

**Respiratory Care Services  
John Dempsey Hospital  
Policy and Procedure Manual**

**Subject:**           **Documentation of Problems Encountered when Attempting to Initiate an Order for Respiratory Therapy for In-patients**

**Rationale:**       A mechanism is necessary to document problems encountered by our staff when attempting to initiate therapy for in-patients.

**Procedure:**      If a therapist arrives on the floor to initiate respiratory treatments and is unable to for any reason, i.e. the order form is not completed, the therapist will notify the patient's physician or nurse and then document that in the progress notes section of the patient's chart.

The therapist should also document what actions they took and who they spoke to in attempting to resolve the problem.

(Refer to "Ordered Therapy Not Given When Ordered/Scheduled Due to Extenuating Circumstances").

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