



NORTH CAROLINA RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD
125 Edinburgh South Drive, Suite 100
Cary, NC 27511

January 14, 2016

Amber E. McVeigh, RRT-NPS, RCP
New Hanover Regional Medical Center
2131 S. 17th St.
Wilmington, NC 28401

Dear Ms. McVeigh,

This letter is sent on behalf of the North Carolina Respiratory Care Board in response to your email of October 16, 2015 requesting the Board's interpretation of state statutes and rules that relate to assisting the licensed physician or licensed nurse practitioner (NP) or licensed physician assistant (PA) or advanced practice provider (APP) or registered nurse (RN) during transport in umbilical vein catheter (UVC) placement, needle aspirations, securing an intravenous catheter (IV), and priming fluids by Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCPs). Based on the information you furnished, the Board understands that RCPs would provide assistance only in the enumerated procedures during transport under the order and supervision of a licensed physician or licensed nurse practitioner.

The Board discussed your request during its regular scheduled meeting on January 14, 2016, and determined that assisting a licensed physician or licensed nurse practitioner with the following procedures are within the scope of the practice of respiratory care during transport:

- UVC placement;
- Needle aspirations;
- Securing an IV;
- Fluid management by priming fluids during transport

To assure the quality and efficacy of the procedures, the facility where these procedures are performed must maintain written policies and guidelines for the procedures, as it would for any procedures provided by the RCP's that it employs; require each RCP providing the procedures to complete a documented training course provided by the health care facility that employs the RCP; and require each RCP to have a documented skills evaluation and documented annual competency reviews in the procedure.

Please advise if you have any other questions about this issue.

Regards,

William L. Croft, PhD., RRT, RCP
Executive Director