I. Policy

A. Ethics and Professional Conduct

Respiratory Care employees are expected to follow the Rule and Regulations as listed in the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s Handbook for Employees and by Hospital Administration Professional Conduct Policy P-13. Disciplinary action will ensue according to allowable reprimands sanctioned by Human Resources.

B. We have adopted the American Association for Respiratory Care’s, our national professional society, Statement of Ethics and Professional Conduct, 12/07 as our own. It reads as such:

In the conduct of professional activities, the Respiratory Therapist shall be bound by the following ethical and professional principles. Respiratory Therapists shall:

1. Demonstrate behavior that reflects integrity, supports objectivity, and fosters trust in the profession and its professionals. Actively maintain and continually improve their professional competence and represent it accurately.

2. Perform only those procedures or functions in which they are individually competent and which are within their scope of accepted and responsible practice.

3. Respect and protect the legal and personal rights of patients they treat, including the right to privacy, informed consent and refusal of treatment.

4. Disclose no protected information regarding any patient or family unless disclosure is required for responsible performance of duty, or required by law.

5. Provide care without discrimination on any basis, with respect for the rights and dignity of all individuals.

6. Promote disease prevention and wellness.

7. Refuse to participate in illegal or unethical acts.

8. Refuse to conceal, and will report, the illegal, unethical, fraudulent, or incompetent acts of others.
9. Follow sound scientific procedures and ethical principles in research.

10. Comply with state or federal laws which govern and relate to their practice.

11. Avoid any form of conduct that is fraudulent or creates a conflict of interest, and shall follow the principles of ethical business behavior.

12. Promote health care delivery through improvement of the access, efficacy, and cost of patient care.

13. Encourage and promote appropriate stewardship of resources.