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# SHHH: An Evidence-Based Bibliography for Keeping Hospitals Quiet

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# SHHH: An Evidence-Based Bibliography for Keeping Hospitals Quiet

## Authors

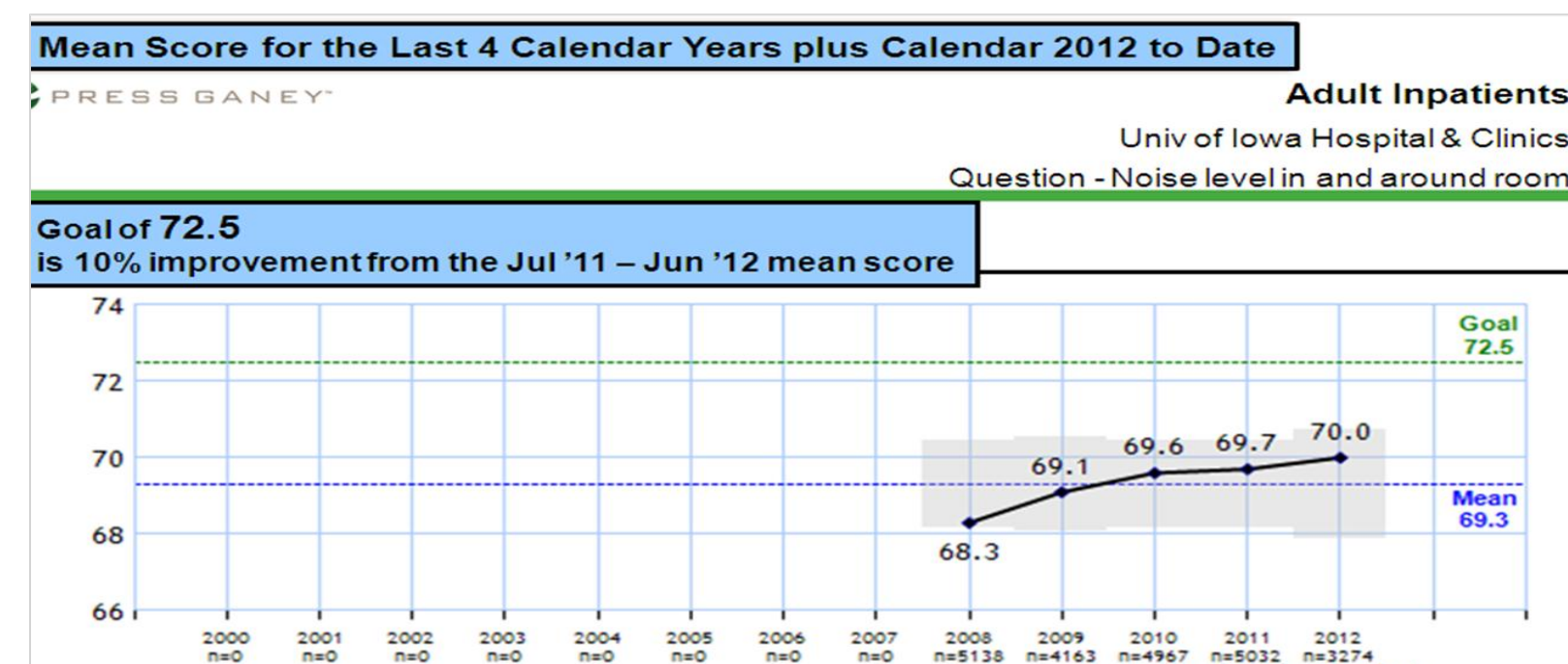
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 Meredith Scherb, MA- Librarian, Patients' Library, University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics

## Purpose

- ❖ The purpose of this poster is to share details about collaboration between a hospital librarian, a nursing librarian, and a nursing administrator to impact quality of care at a large public teaching hospital in Iowa.
- ❖ The project has involved increasing nursing staff awareness of evidence-based strategies to lower noise levels on selected hospital units.

