Reduce recovery times by giving the patient better control of their natural and electric lighting.

Overview
In developing a patient room lighting control solution, Eaton’s Cooper Controls Business found existing methods for providing patients control over natural and electric lighting levels to be inadequate. Control solutions that rely on existing off-the-shelf pillow speakers and nurse call station interfaces are severely limited in functionality. ON/OFF only control of a limited number of lighting zones is typical for these systems.

To address this issue, Eaton’s Cooper Controls worked with a leading pillow speaker manufacturer to develop a line of pillow speakers designed specifically to support the control of natural and electric light. These units offer the following features:

- Support for up to three dimming zones of electric lighting control
- An all zones ON/all zones OFF function
- Raise/lower control of lighting
- Standard pillow speaker functionality including nurse call and television control
- Sealed design reduces potential risk of infectious fluids or solids settling into the unit, even in the speaker area
- High-impact case material is designed to withstand over 100 drops onto a concrete floor without impacting its functionality
- Standard interface to leading nurse call stations

These exceptionally functional control devices interface with a state of the art, small form factor lighting control panel. This panel is capable of supporting a digital switch network. Multiple digital switch stations may be used in conjunction with the pillow speaker to provide additional control points for staff and visitors.

Technical Details
The Greengate Room Controller (RC3DEHC) was specifically designed to allow control of three dimming zones from the patient bed. Not only does this improve patient comfort but allows the building design to achieve Credit 6.1 for LEED-HC.

The pillow speaker connects to a standard 37-pin bed connector on the headwall. Eight of the conductors are brought to the Room Controller, while the remaining conductors continue to the Nurse Call system or entertainment system as usual. The three dimming zone control from the patient pillow speaker is unique to Greengate and the Room Controller.
Conclusion

Studies have shown that the quality of light is important in the healing process. The patient's ability to control both the natural and electric light increases their comfort and satisfaction. By incorporating pillow speakers, patients can now personalize the space by having the ability to control the light level as well as the window shades to create a personal lighting environment.

Only the Room Controller (RC3DEHC) provides optimum control of the lighting in patient room. Make sure to use the RC3DEHC in your patient room designs, for better control of natural and electric light.