Course Prefix and Number: RTH 290

Course Title: Coordinated Practice in Respiratory Therapy: ACC/NPCC IV Internship

Course Description:
Provides supervised on-the-job training. Further develops critical respiratory care clinical skills and critical-thinking skills. Students rotate through several critical care units (adult, pediatric, and neonatal) and practice and become evaluated on advanced-level critical care skills. Prerequisites: Successful completion of all curriculum courses offered during the first five semesters of the AAS degree in Respiratory Therapy. Laboratory 10 hours per week.

General Course Purpose:
This course allows students to perform critical care skills in critical care settings with minimal supervision. The “Mentor” is available at all times but the student is encouraged to perform all tasks required of critical care therapists. The purpose is to foster independent critical-thinking skills in a monitored environment that will mimic the actual work environment that the student will soon be in.

Course Objectives:
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:
1. Become proficient at performing all of the respiratory procedures performed in an adult critical care environment.
2. Develop decision-making skills necessary to be able to function as an independent respiratory care practitioner in an adult critical care environment.
3. Develop prioritizing skills necessary to work in the adult critical care environment.
4. Develop good work habits which will enable you to gain employment and develop professionally.
5. Develop the self-confidence and skill level necessary to work as an independent adult critical care practitioner.
6. Further refine writing skills by documenting all clinical experiences in the clinical diary.

Major Topics to Be Included:
Previously evaluated competencies that are to be evaluated and refined:
1. Ventilator preparation and application
2. Routine ventilator checks
3. IMV
4. Weaning
5. Ventilator discontinuance
6. Continuous distended pressure therapy
7. Endotracheal extubation
8. Airway management
9. Oral/Nasal endotracheal tube care
10. Tracheostomy care

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: September 25, 2008