



Scope of Practice

The practice of respiratory therapy is the providing of oxygen therapy, cardio-respiratory equipment monitoring and the assessment and treatment of cardio-respiratory and associated disorders to maintain or restore ventilation

Controlled Acts Authorized to RT

Performing a prescribed procedure below the dermis (controlled act # 2).

Intubation beyond the point of the nasal passages where they normally narrow or beyond the larynx (controlled act # 6ii and iii).

Suctioning beyond the point in the nasal passages where they normally narrow or beyond the larynx (controlled act # 6ii and iii).

Administering a substance by injection or inhalation (controlled act # 5).

Respiratory Therapy

Professional Practice Leader (Charlton,):
Leslie Brooks RRT, MAppSc

Number of Members of Discipline:

SITE	FTE	PTE	POSITION
Charlton	29		Respiratory Therapist (RT)
	8		AA
	7.5		FIRH

Clinical Practice Achievements

Quality & Safety

- Optimized respiratory management strategies in the special care nursery in order to meet current standards and approaches to care.
- Weekly participation in interprofessional simulations in the Emergency Department to identify latent safety threats in low frequency, high risk situations such as neonatal resuscitation and pediatric emergencies.
- Active participation in weekly simulation events with the General Internal Medicine department to enhance team performance during code blue.
- Assistance in translation of end tidal CO₂ monitoring during moderate sedation into clinical practice in various areas of the hospital including Endoscopy and the Emergency Department.
- Trials of multiple acute care ventilators to identify which device met our needs for capital procurement.
- Standardization of glidescope cabling and handles throughout the organization.
- Introduction of new procedure for cleaning bronchoscopes post inpatient procedures to minimize damage to devices.
- Assistance with simulation training initiatives at the King St Urgent Care Center.
- Standardization of neonatal resuscitation equipment in the ED and the WIH program.

Quality & Safety Continued...

- Formalized training workshop for Electrical Impedance Tomography using the Pulmovista.
- Utilization of a new electronic evaluation platform to evaluate student competencies and to provide daily feedback.
- Integration of ventilators on Complex Care into Dovetale.
- Participation in a 2-day education workshop to learn the principles of APRV ventilation.
- Assistance in evaluation of a new percutaneous tracheostomy insertion kit.

Change

- Active participant during the implementation and ongoing optimization of Dovetale for inpatient and outpatient areas.
- Interprofessional collaboration with the changes for Code pink/Code OB and Dr 1-8 within Women's and Infants' Health.
- Contribution to the creation of the After Visit Summary document within Dovetale.
- Creation of a medical delegation for the use of point of care ultrasound by RRTs/RRT-AAs at the bedside.

Community

- Ongoing partnership with ProResp and other community oxygen and homecare providers to bridge the gap from hospital to home for patients.
- Active participant in the Able Living initiative, enabling chronically ventilated patients to live in assisted living.
- Addition of an AIRVO machine to provide optimal oxygenation support to palliative patients
- Engagement of vendors to support interprofessional education days with education workshops and resources.

Interconnection

- Clinical Resource leader works closely with the nurse educators in all areas of the institution to provide educational support on various aspects of respiratory care and simulation opportunities.
- Active participation of staff in debriefing sessions related to critical events in an effort to provide closure and highlight opportunities to enhance patient care.
- Active participation in planning and attendance of Emergency Department Interprofessional Education Day.
- Active participation in planning and attendance of Special Care Nursery Interprofessional Respiratory Education Half Day.

Jennifer McClymont recipient of 2019
Respiratory Therapy Preceptor Award



Academic Pursuits

Formal Teaching:

- Clinical resource leader provides respiratory emergency education to parents of the special care nursery during Snack Chat events.
- Clinical resource leader provides respiratory care training to interprofessional team members during education days, staff meetings, formal academic half days.
- Clinical resource leader is a member of the McMaster Outreach team for providing Neonatal Resuscitation Training.
- Community care coordinator provides education to community partners such as the March of Dimes for tracheostomy management, secretion management techniques and airway optimization strategies.
- Clinical resource leader provides formalized Heart and Stroke BLS training for staff.
- Complex care RT provides respiratory management and ventilation training to team members of the complex care floor and Able Living.
- STOP program coordinator provides smoking cessation education to staff and patients.
- Certified Respiratory Educator with the Rehabilitation program provides education to patients regarding respiratory management strategies, equipment and respiratory care.
- Clinical Resource Leader has become a credentialed Dovetale trainer.
- Certified Respiratory Educator provides facilitation support to the Lung Association “Lung Health Support Group” for COPD.

