

 Oroville Hospital	Job Description for Respiratory Care Practitioner	
	Department:	Cardiopulmonary
	Dept.#:	7720
	Last Reviewed:	05/08; 08/12
	Last Updated:	

Reports To

Director of Cardiopulmonary Services

Job Summary

The Respiratory Care Practitioner performs direct patient care to patients in all aspects of respiratory care according to the physician's orders/approved protocols, with consideration given to the age of the patient. Consults physicians on the effectiveness of therapy and makes appropriate recommendations. Provides appropriate ventilation support, maintains and monitors other pulmonary life support equipment. Maintains and properly utilizes respiratory equipment

Duties

1. Identifies breath sounds, recognizes abnormal breath sounds, recognizes abnormal arterial blood gases, identifies amount and character of secretions, determine need for supplemental oxygen/suction
2. Reports changes in patient's status to charge nurse or physician and staff caring for patient
3. Documents Respiratory Care consistent with hospital charting standards
4. Complies with hospital policy for receiving doctor's orders, including verbal and phone
5. Accurately gives report to oncoming shift
6. Reports extraordinary patient problems to supervisor, director or administrator as necessary
7. Complies with hospital policies and procedures for selected precautions, i.e.; seizure, suicide
8. Uses principles of body mechanics in mobilizing patient or objects
9. Asks for help when lifting heavy patients
10. Complies with policies for restraints
11. Complies with policies for electrical safety
12. Checks the Emergency Equipment policy
13. Incorporates infection control principles in practice
14. Demonstrates skills related to the management of emergency situations
15. Complies with policy for cardio-pulmonary arrest
16. Demonstrates competency for ABG drawing and sampling
17. Demonstrates competency for Quality Control and ABG analyzers

18. Demonstrates skills to trouble shoot ABG analyzers
19. Demonstrates skills to run PFT screens
20. Knowledge of 7200, MA-1, Bear III and Seacrist ventilators
21. Complies with Policy and Procedure for oxygen
22. Complies with Policy and procedure for ventilator care
23. The RCP should possess a wide range of psychomotor or mechanical skills so that decisional, educational and administrative skills requiring eye-hand coordination, manual dexterity and sensory perception can be applied efficaciously in diagnosing and treating the critically ill patient. These psychomotor skills include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - A. Ability to perform physical assessment of the patient through the use of a stethoscope, blood pressure apparatus, respirometer, pressure manometer, and other instruments in addition to the use of the practitioner's tactile, auditory, and olfactory senses
 - B. Visual recognition of common signs of illness and distress is paramount
 - C. Ability to perform arterial puncture successfully, expeditiously, and traumatically for the purpose of determining the arterial blood gas/acid-base status
 - D. Ability to use safely indwelling arterial, venous and intracardiac or intrapulmonary catheters to obtain blood samples for analysis or vascular pressure measurements
 - E. Ability to correctly maintain, operate, calibrate, and troubleshoot blood gas analyzers, Oximetry and related instrumentation
 - F. Ability to perform efficacious and atraumatic nasotracheal suction or tracheal lavage to maintain bronchopulmonary hygiene
 - G. Ability to perform basic life support maneuvers efficaciously, such as maintenance of a patent anatomical airway, external cardiac compression, and artificial ventilation by way of mouth-to-mouth, bag-and-mask and related ventilatory techniques
 - H. Ability to maintain, monitor, measure and adjust mechanical lung ventilators appropriately to assure proper function and to ascertain therapeutic effectiveness
 - I. Ability to measure, using appropriate available instrumentation, the following: variables of ventilatory gas exchange, and Hemodynamic function: respiratory rate; tidal and minute ventilation; dead space ventilation; alveolar-to-arterial P_{O2} gradient; intrapulmonary shunt fraction; respiratory mechanics, including total resistance and static and dynamic compliance; Hemodynamic variables that may include pulse rate, blood pressure, ventricular stroke work; and oxygenation variables that may include arterial and mixed venous oxygen contents and total systemic oxygen contents and total systemic oxygen transport
 - J. Ability to perform routine respiratory therapy procedures that include, but are not limited to, administration of oxygen by various modalities; administration of aerosolized pharmaceuticals by MDI, IPPB and medication nebulizers; administration of aerosol and heated humidification therapies and performance of various modalities of chest physiotherapy

Qualifications

1. Graduate of an accredited two year Respiratory Therapy program is required
2. Current license in the State of California is required
3. Certification in Basic Cardiac Life Support required (CPR)
4. Registration by NBRC preferred
5. PALS, ACLS & NRP certifications required
6. Two years of satisfactory clinical experience is desirable
7. Ability to work safely and accurately with minimal supervision

Lifting Requirements

Sedentary- generally not more than 10 lbs. maximum and occasionally lifting and/or carrying such articles as ledgers, files and small items.