



INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF RESPIRATORY CARE

**RESPIRATORY THERAPIST
COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL
JOB DESCRIPTION**

WWW.IARC.IN



Indian Association of Respiratory Care (IARC)

IARC/JD/2018/06/RT1

Job Descriptions of Respiratory Therapist

Categorized on Specialization Basis

Job Title	Respiratory Therapist		
Sub Specialty	Comprehensive General Job Description		
Department		Job Code	
Reports to:			

1.0 Scope of Practice/Aim of the role

- 1.1 The Respiratory Therapist possesses expert knowledge of adult, pediatric and neonatal cardiopulmonary anatomy, physiology and its applied areas.
- 1.2 He/ She has expert knowledge and clinical judgment regarding the use of all medical devices, procedures and protocols that are used in the adult, pediatric and neonatal respiratory care.
- 1.3 He/ She demonstrates advanced level professional skills appropriate for patient assessment, identification and evaluation of disease process, and administration of diagnostic and therapeutic respiratory care.
- 1.4 He/ She exhibits the knowledge and skills to involve in the education of patient, family and public, whenever needed.
- 1.5 The Respiratory Therapist is expected to ensure that all patient and department related duties are carried out to the highest possible standard.
- 1.6 When required, the Respiratory Therapist will also participate in the supervision and teaching of students, juniors and new staff members within, as well as outside the department.

2.0 General Job Descriptions

- 2.1 To act as a patient advocate.
- 2.2 To undertake primary responsibility and assistance for all respiratory care diagnostics, therapeutics, special procedures, and interventional modalities.
- 2.3 To participate actively during emergency situations like code blue, rapid response, and patient transport as required
- 2.4 To contribute significantly as a core member of patient care team in acute, sub-acute and chronic settings.
- 2.5 To facilitate junior respiratory therapists and other newcomers of department as a mentor for proper exposure in clinical environment.
- 2.6 To take up the responsibility of specialty based leadership and direction for advanced clinical procedures and interventions.
- 2.7 To assume the responsibility of infection control practitioner, by default.

IARC as a national organization for respiratory care practitioners agreed to post this policy on www.iarc.in as part of the professional development toolkit. Sample policies are provided for reference only. Always consult current legislation in your jurisdiction and institutional authorities to create policies and procedures for your organization



- 2.8 To assume the responsibility of patient safety and quality of care expert, by default.
- 2.9 To be knowledgeable about development of policies, protocols and procedures relevant to respiratory therapy as needed.
- 2.10 To act as a preceptor for oncoming staff in areas of expertise.
- 2.11 To get actively involved in departmental and interdepartmental research activities.
- 2.12 To ensure effective communication during patient endorsements, and end of the shift report to ensure that continuity and best level of care for the patients are met.
- 2.13 To collaborate harmoniously with all medical, nursing and allied health professionals to ensure a safe, clean and secure environment for patients, staff and visitors.
- 2.14 To maintain an accurate patient medical record within the approved hospital documentation system.
- 2.15 To maintain clinical knowledge and skills updated and actively participate in departmental academic activities.
- 2.16 To integrate ethical considerations and processes in all areas of planning and patient care.
- 2.17 To participate in the promotion and maintenance of effective communication and teamwork.
- 2.18 To treat colleagues, patients, and visitors with dignity and respect at all times.

3.0 Role dimensions

- 3.1 Clinical specialist, Preceptor, Mentor, Clinical researcher

4.0 Essential Skills

- 4.1 Clinical assessment of patients with cardio respiratory disorders
- 4.2 Initiation, titration and termination/weaning of invasive and non-invasive mechanical ventilation, as per disease specific population
- 4.3 Competent in basic, advanced and prolonged life support care
- 4.4 Competent in emergency care, upon activation of 'rapid response, and 'code blue'
- 4.5 Basic airway management like bag mask ventilation and maintenance of airway patency, to difficult airway management skills like perform/assist in endotracheal intubation, assistance in fiberoptic intubation, tracheostomy etc.
- 4.6 Administration of medical gases including oxygen, heliox and nitric oxide.
- 4.7 Preparation and delivery of medicated aerosol therapy
- 4.8 Vascular access like peripheral arterial cannulation for arterial blood pressure monitoring and blood gas analysis
- 4.9 Collect, perform and interpret capillary, venous and arterial blood gas analysis
- 4.10 Provision of humidification of respired gases via active or passive humidifiers.
- 4.11 Bronchial hygiene and airway clearance techniques, as and when indicated.
- 4.12 Perform and interpret pulmonary function tests like diagnostic spirometry, diffusion capacity, six minute walk tests, dilution tests etc.
- 4.13 Participate and co-ordinate pulmonary rehabilitation program.
- 4.14 Maintain infection control measures, as applicable in contact, aerosol and droplet isolations.

