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SUBJECT: MT. GRANT GENERAL HOSPITAL JOB DESCRIPTION  
DEPARTMENT: RESPIRATORY CARE  
TITLE: **RESPIRATORY THERAPIST**  
REVISION DATE: **03/25/2011**

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**DEFINITION:**

Respiratory therapist works in a wide variety of settings to evaluate, treat, and manage patients of all ages with respiratory illnesses and other cardiopulmonary disorders. The respiratory therapist participates in clinical decision-making and patient education, develops and implements respiratory care plans, applies patient-driven protocols, utilizes evidence-based clinical practice guidelines, and participates in health promotion, disease prevention, and disease management. The respiratory therapist may be required to exercise considerable independent judgment, under the supervision of a physician, in the respiratory care of patients. Reports to the Respiratory Supervisor.

**EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:**

The duties listed below are examples of work typically performed by an employee in this position. An employee may not be assigned all duties listed and may be assigned duties which are not listed below. *Marginal duties* (shown in *italics*) are those which are **least** likely to be essential functions of this position.

1. Takes respiratory procedure call after regular working hours.
2. Administers all specialized forms of aerosol and pressure treatments.
3. Institutes oxygen and observes and maintains as ordered by physicians.
4. Responds to all Code 99's or other emergencies as needed to provide and maintain an airway and to suction as needed.
5. Collects arterial blood gas specimens, tests performance and send to lab for testing.
6. Performs routine maintenance of equipment.
7. Completes all cleaning and sterilization procedures.
8. Evaluates equipment performance.
9. Evaluates patient progress.
10. Checks physicians' orders.
11. Records all pertinent data and makes notes of any deviations.
12. Maintains clerical records, supplies and equipment inventories on an ongoing basis.
13. Maintains outpatient files for treatment prescriptions, PFT's, insurance information, and Arterial Blood Gas Reports. Copy sent to medical records (not kept in department).
14. Enters necessary information onto Daily Assignment sheets as required for ongoing quality assurance programs.
15. Abides by all Hospital rules and regulations, including Risk Management, Safety, OSHA, Clia regulations and Nevada State Laws pertaining to the practice of Respiratory Care.
16. Performs other duties as assigned by the Respiratory Supervisor.
17. In the absence of the Respiratory Supervisor, the R.C.P maintains the Respiratory Department's quality control procedure.
18. Assists in other departments as directed by the Respiratory Supervisor.
19. Performs other related duties as assigned.

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT:**

**Knowledge and Ability:**

*Knowledge of*

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- the use and limitations of respiratory technology, equipment and treatment procedures;
- pulmonary function tests and arterial blood gas drawing techniques;
- mechanical ventilation of adults and pediatrics;
- the use of oxygen and other related gases and their safety precautions;
- bronchial hygiene with different modes of treatments used;
- reagent stability and storage;
- the factors that influence test results.

***Ability to***

- perform all appropriate treatments and diagnostic tests and technical procedures;
- obtain proper specimen collection for arterial blood gas;
- perform each test method and for proper instrument use for arterial blood gas;
- perform preventative maintenance, troubleshooting and calibration procedures related to each test performed;
- implement the quality control policies and procedures of the ABG Laboratory;
- assess and verify the validity of patient test results;
- perform all appropriate treatments and diagnostic tests and technical procedures.

**Experience and Training:**

Any combination in training, education, and experience that would provide the knowledge and abilities. A typical way to gain the required knowledge and ability is:

Must hold an active license from the N.B.R.C. AND

Must have pending application with the Board of Medical Examiners for Nevada State License AND Nevada State Blood Gas Technologist License application submitted within 2 weeks of hire

Experience in pediatric and neonatal intensive care is helpful, but not required.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

The physical requirements described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of the job.

Strength, dexterity, coordination, and vision to use keyboard and video display terminal for prolonged periods. Strength and stamina to bend, stoop, sit, and stand for long periods of time. Dexterity and coordination to handle files and single pieces of paper; occasional lifting of files, stacks of paper or reports, references, and other materials. Some reaching for items above and below desk level. Some reaching, bending, squatting, and stooping to access files and records is necessary. The manual dexterity and cognitive ability to operate a personal computer using word processing and databases. The ability to communicate via telephone and in person. Light lifting (up to 25 pounds) is occasionally required.

In compliance with applicable disability laws, reasonable accommodations may be provided for qualified individuals with a disability who require and request such accommodations. Incumbents and individuals who have been offered employment are encouraged to discuss potential accommodations with the employer.

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**WORKING CONDITIONS:**

Work is performed under the following conditions:

Work environment is generally clean and comfortable. Lighting conditions are typically good. Frequent interruptions to planned work activities occur. Changes in days off and shifts are possible and incumbent will be required to be available on short notice. Exposure to infectious diseases and bodily fluids is common. It is common to engage with family members of residents during emotionally difficult periods of time.

**FLSA Status:** Non-Exempt

**LIMITATIONS/DISCLAIMER:**

1. The above job description is meant to describe the general nature and level of work being performed; it is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required for the position.
2. All job requirements are subject to possible modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities. Some requirements may exclude individuals who pose a direct threat or significant risk to the health and safety of themselves or other employees.
3. This job description in no way states or implies that these are the only duties to be performed by the employee occupying this position. Employees will be required to follow any other job-related duties requested by their supervisor in compliance with federal and state laws.
4. Requirements are representative of minimum levels of knowledge, skills and/or abilities. To perform this job successfully, the employee must possess the abilities or aptitudes to perform each duty proficiently.

I have read the requirements and qualifications of the position of Respiratory Therapist and to the best of my knowledge believe I can perform these duties as described with or without accommodation.

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Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date