



College of Respiratory
Therapists of Ontario

Ordre des thérapeutes
respiratoires de l'Ontario

VERBAL ORDERS

Practice FAQs

March 2022

QUESTION

As an RT, am I permitted to accept a verbal order from a Nurse Practitioner?

ANSWER

RT's are permitted to accept a verbal order from a Member of the College of Nurses of Ontario (Extended Class) as long as it is a procedure/task that the Nurse Practitioner is authorized to order, and it is within the scope of practice of Respiratory Therapy. Provided an RT does not have limitations on their Certificate of Registration which would prevent them from performing that specific task, they may accept verbal orders from Members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Dental Surgeons, Midwives and Nurses (extended class).

As a general rule, it is acceptable for an RT to accept a verbal order received in-person or by telephone, provided the order is:

- received directly from the prescriber and not their designate, unless the designate is another regulated health professional;
- transcribed into the patient's medical record by the regulated healthcare professional who received the order with a notation that it was a verbal order; and,
- signed by the prescriber within a reasonable amount of time

For further information regarding this topic, please see the CRTO's [Orders for Medical Care PPG \(crto.on.ca\)](https://www.crto.on.ca)