



**Sub-Acute Saratoga Children's Hospital
Respiratory Care Practitioner, Respiratory Therapist (RT)
Job Description**

Job Summary

- Under the supervision of a Respiratory Care Supervisor, delivers direct respiratory care to patients.
- Administers medical gases and aerosolized medicines as physicians prescribe.
- Performs other respiratory care as needed and prescribed by the medical staff including, but not limited to adult care and pediatric care.
- Checks and maintains respiratory therapy equipment, assist the RT Department Head in overseeing the Respiratory Department.
- Assists in the development and maintenance of the facilities Respiratory Rehab Program.
- Will supervise, orient, instruct and give in-services to new staff and respiratory therapy students. Maintains appropriate staff levels by monitoring work activity and adjusting staff hours as necessary when assigned.

Required Qualifications

- A.S. Degree or Certificate of completion from an accredited 2 year college of Respiratory Therapy; valid California State Respiratory Care Practitioner License CRT or RRT credential.
- BLS/PALS certificates (PALS certificate must be completed within 12 months of hire if not currently held by therapist).
- Good verbal and written English language skills.
- Clinical experience in mechanical ventilation and other respiratory care techniques.

Preferred Qualifications

- At least two years experience in all aspects of Respiratory Care in an Acute/Sub-Acute facility.
- Bachelor's degree in science or health related field.
- Advanced professional certificate or training.
- Previous experience in a leadership or educator role.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- A working knowledge of basic sciences related to respiratory care required.
- Knowledge of normal and abnormal pathology and pathophysiology related to cardiopulmonary system.
- Knowledge of indications, contraindications, and hazards of long term mechanical ventilation and of various respiratory care techniques required.

Major Accountabilities and Responsibilities

- Performs acute and emergency respiratory care procedures in accordance with facility policies and procedures.
- Completes respiratory assessments and documentation as appropriate for each individual patient, in conjunction with the RT Department Head. Any and all therapy performed shall be recorded in patients chart and or bedside flow sheets.
- Assists with the evaluation and tracking of all respiratory care patients to determine therapy effectiveness, QA opportunities, and make suggestions to doctors, nursing and therapy staff based on patient assessment.
- Assists in the development, coordination and implementation of individual patient's respiratory rehab (vent and trach weaning programs) in conjunction with the RT Department Head, nursing staff, rehab team, and physicians as per hospital protocols.
- Maintains, troubleshoots and calibrates therapeutic equipment as needed. Ensures the presence and maintenance of emergency respiratory equipment.
- To assist with the education of nursing personnel, including RNs, LVNs, and CNAs, in all aspects of respiratory care as requested by the RT Department Head (inservicing/ personal instruction).
- Attends all mandatory in-services, RT staff meetings and maintain clinical and professional competency based on established standards of practice.
- Assists nursing with routine respiratory treatments as needed and take over fully as requested by the doctors for the critical or patients in greater need of therapy, followed by a re-evaluation for continued or back to routine use.
- Functions as a resource to nursing, therapists, patients, families and physicians with patient care as requested.
- Filling of liquid oxygen, ordering of liquid oxygen and e-tanks as requested by the RT Department Head.
- Cleans, changes and maintains all respiratory care equipment per hospital policies and procedures. Provides input to supervisor regarding equipment and supply needs.
- Records pertinent information in medical records concerning patient response to therapy and results of tests. Keeps the supervisor and colleagues informed of daily activities through a work or patient progress report system.
- Implements departmental and institutional infection control procedures. This includes aseptic procedures, isolation, sterile gloving, universal precautions and equipment/tubing change procedures. Complies with national, local, and hospital safety procedures and standards.

Contact Information:

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