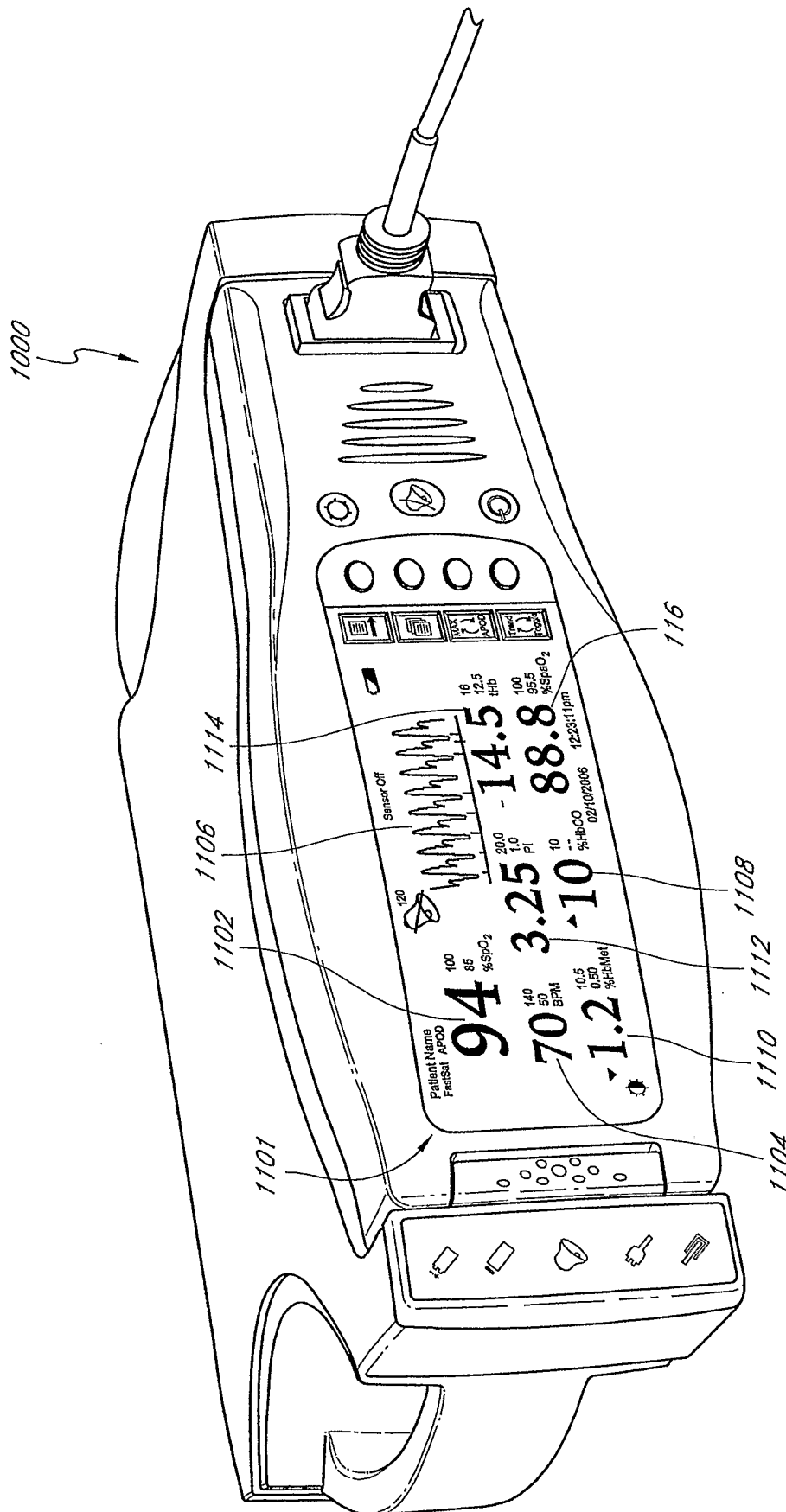


FIG. 11A

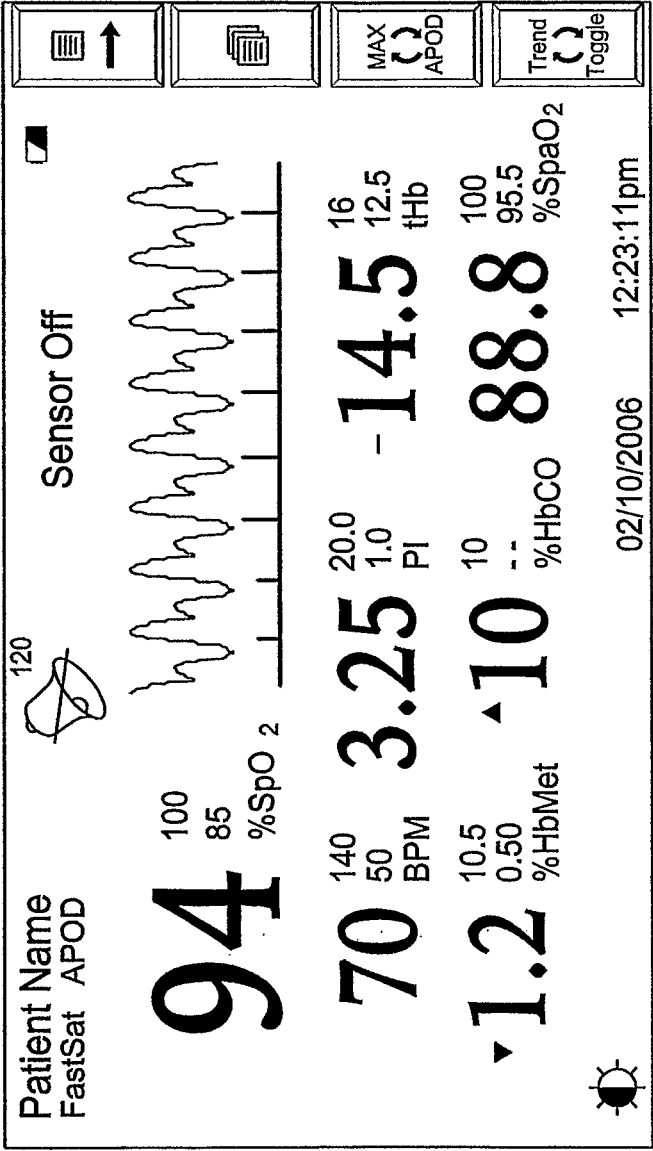


FIG. 11B

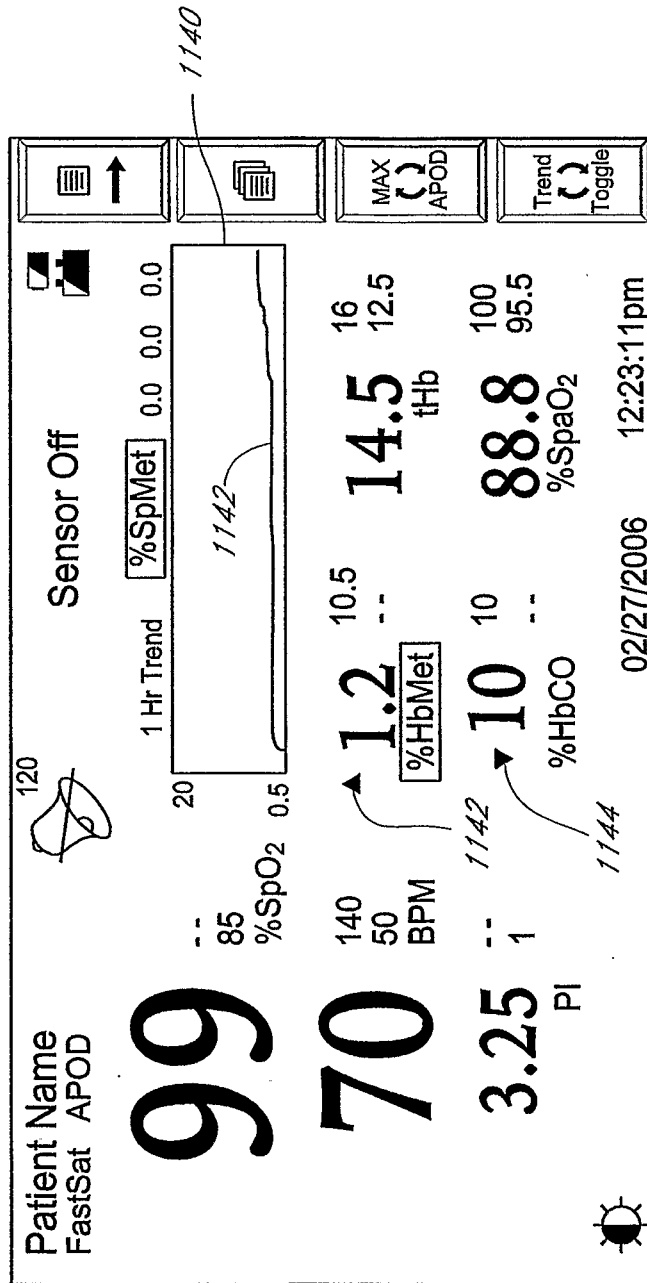


FIG. 11C

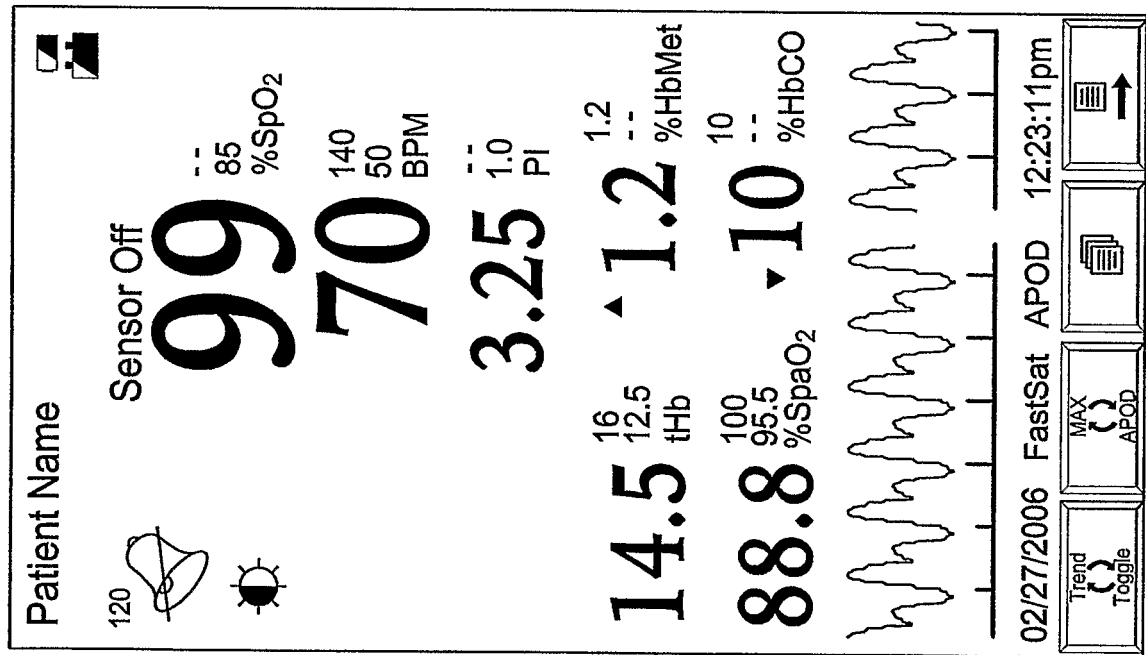


FIG. 11D

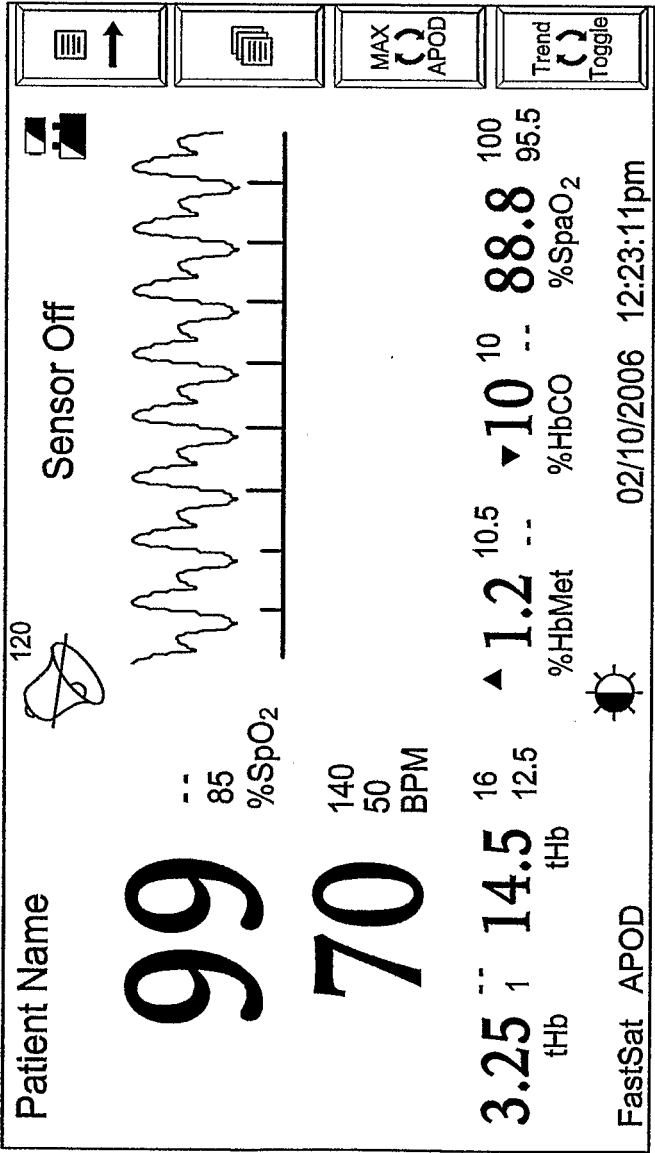


