



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR RESPIRATORY CARE
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Dear Hospital CEO:

Quality and safety are foremost in the minds of consumers of health care services. The American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC), the professional organization for respiratory therapists, stresses patient safety above all else.

Patient access to credentialed respiratory therapists is essential to assure they receive the best in respiratory therapy services. The peer-reviewed literature has documented that the provision of respiratory care services is enhanced and optimized when those services are delivered by educated and credentialed respiratory therapists. Employing these high quality health care providers ensures your patients are receiving the most appropriately and most efficiently delivered respiratory therapy services.

A program by the AARC informs consumers that your hospital provides quality respiratory care. Called the "Quality Respiratory Care Recognition Program," we will provide you with recognition for your superior provision of service to your patients receiving respiratory care services. By completing the attached form and attesting that you meet the service parameters, you will be awarded the Quality Respiratory Care Recognition seal. The AARC will maintain and publish a database of hospitals that meet the following requirements on the AARC website and on our patient education site, yourlunghealth.org. The requirements are:

- All respiratory therapists employed by the hospital to deliver bedside respiratory care services are either legally recognized by the state as competent to provide respiratory care services or hold the CRT or RRT credential.
- Respiratory therapists are available 24 hours.
- Other personnel qualified to perform specific respiratory procedures and the amount of supervision required for personnel to carry out specific procedures must be designated in writing.
- Hospital Policy prohibits the routine delivery of medicated aerosol treatments utilizing small volume nebulizers, metered dose inhalers, or intermittent positive pressure treatments to multiple patients simultaneously. Circumstances under which this practice is permitted is defined by policy.
- Use a process that periodically compares performance of the respiratory therapy department on efficiency and quality metrics with similar hospitals for the purpose of identifying and achieving best practice.
- A doctor of medicine or osteopathy is designated as medical director of respiratory care services.

Once a year we will ask you to renew your commitment by signing a new attestation.

This is a program where everyone wins - you get important recognition of your quality services, the respiratory care providers receive value and recognition from you, and your patients have assurances that your hospital is providing the highest quality of respiratory care services. Should you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sherry Milligan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sherry Milligan
Associate Executive Director