



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD2740

JOB TITLE:	Respiratory Therapist	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	P.CI.65200.006
CLASSIFICATION:	Respiratory Therapist P1	GRID/PAY LEVEL:	H-E-P1
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Health Science Professionals	HSCIS NO.:	65101
UNION:	HSA	JOB/CLASS CODE:	65101
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Medicine	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Clinical Lead, Respiratory Therapy		
FACILITY/SITE:	Cowichan District Hospital; West Coast General Hospital		

JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of the Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health), patient safety is a priority and a responsibility shared by everyone; as such, the requirement to continuously improve quality and safety is inherent in all aspects of this position.

The Respiratory Therapist provides diagnostic data, therapeutic intervention, and ensures the safe and appropriate application of a variety of respiratory equipment.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Provides diagnostic data for physicians by arterial blood sampling, detailed pulmonary function testing, bedside spirometry and oximetry.
2. Applies knowledge of anatomy and physiology to the choice application and regulation of all types of respiratory equipment and supplies for adult, pediatric and neonatal patients.
3. Routinely evaluates the performance of all diagnostic, monitoring, and life support systems for which he/she is responsible; taking corrective action when necessary.
4. Routinely monitors the respiratory function of patients under his/her care. Charts findings and reports to physicians and other patient care team members as required, in accordance with hospital/departmental policies.
5. Administers inhalational drugs and gas therapies according to physicians' orders; closely observes patients for side effects, and assesses efficacy of the therapy in written inter-professional communications.
6. Responds to all cardio-respiratory arrest and multiple trauma calls; he/she is directly involved with airway management, ventilation, external cardiac massage and arterial blood sampling.
7. Assists in the provision of in-house transports of critically ill patients; provides transports of intubated/ventilated and high risk patients to tertiary facilities.
8. Ensures patency of artificial airways, and upon the request of a physician, removes or replaces these airways.
9. Assists the physician in the performance of specialized diagnostic/therapeutic procedures such as bronchoscopy and performs arterial line insertion at the request of a physician.
10. Instructs patients with respiratory problems, and their families, how to manage related equipment or procedures.
11. Provides medical, nursing, and Health Science Professional staff with inservices or consultations on medical gas therapy, aerosol drug therapy, airway management, mechanical ventilation, and other related procedures.

12. Participates in the ordering of stock supplies and the maintenance of a clean and safe workplace environment.
13. Participates in departmental preventative maintenance and quality assurance programs.
14. Ensures accurate statistics of services performed are maintained.
15. Performs other related duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Graduation from an approved Respiratory Therapy program and eligible for registered membership with the British Columbia Society of Respiratory Therapists (BCSRT). Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT) certification, and current Cardiac life Support, Level "C" Certificate.

Skills And Abilities

- Communicate effectively both verbally and in writing
- Deal with others effectively
- Work effectively in highly stressful environments
- Work independently with limited supervision
- Make decisions in emergency situations and establish priorities
- Physically able to carry out the duties of the position
- Operate related equipment, including a computer