



HEART & LUNG TESTING, INTERVENTION & EDUCATION

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Did you know Blue Mountain Hospital District provides cardiopulmonary services?

By Brian Donahue
To the Blue Mountain Eagle

The Blue Mountain Hospital District Cardiopulmonary Department operates under the auspices of a medical director and serves in the capacity of direct patient care and diagnostics, providing quality-conscious, cost-effective and competent care with respect for the privacy, comfort and dignity of the individual patient.

We provide service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. A technician can be found in-house from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, excluding holidays. Outside of these hours, we are available on stand-by and respond immediately to all calls requiring our services.

The potential populations within our care include the perinatal and newborn, pediatric, adolescent, adult and geriatric patients.

The services provided by the Cardiopulmonary Department encompass both respiratory and cardiac procedures falling under five general categories.

Diagnostic Cardiac Testing: 12-lead EKG tests; hook-up, removal and scanning of Holter monitors; echocardiograms (done by cardiac sonographer from Bend Memorial Clinic once a week), treadmill stress testing and echo stress testing.

Diagnostic Respiratory Testing: arterial blood gas draw and analysis; umbilical cord gases; end tidal CO₂ monitoring; oximetry; spirometry; and peak flow testing.

Therapeutic Respiratory: oxygen therapy, medicated nebulizer therapy; metered dose inhalers; CPAP and BiPAP therapy; PEP therapy; incentive spirometry; and chest physiotherapy.

Emergency Intervention: Provide

advanced, cardiac life support and airway management in respiratory crisis, including mechanical ventilation for acute respiratory failure. Monitor and maintain oxygenation and acid-base balance until issue resolves or until that responsibility is transferred to the air-transport team.

Educational Resource: Instruction for patients and their families regarding the disease process and how to properly administer respiratory medications for maximum benefit. We are also a resource for other clinical staff in all matters related to the services we provide.

Respiratory therapists at Blue Mountain Hospital District are credentialed by the National Board for Respiratory Care and licensed by the state of Oregon to provide the services we offer.

Brian Donahue is the director of cardiopulmonary services for Blue Mountain Hospital District.