

Position Statements on Practice

Administering medication by intravenous route

Original position issued: August 14, 2001

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Position:

Respiratory therapists may administer medications for the testing and treatment of cardiopulmonary impairments. No prohibition on route of administration exist in law, as long as a respiratory care professional exhibits the competency requirements defined by the Board under rule 4761-7-05 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Section 4761.01 of the Revised Code defines “respiratory care” as:

"Respiratory care" means rendering or offering to render to individuals, groups, organizations, or the public any service involving the evaluation of cardiopulmonary function, the treatment of cardiopulmonary impairment, the assessment of treatment effectiveness, and the care of patients with deficiencies and abnormalities associated with the cardiopulmonary system. The practice of respiratory care includes:

- (1) *Obtaining, analyzing, testing, measuring, and monitoring blood and gas samples in the determination of cardiopulmonary parameters and related physiologic data, including flows, pressures, and volumes, and the use of equipment employed for this purpose;*
- (2) *Administering, monitoring, recording the results of, and instructing in the use of medical gases, aerosols, and bronchopulmonary hygiene techniques, including drainage, aspiration, and sampling, and applying, maintaining, and instructing in the use of artificial airways, ventilators, and other life support equipment employed in the treatment of cardiopulmonary impairment and provided in collaboration with other licensed health care professionals responsible for providing care;*
- (3) *Performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation and respiratory rehabilitation techniques;*

- (4) *Administering medications for the testing or treatment of cardiopulmonary impairment.*