

Scope of Practice Competencies

The program at Daytona State College is fully accredited under the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC), and the Florida State Department of Education. Respiratory Therapists provide a broad range of patient care which includes clinical decision making and patient education. The respiratory care scope of practice includes, but is not limited to the following basic competencies:

- Acquiring and evaluating clinical data
- Assessing the cardiopulmonary status of patients
- Performing and assisting in the performance of prescribed diagnostic studies such as: obtaining blood samples, blood gas analysis, pulmonary function testing, and polysomnography
- Evaluating data to assess the appropriateness of prescribed respiratory care
- Establishing therapeutic goals for patients with cardiopulmonary disease
- Participating in the development and modification of respiratory care plans
- Case management of patients with cardiopulmonary and related diseases
- Initiating prescribed respiratory care treatments, managing life support activities, evaluating and monitoring patient responses to such therapy and modifying the prescribed therapy to achieve the desired therapeutic objectives
- Initiating and conducting prescribed pulmonary rehabilitation
- Providing patient, family, and community education
- Promoting cardiopulmonary wellness, disease prevention, and disease management
- Promoting evidence-based practice by using established clinical practice guidelines and by evaluating published research for its relevance to patient care.