



CANADIAN SOCIETY OF RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DES THÉRAPEUTES RESPIRATOIRES

Blueprint - Completed Actions
Updated November 2016

Pillar 1: The respiratory therapist is an advocate for the patient

- The respiratory therapist embraces a patient-centered and holistic approach to care.
- The respiratory therapist takes a pro-active approach to the delivery of care.
- The respiratory therapist understands the business and economics of the Canadian health care system.
- The respiratory therapist helps patients understand and navigate the health care system.

Completed Activities to Support Pillar 1:

- The CSRT released the he CSRT released the *Dying with Dignity* position statement (February 2015)
- The CSRT developed a consensus statement on patient and family centered respiratory care in collaboration with the College and Association of Respiratory Therapists of Alberta (finalized in September 2015)
- The CSRT, as a member of the Health Action Lobby group, advocated for candidates in the federal election to include priorities that enhance the healthcare system (September 2015)
- The CSRT supported the development and delivery of a continuing education support (webinar, learning module) focused on the business and economics of the Canadian healthcare system (implemented October 2015)
- The CSRT created a patient education portal on its website (implemented August 2016)
- The CSRT developed the Toolkit for Private Practice (August 2016)

Pillar 2: The respiratory therapist is committed to evidence-based practice

- The respiratory therapist understands and applies clinical reasoning and critical thinking skills for the benefit of their patients.
- The respiratory therapist maintains up-to-date practice methods, techniques and approaches through a dedication to continuing education and ongoing professional development.
- The respiratory therapist leads and participates actively in research initiatives.

Completed Activities to Support Pillar 2:

- Educational opportunities and resources posted on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter company pages 3-5 times per week (starting May 2015)
- Webinars and journal clubs covering a variety of areas of practice presented, recorded and posted on CSRT website (2015: webinars/journal clubs; 2016: 11 webinars/journal clubs)
- Professional headshots offered at 2016 CSRT Annual Education Conference for members to use on their social media sites.
- The CSRT supported the RT:ventilator ratio study (published in CJRT Summer 2016)
- Catalogue of Clinical Practice Guidelines on CSRT website updated August 2016 with a number of new guidelines added.
- Abstracts from poster presentations and presentations at the CSRT Annual Education Conference are published in the Canadian Journal of Respiratory Therapy.

Pillar 3: The respiratory therapist is a well-respected health care professional

- The respiratory therapist is regarded as a mentor, providing guidance and advice to patients, their families, to students and all members of the health care team.
- The skills, knowledge and scope-of-practice of the respiratory therapist are fully appreciated by key stakeholders including the employers, government, other health care professionals and the public.
- The respiratory therapist is regarded equally as a medical clinician and a technical expert.

Completed Activities to Support Pillar 3:

- The CSRT worked with CIHI to revise the MIS Reporting Standards for Respiratory Services and developed education for respiratory therapists regarding its implementation (2015-2016)
- The CSRT released the *Use of Electronic Communication Devices* best practice statement (February 2015)
- The CSRT delivered a preceptor training workshop at the 2016 Annual Education Conference. (May 2016)
- The CSRT hosted a national roundtable discussion on the degree for entry to practice at the 2016 Annual Education Conference. (May 2016)

Pillar 4: The respiratory therapist is an active participant and supporter of interprofessional communication and collaboration

- The respiratory therapist recognizes that a collaborative approach to patient care is fundamental in optimizing health outcomes. The respiratory therapist is a leader in this regard, facilitating communication among other professionals involved in the care of the patient.

- As a key member of a health care team, the respiratory therapist appreciates and understands the abilities and limitations of themselves and other team members.
- The respiratory therapist values the contributions of members of the health care team and seeks advice from others in order to realize the best possible patient outcomes.

Completed Activities to Support Pillar 4:

- The CSRT reviewed and updated the AA position statement. (to be approved by the Board of Directors, November 2016)
- The CSRT established an interprofessional AA Certification workgroup, validated the AA National Competency Framework, established the AA exam process, and established an accreditation process for AA programs. (June 2016)
- The CSRT supports the CJRT Editorial Board, Council on Accreditation for Respiratory Therapy Education which are interprofessional committees of the CSRT.
- The CSRT sits on the Committee on Anesthesia Care Team (CoACT), an interprofessional committee of the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society.

