# ISSUED November, 1988

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# SUPERSEDES

# TITLE Respiratory Therapist CLASSIFICATION GRADE 05 SPECIALTY GRADE 32

## BASIC FUNCTION AND RESPONSIBILITY

Responsible for respiratory therapy duties including oxygen administration, application of ventilators, arterial puncture, blood gas analysis, etc., and supervise the implementation of respiratory care in diagnostic and/or inpatient units.

## CHARACTERISTIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Consult with and assist physicians and nurses with respiratory care plan for patients and facilitate the implementation of the physician's orders.

Monitor Respiratory Care provided by respiratory therapy technicians in diagnostic and/or inpatient units.

Evaluate quality of respiratory care of individual patients for purpose of making necessary modifications and adjustments of care plan and equipment.

Direct and perform airway management and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Participate in the instruction of respiratory therapy technicians, students and nurses in methods of respiratory therapy administration.

Observe, report and evaluate patient's reaction to drugs administered during therapy.

Responsible for quality control of the operation of respiratory therapy equipment, such as oxygen administration equipment, positive pressure breathing machines, volume cycled ventilators, humidifiers, heated nebulizers, ultrasonic nebulizer and respirameters.

Correct and adjust respiratory therapy equipment to promote maximum comfort, safety and effective respiratory care.

Perform exercise testing involving monitoring of patient functions and assessment of patient effort.

Perform pulmonary function including the operation of equipment, compiling of tests results for physician review and assessment of patient effort based upon results.

Assist physician in performance of bronchoscopies including preparation of patient for procedure, recovery care and lab supervisors during the procedure.

Performance of other diagnostic related procedures.

Maintain effective working relationships with faculty, staff, students and the public.

*In addition to the duties and responsibilities noted above, the position description must include statements from*[*UI Health Care Core Values (WECARE)*](https://uihc.org/mission-vision-and-core-values)*for Health Care positions or*[*Universal Competencies*](https://hr.uiowa.edu/careers/competencies/universal-competencies)*for all other positions.*

### SUPERVISION RECEIVED

Supervision is received from a Respiratory Therapy Supervisor or other designated official.

### SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Functional supervision is exercised over support staff.

#### QUALIFICATIONS

Graduate of an AMA approved two or four year professional therapist program and/or completion of the requirements to become registered by the National Board for Respiratory Care is required.

Licensed by the State of Iowa as a Respiratory Care Practitioner is required.

Excellent written and verbal communication skills are required.