

SENECA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: RESPIRATORY THERAPIST II

JOB SUMMARY:

To execute duties and responsibilities of a Respiratory Care Practitioner in accordance with policies and procedures of the Respiratory Care Department. Evaluate patients and perform diagnostic tests and therapeutic procedures. Recommend optimal therapeutic regimens. Provide appropriate documentation of care according to department guidelines. Communicate effectively with other health care professionals.

EDUCATION:

Graduate of an NBRC approved school of respiratory therapy.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Certified as a Respiratory Care Practitioner by the Respiratory Care Examining Committee of the State of California Board of Medical Quality Assurance.

EXPERIENCE:

Minimum three (3) years experience in a respiratory care department of an acute care hospital.

REQUIRED LICENSES AND CERTIFICATION:

Respiratory Care Practitioner license issued by the Respiratory Care Examining Committee of the State of California Board of Medical Quality Assurance.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification.

Pediatric Advanced Life support (PALS) certification or Neonatal Resuscitation Provider (NRP) certification will be acquired before completion of the established probationary period, but no later than six (6) months from hire date. Continued employment is dependent upon timely completion of this requirement.

Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification will be obtained within twelve (12) months of hire. Continued employment is dependent upon timely completion of this requirement.

SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND KNOWLEDGE:

1. Awareness of organization and function of the Respiratory Care Department.
2. Ability to deal tactfully and courteously with personnel, patients, physicians, and the general public in person and over the telephone.
3. Awareness of policies, regulations, and procedures of the Respiratory Care Department.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

1. Read, evaluate, and take verbal orders from physicians.
2. Read and evaluate physicians' notes.

3. Assess patients.
4. Propose, evaluate, and implement treatment plans ordered by physicians.
5. Select appropriate equipment.
6. Modify modalities to deal with adverse patient responses.
7. Document assessment, treatment, and response according to department protocol.
8. Evaluate all therapy performed and recommend appropriate changes and modifications in therapeutic regimens.
9. Performs tracheostomy care including replacing and changing tracheostomy tubes.
10. Administer aerosolized pulmonary pharmacologic agents and monitor their effect.
11. Perform spirometric pulmonary function testing.
12. Instruct patients and family in the use of equipment and the nature of cardiopulmonary disease.
13. Recognize and deal with pulmonary and cardiovascular emergencies.
14. Meet department standards for continuing education.
15. Maintain familiarity with current standards of practice in respiratory care.
16. Initiate and maintain mechanical ventilation according to department protocol. Discontinue mechanical ventilation according to department protocol.
17. Perform arterial puncture and arterial blood gases analysis according to department policy and as ordered by physicians.
18. Perform electrocardiograms and cardiac stress testing as ordered by physicians including starting and discontinuing IV saline locks as ordered by physicians.
19. Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and other acute respiratory care as needed.
20. Monitor newborns respiratory as required during cesarian section or normal delivery at nursing or physicians' request.
21. Provide all modes of respiratory care as ordered by physicians.
22. Maintain patient records and department records of therapy administered.
23. Disinfect respiratory care equipment and, within ability, maintain department equipment in good operating condition.
24. Know and follow all general and departmental safety, security, and health policies and procedures. Utilize all safe work practices for department.

25. Attend and participate in inservice education classes and on-the-job training programs as directed or required.

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26. Maintain **CONFIDENTIALITY** of all pertinent patient care information to assure that patients' rights are protected. No report or result will be discussed or disseminated to anyone but an authorized person.
27. Must keep all required licenses and certifications current.
28. Complete annual employment health requirements in a timely manner.
29. Other duties as assigned by Supervisor or the Administrator.

SAFETY AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE RESPONSIBILITIES:

Conducts the District's business in an ethical and lawful manner, and is willing to report any knowledge of real or potential fraud or abuse according to District policy.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND BASIC SKILLS: See attached.

SUPERVISED BY: Respiratory Care Supervisor

ORGANIZATIONAL POSITION: Respiratory Care Department