

Revised

CHANGE IN PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Part II Description of Curriculum Change

1. Catalog description of program unchanged.

Respiratory therapists assist physicians in the care of patients who have respiratory system problems or illnesses that relate to breathing. Their assistance includes administering gaseous drugs and executing therapeutic procedures. Included are the operation and maintenance of specialized equipment.

The program leads to the Bachelor of Science Degree in Respiratory Care. Presented jointly by IUP and the Western Pennsylvania Hospital in Pittsburgh, the program offers intensive theoretical and applied knowledge to produce highly skilled graduates who are prepared to enter the profession as therapists or instructors.

Two academic years of university studies, followed by two academic years of hospital studies and clinical practice, constitute the program. Incoming students must maintain a QPA of 2.25 in Natural Sciences and Mathematics to be considered for admission into the clinical years in Respiratory Care. However, since admission to the hospital is competitive, IUP cannot guarantee admission into the hospital program.

2. Summary of Changes

All changes are driven by the Joint Review Committee for Respiratory Education. The appropriate sections are attached to courses for which the standards are applicable.

a. Table comparing old and new program.

See attached table comparing current and proposed Respiratory Care curriculum.



Current Respiratory Therapy Program
 Bachelor of Science—Respiratory Care
 Liberal Studies: As follows 45
 Composition: EN101, EN202
 Humanities: Three courses, one in each area (PH 222 recommended)
 Fine Arts: one course
 Mathematics: MA110 or higher level
 Natural Science: CH101-102
 Social Sciences: PC101, SO 151, non-Western course
 Health and Wellness/ROTC: H&W recommended
 Liberal Studies electives: one course from:
 CO101, PC378, other course as approved by advisor
 Synthesis: not required

Major: 62

Required courses:

Completed in junior and senior years at Western
 Pennsylvania Hospital in Pittsburgh

RT326 Respiratory Care Clinical Practice I	3sh
RT327 Pharmacology	3sh
RT328 Introduction to Respiratory Care	4sh
RT329 Respiratory Care Instrumentation ♥	4sh
RT330 Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation	2sh
RT331 Introduction to Ventilator Management ♦	1sh
RT333 Respiratory Care Clinical Practice II	4sh
RT334 Respiratory Care Instrumentation and Application	4sh
RT335 Nursing Arts ♥	1sh
RT336 Cardiopulmonary Evaluation and Clinical Correlation	4sh
RT337 Introduction to Pulmonary Functions	1sh
RT426 Respiratory Care Clinical Practice III	5sh
RT427 Applied Pulmonary Physiology ♦	4sh
RT428 Essentials of Electrocardiography	2sh
RT429 Design and Function of Respiratory Care Program	2sh
RT430 Pulmonary Function Studies ♥	2sh
RT431 Pediatric Respiratory Care	1sh
RT433 Respiratory Care Clinical Practice IV	5sh
RT434 Neonatal Respiratory Care	3sh
RT436 Respiratory Care Teaching	2sh
RT437 Methods in Critical Care	2sh
RT438 Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation	1sh

Other Requirements

18

Science courses:

BI105 Cell Biology	4sh
BI150 Human Anatomy	3sh
BI151 Human Physiology	4sh
BI241 General Microbiology	3sh
PY151 Medical Physics Lecture	3sh
PY161 Medical Physics Lab	1sh

Free Electives: 0

(#) Total Degree Requirements 125

(#) See advisory paragraph "Timely Completion of Degree Requirements" in catalog section on Requirements for Graduation

♦ Deleted from Program

Proposed Respiratory Therapy Program
 Bachelor of Science—Respiratory Care
 Liberal Studies: As follows 45-47
 Humanities: PH222 recommended
 Mathematics: MA110 or higher level
 Natural Science: CH101-102
 Social Sciences: PC101, SO151, non-Western course
 Liberal Studies electives: CO101/BE101/TM101 recommended

Synthesis: not required

Writing Intensive: not required

Major: 62

Required courses:

RT101 Profession of Respiratory Care I ♦	1sh
RT326 Respiratory Care Clinical Practice I	3sh
RT327 Pharmacology	3sh
RT328 Introduction to Respiratory Care	4sh
RT329 Respiratory Care Equipment ♥	4sh
RT330 Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation	2sh
RT333 Respiratory Care Clinical Practice II	4sh
RT334 Respiratory Care Instrumentation and Application	4sh
RT335 Patient Care Skills ♥	3sh
RT336 Cardiopulmonary Evaluation and Clinical Correlation	4sh
RT337 Introduction to Pulmonary Functions	1sh
RT426 Respiratory Care Clinical Practice III	5sh
RT425 Clinical Case Studies ♦	3sh
RT428 Essentials of Electrocardiography	2sh
RT429 Design and Function of Respiratory Care Program	2sh
RT430 Pulmonary Function Studies ♥	3sh
RT431 Pediatric Respiratory Care	1sh
RT433 Respiratory Care Clinical Practice IV	5sh
RT434 Neonatal Respiratory Care	3sh
RT436 Respiratory Care Teaching	2sh
RT437 Methods in Critical Care	2sh
RT438 Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation	1sh

