

**Position Statement**  
**Respiratory Care Practitioners Administering Conscious Sedation**

Respiratory Care is a highly specialized allied health profession. Respiratory Care Practitioners are trained to care for patients under the supervision of a licensed physician and in multiple clinical settings. Respiratory Care Practitioners undergo unique and rigorous formalized training, the programs of which are nationally accredited. They are qualified by a valid and reliable national testing system. They work under the leadership and guidance of qualified physicians and have done so for many years.

As stated in the Respiratory Care Practitioners Act 6327-102(3)(A): “Practice of respiratory care includes, under the supervision, control and responsibility of a licensed physician: (i) The administration of pharmacologic agents and medical gasses necessary to diagnose, implement treatment, promote disease prevention, and provide rehabilitation to the cardiorespiratory system. In no event, however, shall a respiratory care practitioner prescribe controlled substances of any kind.”

The Tennessee Board of Respiratory Care strongly supports the fact Respiratory Care Practitioners can administer conscious sedation when administered under the supervision, control and responsibility of a licensed physician- and when administered for the sole purpose of diagnosing, implementing treatment, promoting disease prevention, and providing rehabilitation to the cardiorespiratory system.

Adopted by the Board Respiratory Care on the 13<sup>th</sup> day November, 2002.

For further information, please use the contact information provided below:

**Board of Respiratory Care**

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