

RESPIRATORY THERAPY TECHNICIAN I

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

Work in this class involves the administration of basic respiratory therapy treatment areas in accordance with the physician's order and departmental policy in non-acute care areas of a state hospital.

Employees are responsible for cleaning, sterilizing, basic repairing, and servicing of operating therapy equipment. Duties also include periodic check rounds of equipment in non-acute care areas and setting up basic equipment for patient usage. Work is performed under general supervision of a higher level therapist or physician and is reviewed by observation of work for efficient operation of respiratory therapy equipment and overall effectiveness of treatments.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES PERFORMED

Set-up oxygen therapy equipment in patient units such as oxygen-mist tents, nasal cannula, aerosol mask, venturi mask, and oral nasal facemask.

Administer breathing treatments such as intermittent positive pressure breathing, incentive spirometry, and aerosol treatments.

Clean, repair, sterilize, and maintain equipment such as humidifiers, nebulizers, flowmeters, tents, and hoods.

Prepare and test equipment periodically for safe operation and routine service.

Return used equipment to the department upon termination of therapy.

Perform basic pulmonary spirometry tests such as vital capacity, forced vital capacity, and forced expiratory volume as related to time base.

Performs related duties as required.

RECRUITMENT STANDARDSKnowledges, Skills, and Abilities

General knowledge of mechanical apparatus used in administering respiratory therapy treatments as oxygen therapy equipment.

Some knowledge of cardiopulmonary anatomy and physiology.

Some knowledge of medical terminology.

Some knowledge of tank gases such as helium, oxygen, nitrogen, and carbon dioxide.

Some knowledge of inhalant medications used in treatments.

Ability to clean, repair, and maintain all general oxygen therapy equipment.

Minimum Education and Experience

Graduation from high school and one year program of respiratory therapy; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

PREPARED BY
OFFICE OF STATE PERSONNEL

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