FIG. 11E

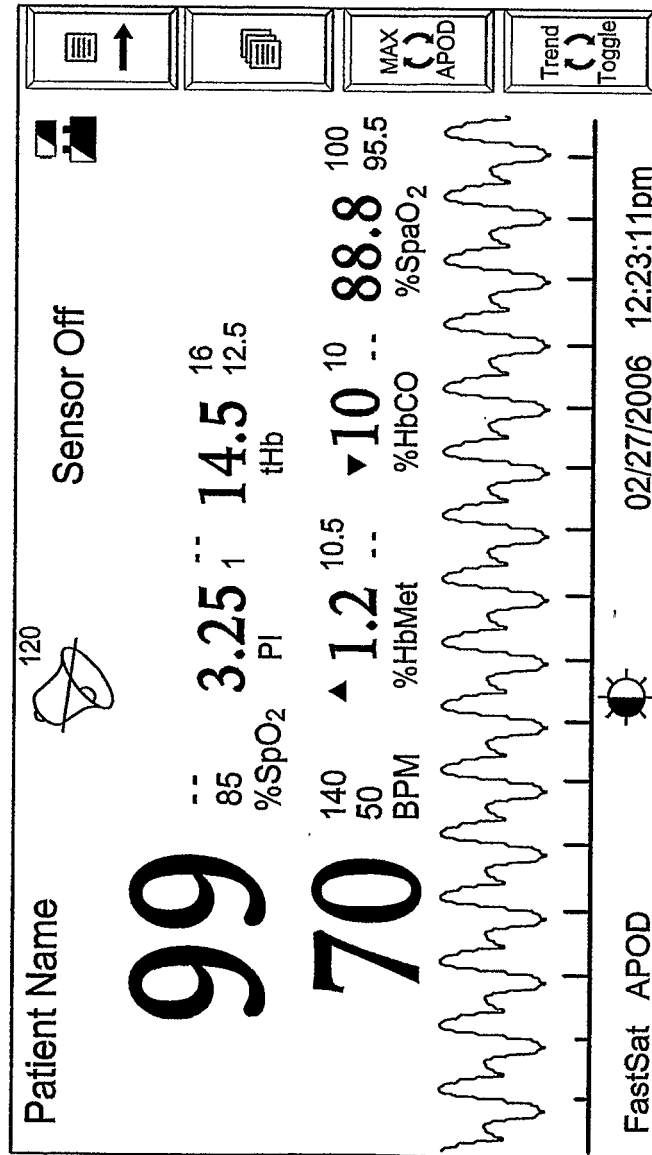


FIG. 11F

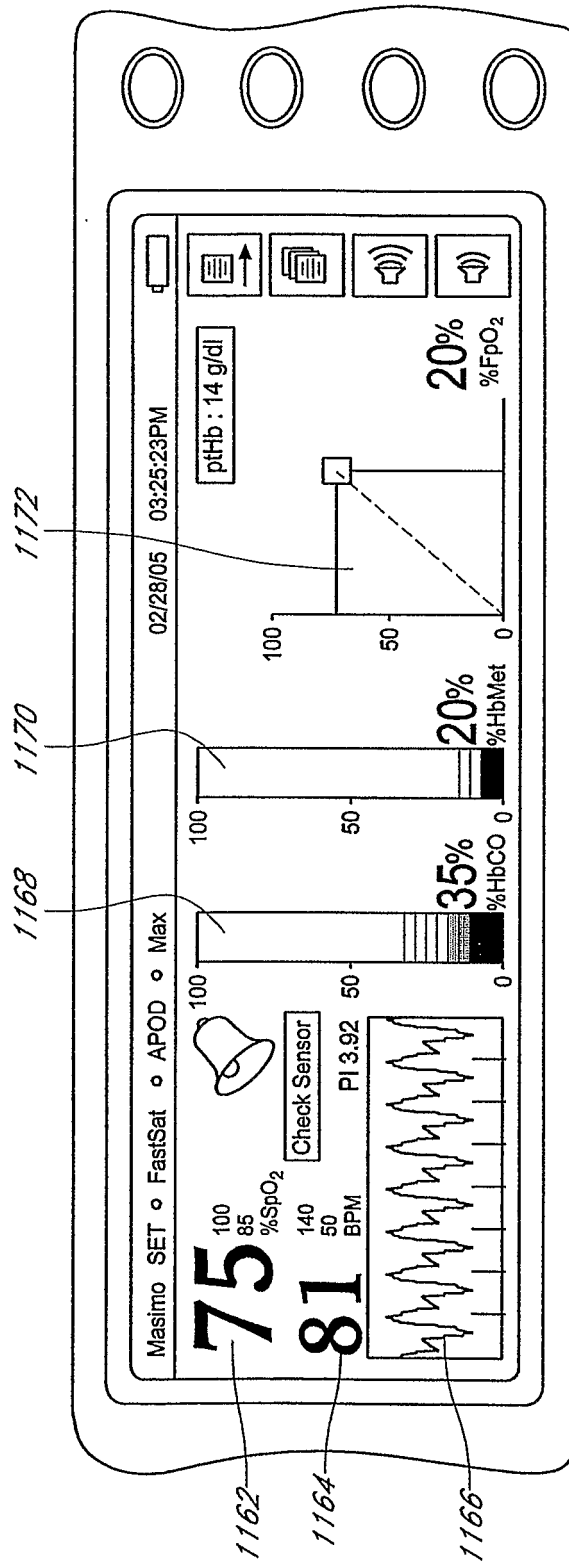


FIG. 11G

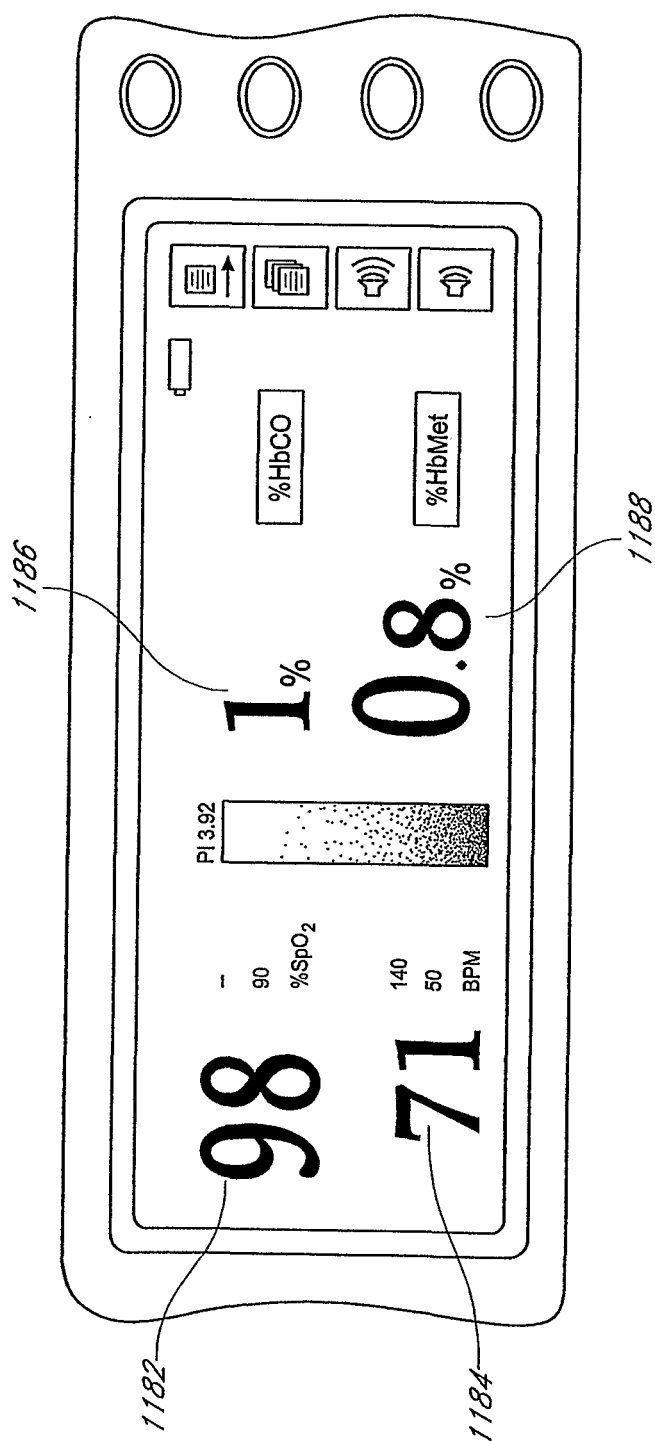


FIG. 11H

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