

**Vanderbilt University Medical Center**  
**Multidisciplinary Surgical Critical Care**

---

**Standard Operating Procedure:**  
**Respiratory Therapy / Critical Care Communication**

**Purpose:**

To standardize the process of ventilator order entry and communication with respiratory therapist to facilitate consistent and uniform ventilatory strategy for critically ill patients in the SICU

**Procedure:**

1. Print out a **Respiratory Therapy List** from WIZ prior to rounds.
  - In Wiz Order, go to the **Printouts** and select **Respiratory Therapy List**, then select (SICU) **scratch census**, select **all**, then select **OK** and print.
2. Review the respiratory care orders as printed on the **Respiratory Therapy List** for the SICU consult scratch census on each patient during rounds.
3. Update orders as needed using the rolling computer while rounding.
  - **For ventilator weaning, three (3) order sets** are present in WIZ and can be accessed by typing in **vent wean** and then selecting **SICU ventilator weaning order set**.
    - Choose the appropriate wean: **PSV Wean, FiO2 Wean** or **PEEP Wean**.
    - These orders can be modified once these orders have been entered
  - Additional orders that require entry are:
    - Trach collar trials with frequency and duration,
    - extubation to a desired FiO2
    - incentive spirometry with frequency.
4. Print out an updated **Respiratory Therapy List** at the completion of rounds, senior member of MDSCC team to discuss plans of care with the therapist.
  - SICU respiratory therapist pager - 835-5990 to round and go over the plan of care for each patient.
  - Please be aware without this direct communication, a delay may occur in therapists viewing of orders

**Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Addison K. May, MD, FACS  
Medical Director, SICU

**Revised :** 3-1-2004