



Murray County Medical Center Position Description

Classification:	Respiratory Care Therapist
Department:	Respiratory Care Services
Location:	Murray County Medical Center
Reports to:	Respiratory Care Manager
FLSA Classification:	Hourly/Non-Exempt

Position Purpose

This position is responsible for assessing patients per RCAT to treat patients with the most beneficial therapies for a variety of respiratory and cardiac diseases/illnesses. Responsible for proper professional care to patients with respiratory tract and heart related problems by providing proper therapies and diagnostic testing while maintaining strict confidentiality, and while making sure doctors' orders are carried out promptly and effectively 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

1. Administer all respiratory care and diagnostic procedures and techniques in all hospital care areas to include but not limited to oxygen therapy, humidity and aerosol therapy, broncho-pulmonary segmental drainage, sustained maximal inspiration and continuous mechanical ventilation.
 - Utilize additional knowledge of EKG's, PFT's, arterial blood gases, cardiac output, oxygen consumption, acid base balance and electrolytes, nutritional requirements and hazards associated with the use of all drugs and equipment providing advanced life support or intensive care.
 - Administer drugs in accordance with department procedures and has attested to competency to perform those procedures per department policy and procedure.
 - Perform pulmonary function tests in accordance with department policy and procedures.
 - Interpret arterial blood gases and attests to competency to perform this procedure.
2. Must be able to assess, plan and provide individualized care for patients in compliance with physician's orders, taking into account the mental status and development, and the physical needs of each patient based on age including: neonates, pediatrics, adolescents, adults, and geriatrics.
3. Serve as a technical consultant to the medical and nursing staff and be available for technical call as necessary.
4. Assists with various stress testing with cardiologist.
5. Provides education to patients for their home care – proper medication administration.

6. Be able to assess equipment function for proper operation before applying equipment to patient.
7. Assure that the department has the necessary equipment available and that it is maintained, cleaned, repaired, and in operable condition and ready for use by the department.
8. Other duties as assigned.

Job Activities

<i>Percent of Job</i>	<i>Major Activity</i>
25%	Performs needed therapy to inpatients and outpatients by delivering medication through nebulizer therapy, HFA, DPI and MDI
5%	Performs airway clearance therapies including PEP therapy, vibratory vest therapy and postural drainage/ Monitors patients requiring ventilation or BIPAP therapy.
10%	Evaluates patients for oxygen needs through pulse oximetry testing, evaluation of breath sounds, adjusting oxygen for inpatients as appropriate
5%	Performs therapies for lung volume expansion for patients with or at risk for atelectasis
10%	Performs EKG's, assists with stress testing, nuclear stress testing, holter monitor application and downloading, and CPR during code situations
5%	Performs pulmonary function tests in accordance with Department policies and procedures
10%	Provide patient education to inpatient and outpatients on variety of respiratory therapies including pulmonary rehab and education on medication delivery.
10%	Provides accurate and complete documentation on patient charts and various other administrative paperwork
5%	Assess and provide individualized care plan strategies for patients, implement needed therapies based on provider use of RCAT
5%	Performs prior authorization paperwork for all departmental procedures
5%	Serve as technical consultant to medical and nursing staff
5%	Assures necessary equipment available, maintained, cleaned, repaired, and ready for use.

Total: 100%

Education and Experience

- Two-year degree in respiratory care.
- Two years of experience.
- ACLS and/or CALS preferred.

Requirements

- Must be able to concentrate on work tasks amidst distractions.
- Personal, professional poise and tactfulness is a requirement.
- Able to effectively deal with concerns of upset patients or staff; must be able to display control and confidence under stress.
- Flexibility and availability required.

- Demonstrate respect and regard for dignity of all encountered.
- Demonstrate ability to communicate and work effectively with others.
- Must be able to make decisions that are in alignment to the department and facility.
- Required to have knowledge of all equipment in department.
- CPR certified required.
- Must receive a yearly certification through the Minnesota License Board of Medical Practitioners.

Working Conditions and Physical Demands

- This position is classified as an OSHA Risk Category I indicating that the job usually involves contact with patients and patient specimens. The employee must follow universal precautions.
- The noise level in the workplace is moderate.
- Mental demands include ability to concentrate on moderate detail with constant interruption. Also, the ability to communicate with patients in a manner of discretion.
- Employee is exposed to blood borne, airborne, body fluids, radiation, illness/infections and wastes daily, and is required to wear personal protective equipment.
- Employee must have acute vision for reading charts and computer work.
- Able to talk and hear accurately for communication with staff and patients directly and via telephone.
- Employee must be able to effectively deal with concerns of upset patients and must be able to display control and confidence under stress.
- This position must have sufficient strength to lift patients, move heavy equipment on wheels and move patients in wheelchairs and stretchers. Frequently this position is required to lift, carry or push or pull up to 25 pounds.
- Job requires employee use hands for repetitive actions such as simple and firm grasping, and fine manipulating.
- This position is intermittently exposed to electrical shock.
- This position occasionally handles sharps.

Equipment Operation

- The Respiratory Therapist operates electrocardiogram, ESPIRIT ventilator, oxygen flow meter, pulmonary function machine, chest physiotherapy percussor, cool-mist humidifiers, acapella, chest vest system, incentive spirometer, pulse oximeter, treadmill, stress test monitor, super-heated aerosol heaters, holter monitors, medical air compressor, nebulizer unit, oxygen concentrator, suction machine, ambu bag, all oxygen delivery systems, portable oxygen cylinders and regulators, patient beds, and wheel chairs.
- Person in this position must have the knowledge to adjust all these machines and troubleshoot the electrocardiogram, ESPIRIT ventilator, pulmonary function machine, incentive spirometer, stress test monitor, Holter monitors, and nebulizer unit.
- Must be proficient in office machines, such as calculator, computer, telephone system, 2-way radio, paging system, copier, faxing and scanning.

Supervisory Responsibilities

This position does not have direct reports.