IARC as a national organization for respiratory care practitioners agreed to post this policy on www.iarc.in as part of the professional development toolkit. Sample policies are provided for reference only. Always consult current legislation in your jurisdiction and institutional authorities to create policies and procedures for your organization



5.0 Key accountabilities	
5.1 All the clinicians such as junior respiratory therapist, respiratory therapist, senior respiratory therapist and supervisors are expected to perform the duties to the possible best, as and when assigned by the Head of the department/ Chief respiratory therapist.	
6.0 Additional Responsibilities	
As assigned by the Head of the department/ Chief respiratory therapist	
6.1 Assure the best possible care for the patient	
6.2 Crisis management	
6.3 Timely intervention upon shortage of departmental staffs	
6.4 Constructive and closed loop communication with intra-departmental and interdepartmental staffs	
6.5 Act as patient advocate, aligning with infection control practices, quality and safety measures.	
7.0 Preferable certifications/credentials	
7.1 BLS	
7.2 ACLS/ITLS	
7.3 PALS/NRP	
8.0 Position	
Designation	Qualification
8.1 Junior Respiratory Therapist/Respirator	BSc RT (0-2 years of experience)
8.2 Respiratory Therapist	BSc RT (2-5 years of experience) OR MSc RT (0-2 years of experience)
8.3 Senior Respiratory Therapist	BSc RT (5-8 years of experience) OR MSc RT (2-5 years of experience)
8.4 Chief/Principal Respiratory Therapist	BSc RT (8+ years of experience) OR MSc RT (5+ years of experience)

**** The categories are yet to be confirmed, and subject to final approval of EC**

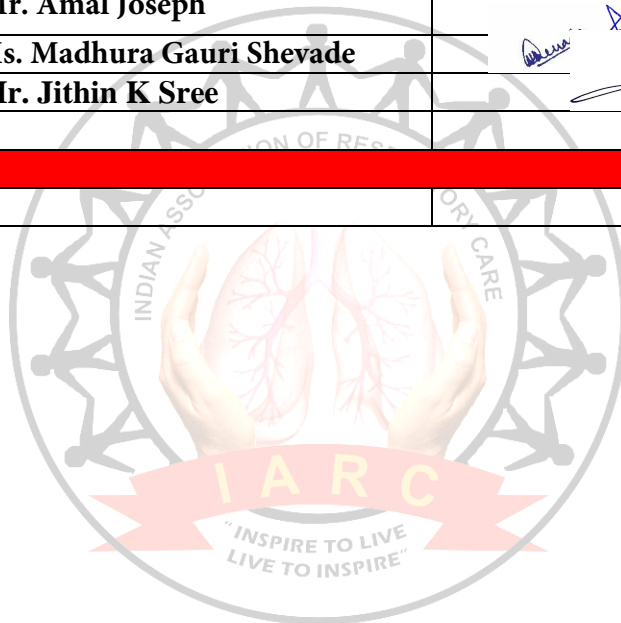
IARC as a national organization for respiratory care practitioners agreed to post this policy on www.iarc.in as part of the professional development toolkit. Sample policies are provided for reference only. Always consult current legislation in your jurisdiction and institutional authorities to create policies and procedures for your organization



Proposed by:	Jithin K Sree-GS-IARC	
Proposed on	06.06.2018	
Prepared by:	Dr. Manjush K	
Received on	12.06.2018	
	Name	Signature
Reviewer No :1 (Team Lead)	Mr. Amal Joseph	
Reviewer No :2	Ms. Madhura Gauri Shevade	
Reviewer No :3	Mr. Jithin K Sree	
Approved on :		
Next Review :		

Date: 09.08.2018

IARC Stamp:



Dr Jerry Paul
President - IARC

@afWFZ[eValg_VF]eV[IS^kqY W]kIZV[MtG]MS[|H]X[|S]eaX3D5

IARC as a national organization for respiratory care practitioners agreed to post this policy on www.iarc.in as part of the professional development toolkit. Sample policies are provided for reference only. Always consult current legislation in your jurisdiction and institutional authorities to create policies and procedures for your organization