



**POSITION STATEMENT
BY THE MICHIGAN SOCIETY FOR RESPIRATORY CARE
RRT AS THE ENTRY LEVEL CREDENTIAL FOR LICENSURE**

Adopted, August 9, 2019
As Reviewed on October 8, 2023

The Michigan Society for Respiratory Care (MSRC), a chartered affiliate of the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC), is committed to ensuring that the quality of respiratory care provided in the State of Michigan will conform to the highest standards of clinical practice based upon evidence-based medicine, and that the art and practice of respiratory care will comply with both the language and intent of the statute enabling licensure of respiratory therapists.

The MSRC shares the AARC's belief that possessing the Registered Respiratory Therapist ("RRT") credential exemplifies the dedication of a respiratory therapist to professional excellence and demonstrates a commitment to providing care at the highest possible level. Therefore, The MSRC advocates that individuals who apply for a license to practice Respiratory Care have successfully passed the RRT exam as conferred by the National Board for Respiratory Care ("NBRC"). Mandating the passage of the RRT examination as the minimum competency for licensure helps to:

- Increase the safe and practicable utility of Michigan Respiratory Care Practitioners (RCPs) for all health care consumers.
- Ensure the competent practice of RCPs, increasing safety, quality, and cost-effective care for those persons requiring cardiorespiratory care in Michigan.
- Match existing RCP educational standards with the appropriate credential based competency.
- Eliminate the identification misnomer of "RRT Eligible."
- Decrease Respiratory Care Board disciplinary intervention and associated costs.
- Increase credibility and enhance clinical reliance on Michigan RCPs as the cardiopulmonary caregivers/consultants by qualifying RCPs statewide with this higher level of competency testing.
- Move the profession closer to a statewide scope of practice as opposed to individual hospital-regulated scope of the Respiratory Care discipline.