

Position Summary Description

Position Title: Respiratory Therapist
(X) **Non-Exempt / Hourly** () **Exempt / Salaried**
Department: Cardiopulmonary
Reports To: Director of Ancillary Services
Date Written: April 2009

I. JOB SUMMARY

Performs a variety of therapeutic and diagnostic Cardiopulmonary procedures that are intended to improve the Cardiopulmonary status of patients with the use of appropriate equipment and supplies. Maintains accurate records and documentation of all procedures. Maintains highest quality of patient care, including patient confidentiality and ensuring patient dignity to the highest possible standard. Acts as Cardiopulmonary liaison for physicians, nursing and other healthcare team members.

II. ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- A. Administers respiratory medications, medical gases (including oxygen), and aerosol therapy in accordance with clinical practice guidelines and approved protocols and/or physician order for the care and treatment of patients with Cardiopulmonary related diagnoses.
- B. Administers chest physiotherapy, postural drainage and breathing exercises in accordance with good clinical practice and approved protocol and/or physician orders.
- C. Reads, interprets, and administers Cardiopulmonary service protocols in the treatment and care of assigned patients.
- D. Participates in quality improvement processes through recommendations and evaluations of protocols, procedures, and delivery of patient care.
- E. Documents and maintains accurate records on patients and equipment utilized for the delivery of Cardiopulmonary services.
- F. Performs airway management in accordance with clinical practice guidelines and approved protocol.
- G. Institutes, maintains, and monitors continuous ventilatory support.
- H. Delivers direct patient care appropriate to the patients served. The ages of

patients served are adult (18-64 years of age), and geriatric (65 and older).

1. Observes and documents successful completion of annual credentialing of competency regarding age appropriate care for the adolescent, adult, and geriatric.
 2. Obtains information and interprets information in terms of the patient's needs.
 3. Has knowledge of growth and development.
 4. Understands the range of educational and treatment needs of the patient.
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- I. Respond to in-house emergencies and renders assistance and care as appropriate.
 - J. Is able to perform a variety of Cardiopulmonary test procedures including, but not limited to arterial blood gases, pulse oximetry, spirometry, peak flow measures, weaning parameters, and electrocardiograms (EKGs).
 - K. Displays ability to work independently and uses good time management to complete assigned tasks without supervision.
 - L. Demonstrates innovative, productive, and cost effective use of non-patient care hours.
 - M. Understands the need for and assigns appropriate priority to all Cardiopulmonary services rendered.
 - N. Institutes, assists, operates and, if necessary, supervises the use of specialized Cardiopulmonary equipment (i.e., bronchoscopy, arterial line placement, cardiac monitors, etc.).
 - O. Acts as a clinical resource for the medical staff on the delivery of Cardiopulmonary therapy, procedures and issues.
 - P. Aids in departmental functions by contribution as a professional member of the staff.
 - Q. Inventories, maintains, restocks, and reports levels of Cardiopulmonary equipment and supplies.
 - R. Completes annual credentialing and maintains certification to perform specialized procedures as required by governing instructions and policies and procedures, this may include arterial blood gas sampling and testing, assisting with fiberoptic bronchoscopy, and other procedures as required.
 - S. Contributes to a positive work team by sharing information, using problem-solving methods, and accepting new ideas, criticism, or advice from others.
 - T. Participates in patient and family education and training as required to improve patient Cardiopulmonary status and outcomes.

A review of this position description may have excluded some of the marginal functions of the position that are incidental to the performance of fundamental job duties. This position description in no way states or implies that these are the only duties to be performed by the employee in this position. Employees will be required to follow any other job related instructions and to perform any other job related duties requested by their supervisors.

I acknowledge that my employment relationship with the hospital, unless otherwise provided in writing, shall be defined as “employment at will”, where either party may dissolve the relationship at any time.

I have reviewed this job description and understand that it is my responsibility to perform up to the high standards set forth by Integrity Transitional Hospital.

PRINT Employee Name

Date _____

Reviewed with above named employee:

PRINT Manager Name _____

MANAGER Signature: _____ Date _____