



NORTH CAROLINA RESPIRATORY CARE BOARD

1100 Navaho Drive, Suite 242
Raleigh, NC 27609

October 18, 2011

Bill Bryant, RCP
Lab Manager
ARCpoint Labs of Eastern Carolina
4300 Sapphire Ct, Ste 116
Greenville, NC 27858

Dear Mr. Bryant,

This letter is sent on behalf of the North Carolina Respiratory Care Board in response to your letter of October 7, 2011 requesting the Board's interpretation of state statutes and rules that relate to the performance of peripheral venous blood draws by Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCP's). Based on the information you furnished, the Board understands that the peripheral venous blood draws would be performed only in a medical practice or other health care facility and under the order and supervision of a licensed physician.

The Respiratory Care Board discussed your request during its regular scheduled meeting held on October 13, 2011 and has determined performance of peripheral venous blood draws by RCP's which are performed under the order and supervision of a licensed physician are within the scope of practice of the RCP.

To assure the quality and efficacy of the testing, the practice or facility where these procedures are 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 peripheral venous blood draws to complete a documented training course provided by the health care facility or medical practice which employs the RCP; and 3) 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,

Floyd E. Boyer, RRT, RCP
Executive Director