

# GROW

Ongoing Professional Growth

## Educator

**DEFINITION** An Educator is committed to helping others learn. They use their understanding of current education principles to effectively transfer knowledge. They support and facilitate learning at all levels, ranging from students to peers to patients and their families.

**DESCRIPTION** Most of us teach in some aspect of our role – and you don't have to teach in an RT program to consider yourself an educator. No matter if you supervise students in your clinical role, provide an oxygen in-service to an interprofessional team, teach patients and families as part of your clinical role, or as a manager, help your team understand the impact of a decision you've made, they all have one thing in common – a learner. Most of us teach the way that we were taught and few of us have ever taken any formal training in education. That being said, there are countless ways to help ensure that a learner effectively hears your message and anything that helps you become a more effective teacher falls under this domain.

### EXAMPLES OF LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Agreeing to supervise a student.
- Courses or materials addressing adult learning principles or understanding learning styles.
- Tips on presenting information.
- How to develop a session plan for a learning activity.

### EDUCATOR RESOURCES

An **Educator** and facilitates learning by possessing and sharing up-to-date knowledge, as well as providing positive, constructive feedback.



### [Adult Learning Theory & Principles](#)

Developed by the Queensland Occupational Therapy Fieldwork Collaborative, this website provided a good overview of basic principles of adult learning that would apply to all education in a clinical setting.

### [Preferred Learning Styles](#)

The University of Waterloo's Centre for Teaching Excellence has developed an easy to understand overview of the preferred learning styles of adult learners.

### [Providing Constructive Feedback](#)

Tips for providing constructive feedback from the University of Victoria.

If you want to help your patients better manage their chronic respiratory conditions, consider becoming a Certified Asthma Educator (CAE), Certified Tobacco Educator (CTE), Respiratory Educator (CRE). Here is a link to a number of Canadian Network for Respiratory Care's (CNRC) approved Asthma, Tobacco and Respiratory Educator Programs [click here](#).

Have comments, feedback or ideas to make this even better? Send us an email at [GROW@crto.on.ca](mailto:GROW@crto.on.ca).

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