

Department:	Respiratory Care Services
Administrator:	Associate Vice President of Operations/Director of Nursing
Goals:	To provide the highest quality respiratory care in a timely, effective, safe and cost-effective manner.
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Timely and thorough assessment of patient needs. 2. Actively participate in the formulation of an individualized patient care plan, taking into consideration patient's age and cultural background. 3. Provide education to patients and their families regarding diseases of the respiratory system including effective management of chronic conditions. Give clear information to patients/families when performing procedures or administering therapies. 4. Administer therapies/perform procedures/analyze samples in a manner which ensures the health and safety of patients and staff by following Infection Control and Safety policies.
Practice Standards:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Dempsey Hospital Medical Staff Rules and Regulations. 2. Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments/HCFA. 3. John Dempsey Hospital Administrative Manual. 4. Respiratory Care Department Policy and Procedure Manual.
Scope of Services:	<p>Diagnostic activities include but are not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obtaining and analyzing samples for blood gas analyses. <p>Therapy includes but is not limited to application and monitoring of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Medical gases (excluding anesthetic gases) 2. Mechanical ventilatory support 3. Artificial airway care 4. Bronchopulmonary hygiene 5. Pharmacological agents related to respiratory care procedures.
Service Availability:	Services are available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week to inpatients. Outpatient services are routinely provided Monday through Friday, 7AM to 5 PM.
Patient Population/ Customers:	Services are provided to patients of all ages, infant through adult. Diagnoses commonly encountered include Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Bronchitis, Cystic Fibrosis, Emphysema, Airway Hypersensitivity, Tumor, Hemoptysis, HIV+, Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia, and Smoke or Chemical Inhalation.
Providers/ Staffing:	State of Connecticut licensed Respiratory Care Practitioners (National Board of Respiratory Care Certified Respiratory Therapists or Registered Respiratory Therapists)
Clinical Care/ Current Priority Activities:	<p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory Care Practitioners – vital signs, breath sounds <p>Treatment/Intervention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory Care Practitioners – treatment/medication recommendations, treatment/medication administration, oxygen therapy, institute mechanical ventilation management, patient education, CPR