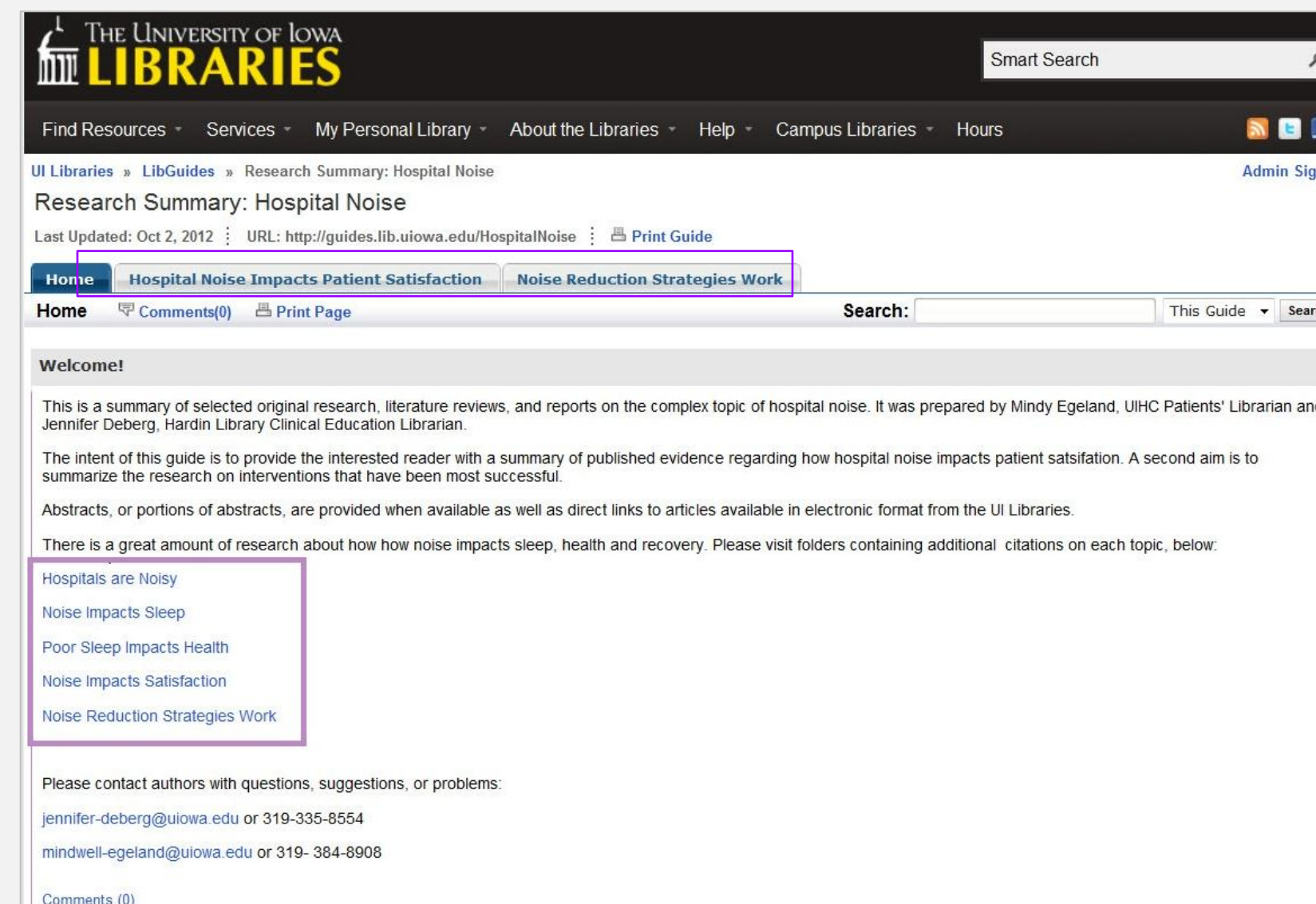
## The Problem

- ❖ The process for improving quality of care started with a campaign to promote staff awareness of patient satisfaction and noise and evolved into the HUSH initiative to improve noise levels on patient units.
- ❖ One of the publicly reported questions that impacts CMS reimbursement (Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services) is about hospital quietness.



Question from the Press Ganey standard discharge survey:  
 "Please rate the noise level in and around your room."

