



College of Respiratory
Therapists of Ontario

Ordre des thérapeutes
respiratoires de l'Ontario

MAINTAINING STANDARDS

Practice FAQs

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QUESTION

Since the pandemic has started, it is becoming increasingly hard to follow our normal schedule for rounding on patients. Often, we are unable to complete Q4H ventilator checks, with some stable patients only being seen a few times a shift. Could I face disciplinary action for this?

ANSWER

The CRYPTO recognizes that the pandemic has presented RT's with workload challenges that at times, do not allow for normal practice. It is expected that the RT work within their organizations guidance policies and procedures as best as possible. As a regulated health professional, the RT should use their knowledge, judgement and skill in a collaborative triage decision making process to ensure safe patient care. The CRYPTO Standards of Practice states that an RT is required to *“recognize situations or environments involving risks to the safety of patients/clients, healthcare team members, and others”* (STD 14 – Safety & Risk Management). [Standard 14 | CRYPTO Standards of Practice](#). The RT is expected to do the best they can to provide the best patient care in each situation.

It is possible that the CRYPTO may receive reports and complaints throughout the pandemic, however, all information will be considered and investigated within the context of the environment and situation.