Pillar 5: The respiratory therapist practices in diverse settings

- The practice of respiratory therapy will continue to expand into areas where the greatest possible benefits to patients can be realized.
- The respiratory therapist is involved in the provision of a continuum of care from critical care to acute care to home care as well as in disease prevention and the education of patients.
- The respiratory therapist is involved in care throughout the life of a patient; from birth to end of life

Completed Activities to Support Pillar 5:

- The CSRT facilitated the establishment of the Home Ventilation Network (2015)
- The CSRT advocated for the inclusion of health and wellness as a surveyed metric in the 2016 National Competency Framework (January 2015)
- The CSRT surveyed members as a first step to develop an inventory of unique or evolving practice settings and/or roles of respiratory therapists (August 2015)
- The CSRT facilitated entry into private practice with workshops and the development of a toolkit for private practice (spring 2015)

Pillar 6: The respiratory therapist has the qualifications and education to meet the evolving demands of the health care system

- Ongoing efforts are made to ensure that the educational background of the respiratory therapist is commensurate with the complexities of the ever-changing health care system.
- The Respiratory therapist has access to ongoing education in support of new technology and therapeutic practices.
- The respiratory therapist is directly involved in influencing resource and funding allocation models related to the provision of respiratory therapy in Canada.

- The respiratory therapist maintains knowledge and understanding of new developments, trends and changes in the health care system.

Completed Activities to Support Pillar 6

- The CSRT developed a portion of the website to promote external education opportunities (September 2015)
- The CSRT worked with Mallinckrodt to deliver a patient safety education series (fall 2015-winter 2016)
- The CSRT established an interprofessional AA Certification workgroup, validated the AA National Competency Framework, established the AA exam process, and established an accreditation process for AA programs. (June 2016)
- The CSRT developed the Toolkit for Private Practice (August 2016)
- The CSRT developed a process to evaluate external education opportunities for CSRT Continuing Education/Continuing Professional Development credits (November 2014)

Pillar 7: The respiratory therapist is actively engaged in health promotion and wellness.

- The respiratory therapist promotes health and wellness in the community and hospital settings. Improved patient education and preventative care helps to enhance the quality of life for patients
- The respiratory therapist is a medical clinician exercising leadership and critical thinking based on evidence and research in the best interest of the patient.

Completed Activities to Support Pillar 7:

- The CSRT negotiated a discounted membership to Goodlife and access to health plan benefits as new member benefits (November 2015)
- The CSRT collaborates with the Canadian Patient Safety Network, Choosing Wisely Canada and the Health Action Lobby group on matters relating to patient care, professional practice, and health and wellness. (ongoing)
- The CSRT promotes external educational and certification opportunities to its members through its website, newsletter and social media. (ongoing)
- The CSRT hosted Sean McCann as a speaker on mental health and wellness at its 2016 Annual Education Conference. (May 2016)

Pillar 8: The respiratory therapist performs to their full scope of practice.

- The knowledge and abilities of the respiratory therapist are well understood by employers and colleagues.
- The respiratory therapist's scope of practice is fully realized in the workplace allowing for outreach, education and treatment based on the specific needs of the patient.

Completed Activities to Support Pillar 8:

- The CSRT provided administrative support and participated in the development of the 2016 National Competency Framework and provided incentives to encourage respiratory therapists in each province to participate in the validation workshops and the national validation survey. (October 2013-2016)

Pillar 9: The respiratory therapist is the ambassador for the profession.

- The respiratory therapist is a professional and an active and equal contributor in health care teams.
- The respiratory therapist works to promote a greater understanding of their profession and its essential role in the health care system.
- The respiratory therapist is committed to developing behavior and language anchored in the underlying values of professionalism, continuous improvement and patient-centered care.
- The respiratory therapist understands their professional role, scope of practice and its place within health care teams and the system as a whole.

Completed Activities to Support Pillar 9:

- Content promoting the profession posted on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter company pages 3-5 times per week (starting May 2015)
- The CSRT held contests for all respiratory therapists to encourage promotion of the profession (RT Week 2015, 2016)
- Implementation of CSRT YouTube channel (October 2016)