

Respiratory Care/Therapy (PR)

[President's Office, Program Reviews, Academic Affairs (PR), Health Sciences Division (PR)]

Student Learning Outcomes and Program Learning Outcomes are assessed annually to determine program operational requirements. Summative clinical and criterion based evaluations reflective of national respiratory care performance guidelines are tools that are used and tailored specifically to each SLO and PLO. Student weaknesses in curriculum can then be identified and adjusted to achieve program goals. As an example, in 2009 national testing revealed a weakness in mechanical ventilation. The testing results were discussed at an advisory committee meeting on February 17, 2009; 4:30 pm, in T502. Attending: Dr. Ravi Shankar, Medical Director, Dr. Karen Cowell, RN, Dean, Health Sciences, Ashley Hubbell, Manager, Radiology and Respiratory Services, Lancaster Community Hospital, Glenda Franklin, CRT, Interim Director, Respiratory Services, Antelope Valley Hospital; Robert Vigran, RRT, Instructor, Jeff Stephens, RRT, RN, MSN, FNP, Program Director, Nicole Ervin, Student, & Lynn Brandt, RRT, Advisory Committee Chair. Committee members suggested purchase of a PFT, Bennett 840 ventilator with pediatric and neonatal capabilities, and/or the Draeger Evita. These were considered to be critical to the program. In response, Perkins IV grant funding was obtained to purchase and integrate the equipment into the program curriculum. More recently in 2011, clinical evaluative tools identified neonatal performance deficiencies within respiratory care and nursing students. As a result a task force (Dean: Karen Cowell - Nursing faculty: Elizabeth Sundberg, Casey Scudmore, Sandra Hughes – Respiratory faculty: Jeff Stephens) determined that additional lab simulation would improve student performance. In response, collaborative Perkins IV grant funding was obtained to purchase a neonatal simulation manikin. In addition, limited annual proposition 20 money has been dedicated solely to purchase durable supplies (nasal cannula, oxygen masks, arterial blood gas kits...) that the students are required to have throughout the program. The equipment operation and use of all durable medical supplies are linked to specific course SLOs and PLOs.