



NORTH CAROLINA RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD

1100 Navaho Drive, Suite 242
Raleigh, NC 27609

July 15, 2013

Dan Grady, RCP, MEd, RRT, FAARC
Clinical Specialist for Research and Education
Respiratory Care Department
Mission Health System
509 Biltmore Avenue
Asheville, NC 28801

Dear Mr. Grady,

This letter is sent on behalf of the North Carolina Respiratory Care Board in response to your letter of April 18, 2103 requesting the Board's interpretation of state statutes and rules that relate to the performance of staging of patients using the Mission Hospital System's COPD Navigator by Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP's). Based on the information you furnished, the Board understands that the staging of patients using the Mission Hospital System's COPD navigator would be performed only in a medical practice or other health care facility and under the review and supervision of a licensed physician.

The Respiratory Care Board discussed your request during its regular scheduled meeting held on July 11, 2013 and has determined staging of patients using the Mission Hospital System's COPD Navigator by RCP's which are performed under the review and supervision of a licensed physician is within the scope of practice of the RCP.

To assure the quality and efficacy of the testing, the practice or facility where the COPD Navigator is performed must: 1) maintain written policies and guidelines, as it would for any procedures provided by the RCP's that it employs; 2) require each RCP providing the procedure to complete a documented training course provided by the health care facility or medical practice which employs the RCP; 3) require each RCP performing the procedure to complete a documented training course provided by the health care facility or medical practice which employs the RCP; and 4) require each RCP to have a documented skills evaluation and documented annual competency reviews in the procedure.

Regards,

Floyd E. Boyer, RRT, RCP
Executive Director