

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
CARDIO PULMONARY POLICY MANUAL
PERFORMANCE OF ARTERIAL PUNCTURES**

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Purpose: To assure that properly trained and licensed respiratory therapist are performing this procedure according to departmental guidelines.

Procedure: All respiratory therapists must review Section 4A of the policy and procedure manual. Arterial blood gases will be performed by licensed respiratory therapist (RT). All new respiratory therapists are required to successfully perform five arterial punctures under the direct supervision of an already certified therapist prior to being unsupervised. Yearly competencies are required to maintain certification. A current list of qualified personnel will be available in the Cardio-Pulmonary Department.