

## **Respiratory Care Practitioner**

### **Position Purpose:**

The Respiratory Care Practitioner provides therapeutic treatment and performs procedures for infant, pediatric, and adolescent populations according to discipline training, clinical Practice Guidelines of Respiratory Care, and hospital standards/protocol. The Respiratory Care Practitioner performs assessments, implements therapeutic procedures, and educates patients and their caregivers.

### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Provides developmentally appropriate care to infants, toddlers, children, and adolescents with a wide range of activities and limitations in an efficient and professional manner based on Clinical Practice Guidelines and in compliance with the standards of the hospital.
- Documents patient response to treatment/therapies and provides timely and accurate information to other members of the treatment team. Contributes to patient's integrated rehab programs and day term/transitional care by participating in the interdisciplinary treatment team conferences.
- Effectively copes with the emotional and behavioral changes exhibited by patients and provides support to family or caregivers in the treatment/therapy environment.
- Provides for a safe environment of care.
- Supervises volunteers and students/student instructors with patients and families.
- Participates in program development, quality assurance, equipment maintenance, and improvement activities. Attends hospital in-services, Pediatric Advance Life Supports, and other continuing education opportunities.
- Exhibits excellent customer service skills.

### **Qualifications:**

#### **Skills, Knowledge and Abilities:**

Functions as a clinical practitioner of respiratory care and general patient care. Provides respiratory care under the direction of the medical staff and nursing care in a coordinated manner with nursing personnel. Projects a positive image of Children's Hospital through professional behavior. Demonstrates unit based safety standards. Provides care for age specific population including infants, toddlers, preschool, school-age and adults. Demonstrates the ability to perform vital signs, measure weights, heights, arm span, head circumferences. Demonstrates the ability to perform respiratory assessment and care within the scope of practice and licensure. Demonstrates the ability to use equipment and supplies associated with respiratory and general patient care. Demonstrates the knowledge and use of specialty equipment including: ventilators, Bilevel, CPAP, Oximetry, End-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring, heart monitors, and suction machines.

#### **Education and/or Experience:**

Graduation from a nationally accredited two or four-year college program in respiratory therapy technology. Preference for previous experience in a pediatric hospital setting.

**Licensure:** Must be licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia as a Respiratory Care Practitioner. Desire registry, or registry eligible with NBRT. Requires maintaining certification in CPR and Pediatric Advanced Life Support.

#### **Physical Requirements:**

- Must be capable of predictable and consistent attendance at work.
- Must be able to assist in lifting patients of adult size, weighing over 100 lbs, and transferring them to wheelchairs, beds or toilets.
- Frequently walks within patient care areas, with regular kneeling, stooping, bending and squatting.
- Must possess the ability to pick, pinch or otherwise work with the fingers, handle as in seize, hold, grasp, turn or otherwise work with the hands for operating patient equipment, and reach by extending the hands and arms over head.
- Requires visual acuity for reading labels, determining colors, discerning patient conditions, and ability to perceive temperatures.
- Must be able to distinguish sounds and equipment noises, tones and alarms from background noises.
- Must be able to perform CPR.
- May stand for long periods of time, with only occasional sitting at a desk or computer terminal.