



## NORTH CAROLINA RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD

1100 Navaho Drive, Suite 242  
Raleigh, NC 27609

October 10, 2013

Terry Smith, RCP  
Respiratory Care Department  
Blue Ridge Hospital  
125 Hospital Drive  
Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Dear Mr. Smith,

This letter is sent on behalf of the North Carolina Respiratory Care Board in response to your letter of July 17, 2013 requesting the Board's interpretation of state statutes and rules that relate to the performance of calcium gluconate nebulizer treatments by Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP's). Based on the information you furnished, the Board understands that these calcium gluconate nebulizer treatments for the treatment of hydrofluoric acid inhalation injury would be performed only in a licensed health care facility and under the orders of a licensed physician.

*The Respiratory Care Board discussed your request during its regular scheduled meeting held on October 10, 2013 and has determined performance of calcium gluconate nebulizer treatments by RCP's for the treatment of hydrofluoric acid inhalation injury which are performed under the order of a licensed physician is within the scope of practice of the RCP.*

*To assure the quality and efficacy of the treatment, the facility where these treatments are performed must: 1) maintain written policies and guidelines approved by the facility, 2) maintain a specific protocol for the administration of calcium gluconate nebulizer treatments approved by the facility pharmacy director, and 3) require each RCP providing the treatments to have documented training and annual competency reviews in the procedure.*

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

Regards,

Floyd E. Boyer, RRT, RCP  
Executive Director