

147C.10 PROTECTED TITLES AND RESTRICTIONS ON USE.

Subdivision 1. **Protected titles.** No individual may use the title "Minnesota registered respiratory care practitioner," "registered respiratory care practitioner," "respiratory care practitioner," "respiratory therapist," "respiratory therapy (or care) technician," "inhalation therapist," or "inhalation therapy technician," or use, in connection with the individual's name, the letters "RCP," or any other titles, words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia indicating or implying that the individual is eligible for registration by the state as a respiratory care practitioner unless the individual has been registered as a respiratory care practitioner according to this chapter.

Subd. 2. **Other health care practitioners.** (a) Nonphysician individuals practicing in a health care occupation or profession are not restricted in the provision of services included in section 147C.05, as long as they do not hold themselves out as respiratory care practitioners by or through the use of the titles provided in subdivision 1 in association with provision of these services.

(b) Physician practitioners are exempt from this chapter.

(c) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require registration of:

(1) a respiratory care practitioner student enrolled in a respiratory therapy education program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs or another accrediting organization approved by the board; and

(2) a respiratory care practitioner employed in the service of the federal government while performing duties incident to that employment.

Subd. 3. **Penalty.** A person who violates subdivision 1 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Subd. 4. **Identification of registered practitioners.** Respiratory care practitioners registered in Minnesota shall wear name tags that identify them as respiratory care practitioners while in a professional setting. If not written in full, this must be designated as RCP. A student attending a respiratory therapy training program or a tutorial intern program must be identified as a student respiratory care practitioner. This abbreviated designation is Student RCP. Unregulated individuals who work in an assisting respiratory role under the supervision of respiratory care practitioners must be identified as respiratory care assistants or aides.

History: 1997 c 120 s 4