

January 31, 2020

AARC Board of Directors Announcement

The Advanced Practice Respiratory Therapist's SCOPE OF PRACTICE

An advanced practice respiratory therapist (APRT) is a skilled person, qualified by academic and clinical education to provide diagnosis and treatment of respiratory diseases and disorders to patients under the supervision and responsibility of a licensed doctor of medicine or osteopathy.

An APRT may perform medical acts, tasks, or functions in accordance with state licensing laws that are:

- Related to the care of persons with problems affecting the cardiovascular and/or cardiopulmonary systems;
- Delegated by a supervising physician to an APRT;
- Within the scope of practice identified in collaboration with the supervising physician;
- Appropriate to the APRT's education, experience, and level of competence; and
- Related to the prescribing, ordering, procuring, dispensing, and administering of drugs, medical care, and medical devices related to the cardiovascular and/or cardiopulmonary systems.

The supervising physician is responsible for the performance of the APRT. An APRT may perform any services authorized by the supervising physician that are within the normal course of practice and expertise of the supervising physician. The APRT may be involved in care of the patients of the supervising physician in any medical setting for which the physician is responsible.

The APRT's scope of practice is determined primarily by physicians and the APRT at the practice level which allows for a flexible and customized team function based on the needs of the practice setting.