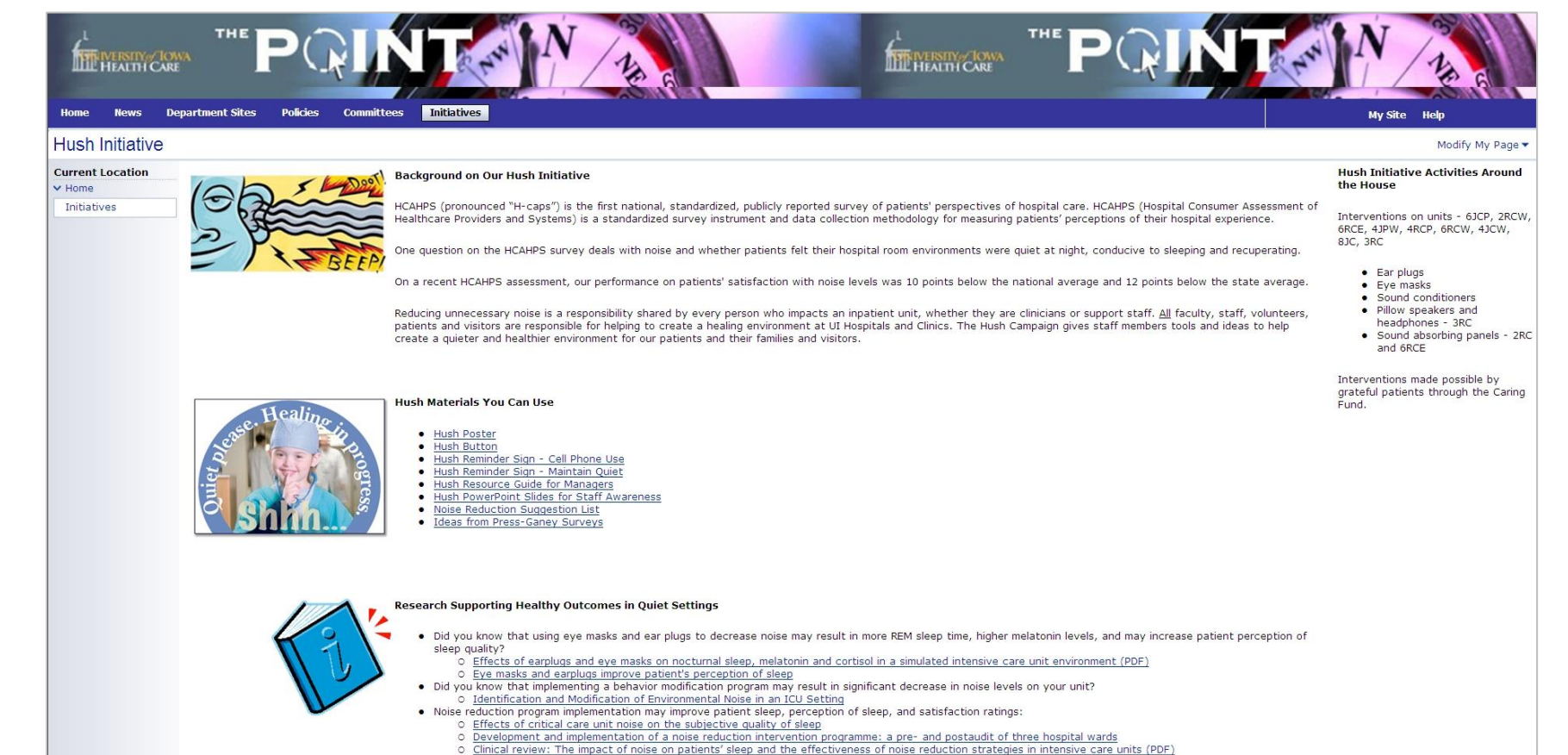
## The Project



Librarian compiled results from literature search using a subject guide, organized by key themes.



Evidence-based strategies for noise reduction, such as earplugs, sound conditioners, "Yacker Tracker" stop lights, along with HUSH initiative materials, have been promoted during nursing meeting times. In conjunction with the hospital patient satisfaction coordinator, we presented scores received from Press Ganey surveys documenting noise conditions reported by patients.



Worked with hospital marketing and communications staff and nursing administrator to provide links that would be easily accessed through the hospital intranet to enable nurses to view evidence-based action items.



The HUSH Initiative - Jen Deberg, Hardin Library; Mindy Egeland, Patients' Library

We have created a [summary](#) of important points related to hospital inpatient unit noise reduction. The summary includes links to key original research articles as well as access to additional research on this topic. The cleanliness and quietness scores are combined and affect CMS reimbursement, making it important to establish a regular practice of sleep hygiene and noise reduction around patient rooms. Thank you for helping our patients sleep and improving patient satisfaction.

A summary was also prepared and appeared on the intranet blog published by the director of nursing.

## Outcomes

- ❖ Improved librarian awareness of how to best format and disseminate research summary for nursing leaders and staff
- ❖ Strengthened partnerships between librarians and nursing leaders and staff, with continued opportunities for growth