Internal Teaching:

- All members of the Respiratory Therapy Department participate in the mentorship and education of Respiratory Therapy Students from Conestoga and Fanshawe Colleges.
- Clinical resource leader has Clinical Associate status with Conestoga and Fanshawe Colleges.
- All members of the Respiratory Therapy Department engage in the clinical training of students of all disciplines as outlined in the CRTO Standards of Practice.
- Clinical resource leader provides on- going education to interprofessional staff during hospital orientation and critical care orientation.

Clinical Teaching:

- Hands-on, beside training is provided by all members of the Respiratory Therapy department on an as-needed basis based on patient needs.
- Clinical resource leader provides real-time in servicing upon request and works with nursing educators to create educational resources and opportunities throughout the organization.

Academic Pursuits

Continuing Education:

Staff Members have attended the following conferences this year:

- Canadian Society of Respiratory Care Annual Educational Forum and Trade Show
 - Hamilton Health Sciences Respiratory Retreat
 - McMaster Critical Care Update
 - COPD Updates
 - Better Breathing Conference
 - Sick Kids T4 Health Conference
 - RTSO Leadership Summit
 - Neonatal Today Conference
 - RTSO Inspire Conference
 - Annual Anesthesia Conference
- Training for the use of point of care ultrasound is ongoing for the staff, current focus is radial arterial line insertion.
 - A staff member has completed the Anesthesia Assistant program through Fanshawe College.
 - In-services are provided to the staff throughout the year and include topics such as: Bubble CPAP, PAV+, COPD guideline updates, Trillium Gift of Life, Electrical impedance tomography monitoring, providing student feedback, mentoring students, CRTD updates and different ventilator Presentations.
 - Articles and educational resources are provided.

Scholarly Pursuits

Research:

- Ongoing participation in the Cuff Leak Test and Airway Obstruction in Mechanically Ventilated ICU Patients (COMIC).
- Clinical support for the FAST trial.
- Ongoing support for the Three Wishes initiative.
- Participation in the Interprofessional Simulation Pilot Trial in the Emergency Department.

Publications:

- Contribution to the RTSO Delegation Resource Package for the Use of Point of Care Ultrasound at the bedside by RRT/RRT-AA.

External Committees:

- Hospital to LHIN Transitions For Patients With Tracheostomy Tubes.
- Respiratory Therapy Society of Ontario (RTSO) Board.
- RTSO Leadership Committee.
- RTSO Post Traumatic Stress Disorders Working Group.
- Hamilton Health Sciences Interprofessional Practice Committee.
- Conestoga College Program Advisory Committee.
- Professional Advisory Committee For Fanshawe College.
- Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT) Simulation Network.
- Canadian Respiratory Health Professionals (CRHP) Palliative Support at End Stage Respiratory Disease Working Group.

External Presentations:

- RTSO Leadership Summit RTs in PTSD.
- RTSO Leadership Summit Ultrasound Panel.
- Trudell Medical International Staff Education Day Pulmonary Rehab.
- CSRT An EPIC Tale.
- CSRT COMIC Pilot Trial.
- Hamilton Health Sciences Retreat Riding The Wave RTs Performing Ultrasound In Ontario.
- RTSO Inspire 2B but not 2C Optimizing Respiratory Care in the Special Care

Leadership

- Participation in the Accreditation Process.
- Engagement of staff in the new Strategic Plan via the AA and RRT Strategic Plan Ambassadors.
- Provincial initiative to educate RRTs regarding post-traumatic stress disorder and recognition of signs and symptoms.
- Mentorship for new respiratory equipment in the Special Care Nursery.

Discipline Goals 2020

Quality & Safety

- Standardization of the Difficult Airway Carts throughout the organization.
- Finalization of the Malignant Hyperthermia Policy.
- Ultrasound training for RRTs and AAs.
- Enhanced respiratory support for the special care nursery patients ongoing.
- Evaluation of the use of APRV in our adult ICU.

Change

- Optimization of charting within Dovetale.
- Introduction of Volume Guarantee into neonatal ventilation.
- Evaluation of BLES vs. Curosurf for surfactant in neonates.
- Implementation of RT goals listed in the Strategic Plan.

Community

- Ongoing support for the Able Living Initiative.
- Continuation of Aivo Trial.
- Provision of respiratory education in Peru.

Research & Education

- Continuation of training for the use of point of care ultrasound.
- Continuation of the COMIC trial.

Barb Fiorino recipient of 2019
Respiratory Therapy Award of
Excellence