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专利名称(译)	无创多参数患者监护仪		
公开(公告)号	EP1860993B1	公开(公告)日	2019-01-23
申请号	EP2006736797	申请日	2006-03-01
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	MASIMO LAB		
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IPC分类号	A61B5/00		
CPC分类号	A61B5/02416 A61B5/14552 A61B5/6832 A61B5/746 A61B2562/08 A61B2562/085 A61B2562/222 G06F19/3418 G16H10/40 G16H40/67 Y10S439/909 A61B1/00 A61B5/0022 A61B5/0205 A61B5/02427 A61B5/0261 A61B5/0295 A61B5/14532 A61B5/14546 A61B5/1455 A61B5/14551 A61B5/1495 A61B5/ /6815 A61B5/6826 A61B5/6829 A61B5/6838 A61B5/7221 A61B5/7246 A61B5/7275 A61B5/7278 A61B5/7405 A61B5/742 A61B5/7475 H05K999/99		
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摘要(译)

本发明涉及一种在患者监视器上显示生理参数的颜色编码指示的方法，该方法包括非侵入地确定第一生理参数的至少一个测量值和第二生理参数的至少一个测量值，将第一生理参数与第一生理参数相关联。具有第一颜色的生理参数，将第二生理参数与不同于第一颜色的第二颜色相关联，在患者监视器上显示具有第一颜色的第一指示，第一指示指示至少一个测量值第一生理参数，并在患者监视器上显示具有第二颜色的第二指示，第二指示指示第二生理参数的至少一个测量值。

