July 06, 2018

To the Board of Respiratory Care,

The proposed increase in the required amount of CEU’s from 15 to 30 is an extreme change. To increase the total number is a hardship for many therapists. Massachusetts RN s are required to have 15 CEU’s per licensing renewal cycle. RNs require a much broader range of updated knowledge to perform their job in a safe and effective manner. It seems rather extreme that Respiratory Therapists would need twice as many.

The proposal to limit the number of online CEUs to 15 is rather absurd , when very few live conferences are available due to limited offerings. This would leave the Mass. RT Conference one of the only options left to attain “live CEU’S.

Is this to benefit the Mass RT Conference?
Particularly where there has been a proposal to limit the subject matter of the CEU requirement… Are these subjects that will certainly be covered at the RT conference?

Departments in general will be challenged to meet staffing during the time of the Massachusetts RT Seminar if everyone is trying to attend in order to meet CEU requirements. Many of us cannot be out of work or away from home for two days. Having to, in some cases lose two days pay or vacation along with the cost of the seminar and traveling expenses is a major hardship and inconvenience in a already stressful field. Not all of us work with the same patient population/ environment and therefore would benefit to advance our skills and knowledge in the settings we serve. There should be more consideration about the ability for RTs to maintain CEU/licensing requirements before making this drastic change.

Respectfully,

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