Tinnitus masker guide

Unitron’s tinnitus masker is a noise generator, intended to provide a sound enrichment source that stimulates the auditory system. The tinnitus masker is intended to be used as part of a comprehensive tinnitus therapy program that works to distract the wearer’s attention away from the sound of their tinnitus.
Using the tinnitus masker

Enable

This feature can be enabled using Unitron TrueFit™ software defaults or by customizing it for the needs of the individual's tinnitus or the management strategy you have in place for them. Once you enable the tinnitus masker, it generates noise in the selected program(s).

Choose

You have three options for the shape of the tinnitus masking noise: audiogram, white noise or pink noise.

Adjust

You can adjust the level of the noise to meet the needs of your patient.

Making adjustments

Volume level

The basic shape of the masker noise stays the same in each program where it is activated, but you can adjust the volume level independently for different programs.

Frequency response

You can fine tune the frequency response of the masker noise in the bands of each “listening environment + masker” program. The tinnitus masker frequency shaping is independent of the hearing instrument frequency response shaping, so both can be adjusted individually.

Wearer control

By making a selection in Unitron TrueFit you can give patients the ability to adjust the tinnitus masker volume level through their remote control or uDirect™ 2.
Choices for configuring

Unitron TrueFit pre-calculated default

The tinnitus masker is off by default in Unitron TrueFit. Once you enable it in your selected program in the Configure Feature screen, it will automatically default to a noise level that makes sense in the context of the patient’s audiogram.

Tinnitus matching

You can configure the tinnitus masking noise using information you gathered during tinnitus matching. You enter the tinnitus matching data with the audiogram information and Unitron TrueFit uses it in its noise level calculation.
Indications for use

Unitron’s tinnitus masker feature is a broadband sound generator available in some hearing instruments. It provides a means of sound enrichment therapy that can be used as part of a personalized tinnitus management program to provide temporary relief from tinnitus.

The tinnitus masker is intended for adults 18 years of age or older who have both hearing loss and tinnitus.

The underlying principle of sound enrichment is to provide supplementary noise stimulation which can help defocus attention from tinnitus and avoid negative reactions.

Sound enrichment, coupled with instructional counseling, is an established approach to managing tinnitus.

Medical conditions

Prior to using tinnitus masker, a licensed ear physician should check the patient for the following conditions:

• Visible congenital or traumatic deformity of the ear of the patient
• Active drainage from the ear within the previous 90 days
• Sudden hearing loss within the previous 90 days
• Acute or chronic dizziness
• Unilateral hearing loss of sudden or recent onset within the previous 90 days
• Pain or discomfort in the ear

These are medically treatable conditions known to cause tinnitus and should be addressed prior to any means of sound enrichment.

Safety information

According to OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor) regulations, the maximum output of the tinnitus masker feature can be set to a level that can lead to permanent hearing loss. The maximum limit is 85 dBA SPL which corresponds to 8 hours daily use.

At Unitron, we care deeply about people with hearing loss. We work closely with hearing healthcare professionals to provide hearing solutions that improve lives in meaningful ways. Because hearing matters.

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