

Monitoring Pulse Oximetry – June 2017

This core competency is not intended to be all-inclusive and may require modification to meet facility requirements. This document is intended to serve as a template and be modified to meet individual employer needs.

OBJECTIVE: To describe the knowledge and skills required to analyze sleep recordings using a quantifiable method for measurement of oxygen saturation being obtained during overnight polysomnography or using portable overnight oximetry.

OUTCOME ASSESSMENT: Outcome is determined by clinical and physiologic assessment of adequacy of the recording and/or patient response to therapy. The following competency evaluation tool provides an objective assessment of the performance of the sleep technology practitioner.

INSTRUCTIONS: The evaluator assesses the employee in the performance of the competency, indicating either a **(Yes)** the employee is competent or a **(No)** the employee is not competent with the process. Competency is met when the employee performs the competency according to accepted standards and guidelines. For every **(No)** response, a corrective action plan should be outlined, discussed with the employee with a timeline for retesting, and documented in the comments.

NAME _____

DATE _____

EVALUATOR _____

**Comments: A correction plan and timeline for retesting must be outlined for each (No) documented.*

Monitoring Pulse Oximetry	Yes	No	*Correction Plan/ Retesting Date
Equipment Operation / Calibration			
Demonstrate knowledge of operation of pulse oximeter devices; ability to adjust sampling rate/trend settings			
Demonstrate ability to calibrate pulse oximeter device			
Apply Pulse Oximeter Sensor			
Demonstrate ability to appropriately apply and/or instruct patient in the use of reusable or disposable pulse oximeter sensor allowing for patient comfort, compliance, and			
Demonstrate ability to recognize when improper sensor placement is affecting oximeter reading			
Patient Interaction			
Utilize communication skills appropriate to patient age and physical/mental abilities to explain use of pulse oximetry to patient during pre-testing procedure			
Monitor Oximetry During PSG			
Identify the limitations of the patient monitoring device; recognize artifact in pulse rate and/or oximetry readings			
Recognize and document low baseline oxygen saturation levels			
Recognize oxygen desaturation related to respiratory and/or other events; identify and document corresponding event characteristics (i.e., respiratory, cardiac, sleep state, etc.)			
Verify the accuracy of the pulse oximetry reading and/or recording			
Review and document oxygen saturation levels obtained during oximetry recordings			

Monitoring Pulse Oximetry	Yes	No	*Correction Plan/ Retesting Date
Patient Safety			
Verbalize protocol for contacting the Medical Director			
Identify when to initiate supplemental oxygen according to lab protocol			
Infection Control			
Demonstrate appropriate cleaning and disinfection of permanent interface devices			