

Respiratory Therapy Technical Standards - Technical Standards are not admission requirements but, are considered minimally acceptable skills and abilities for job placement.

General Job Description:

Respiratory Care Practitioners utilize and apply principles founded in evidence to identify, help prevent, educate, perform research, and rehabilitate individuals with acute and/or chronic cardiopulmonary insufficiency. Respiratory Care Practitioners frequently obtain, review, and interpret data to determine appropriate therapies for patient populations. They initiate, maintain, and discontinue therapeutic and diagnostic procedures including but not limited to:

- Administering medical gases and pharmacotherapeutics
- Initiating, maintaining, and discontinuing mechanical ventilation and artificial airways
- Provide resuscitation measures
- Perform pulmonary function testing
- Monitor patients hemodynamically and physiologically
- Perform collection of specimens for laboratory testing
- Document medically necessary information into medical records
- Communicate patient findings with other members of the healthcare team
- Obtain, assemble, calibrate, initiate, and troubleshoot appropriate equipment
- Demonstrate appropriate interpersonal skills to work with providers, patients, and families
- Accept direction, maintain confidentiality, does not discriminate, and upholds the ethical standards of the profession.

Physical abilities including but not limited to:

- Lift/carry objects such as medical gas tanks and portable ventilators
- Move/reposition patients with or without assistance
- Stand/walk for long periods
- Bend/twist frequently and intermittently
- Kneel/stoop/crouch occasionally as to adjust equipment or perform CPR
- Push/pull large equipment
- Finger dexterity sufficient to manipulate equipment and patient tasks including grasping, turning, assembly, disassembly, palpation during patient assessment, and maintenance of medical equipment.
- Extend arms with full range of motion

Auditory ability sufficient to hear spoken word, medical equipment malfunction, and alarms

Visual ability sufficient to read typed, handwritten, or computer monitor data, reading equipment dials and gauges, as well as patient assessments involving visual cues such as skin color, work of breathing.

Physical tolerance for a clinical environment

Cognitive and Intellectual Abilities including but not limited to:

Respiratory Care Practitioners must have the ability to calculate, analyze, interpret, and report appropriate patient and equipment data including, solving mathematical problems and understanding spatial relationship of structures in patient assessments.

Behavioral social professionalism including but not limited to:

Respiratory Care Practitioners must have the ability to provide empathetic support to patients and interact with patients, their families, and members of the healthcare team. They also should display integrity, emotional well-being, interpersonal skills, and ability to adapt to ever-changing clinical environments. Respiratory Care Practitioners must maintain professional conduct and appearance as well as maintaining elements of patient care in relation to their scope of practice.