Other Requirements

17

Science courses:

BI105 Cell Biology	3sh
BI150 Human Anatomy	3sh
BI151 Human Physiology	4sh
BI241 General Microbiology	3sh
PY151 Medical Physics Lecture	3sh
PY161 Medical Physics Lab	1sh

Free Electives: 0

(#) Total Degree Requirements 124-126

NOTE:

1. See advisory paragraph "Timely Completion of Degree Requirements" in catalog section on Requirements for Graduation

2. Qualified students are encouraged to elect RT 342 Preceptorship in Respiratory Care in which case total credits would be 126-130.

3. RT three hundred and four hundred level courses are completed at Western Pennsylvania Hospital in Pittsburgh.

♦ Added to proposed program

♥ Revision made to course, i.e. credits, title

b. 1. The following courses have been deleted:

RT 331 Introduction to Ventilatory Management
RT 427 Applied Pulmonary Physiology

2. The following courses have been added:

RT 101 The Profession of Respiratory Care
RT 342 Preceptorship in Respiratory Care
RT 425 Clinical Case Studies

3. The following courses have been changed: (credit, content realignment, and/or title)

RT 329 Respiratory Care Instrumentation and Application to Respiratory Care Equipment

RT 335 Nursing Arts to Patient Care Skills

RT 430 Pulmonary Function Studies
2 credit hours increased to 3 credit hours

3. Rationale for Changes

RT 331 and RT 329

Course changes have occurred which include eliminating the course, RT 331 Introduction to Ventilatory Management. This course introduced the student to mechanical ventilation with the major emphasis on developing their ability to perform a ventilator tubing change which is performed frequently in the clinical setting. As per new Center for Disease Control guidelines ventilator tubing changes are performed only on a weekly basis now. With less emphasis on development of this skill it no longer requires a separate course. The remaining content can be incorporated into, RT 329 Respiratory Care Equipment. Contents of the RT 329 Respiratory Care Equipment was not compromised as a result of this inclusion. Semester hours were available in RT 329 Respiratory Care Equipment to adequately cover the additional topic of ventilator management due to a reduction and/or elimination of specific content that no longer warrants the hours previously assigned. This was a result of advances in technology that have warranted the replacement and/or elimination of older equipment.

RT 101

A new 1 credit course, RT 101 The Profession of Respiratory Care will initiate the student to the profession of Respiratory Care. This course is needed because currently, students do not get specifically introduced to their chosen profession/major until the junior year. This is too far along in the curriculum for students to make final decisions regarding their major.

RT 425

RT 425 Clinical Case Studies: The 3 credits from deleting RT 427 will be used for this new course. Content in this new course is designed to increase the working knowledge of diseases commonly experienced by patients in critical care settings. Clinical simulations and case studies techniques will be used.

RT 430

RT 430 Pulmonary Function Studies: The change in health care has increased the demand for the therapist to perform more diagnostic studies, interpret data and recommend and implement therapy for those persons with pulmonary diseases. In the last few years, a trend for respiratory therapist to study sleep disorders and calorimetry studies has increased greatly and by including those areas into the current curriculum the graduate becomes more marketable. Expanding the role of respiratory therapist by adding more sophisticated diagnostics, improves the cohesiveness of diagnostics to therapy with greater proficiency. Therefore this course required a major course revision with the addition of several more advanced pulmonary diagnostic tests, including polysomnography (sleep studies). These additions necessitate an additional credit hour for this course. The proposed deletion of RT 427 releases four credits, one of which will go to RT 430.

RT 342

RT 342 Preceptorship in Respiratory Care is being added as an elective course to allow students to gain additional clinical experience.

III. Implementation

1. Students already in the program will not be adversely affected by the changes. Approved changes will affect the courses at the Junior standing and Senior standing levels and the enrolled students should be able to fit into these changes.
2. Faculty teaching loads should not be affected. The current faculty are qualified and able to teach these courses and the total number of credits are not changed.
3. Resources are adequate.
4. These revisions do not affect the number of students enrolled in this major.