



Title: Am I Practising? Fact Sheet	Date Approved: June 28, 2024
Category: Professional Practice	Date of Next Revision: June 28, 2027

## AM I PRACTISING?

### Fact Sheet

#### OVERVIEW

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To practice as a Respiratory Therapist (RT) in Nova Scotia, you must be registered with the Nova Scotia College of Respiratory Therapists (NSCRT). RT practice can take place in a variety of settings, such as (but not limited to):

- Hospitals
- Government health agencies
- Community-based practice
- Healthcare research
- Educational institutions
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Independent practice
- Medical supply companies

This fact sheet was developed to help members determine if they practise Respiratory Therapy. For example, the NSCRT receives inquiries from members when considering a change of employment or changing to the Non-Practising Class of Registration.

#### RESPIRATORY THERAPY PRACTICE

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Respiratory Therapists practise in many different areas and settings. In general, RT practice involves the following elements:

- Applying RT competencies (knowledge, skills, judgment, abilities) gained from RT education, employment, and experience as an RT.
- Applying relevant RT practice standards, policies, and guidelines.
- Having a direct or indirect effect on those who receive RT services.
- Interacting with those who expect you to have RT knowledge and/or skill.

**Practising Respiratory Therapy includes both employment and volunteer activities.**



## **AM I PRACTISING AS A RESPIRATORY THERAPIST?**

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You are practising as an RT if any of the following apply to you.

- **Providing direct patient care RT services to individuals and/or groups of individuals.**
  - Diagnostic/assessment, therapeutic, and rehabilitation service.
- **Providing RT education to patients, patient's family members, other healthcare professionals (regulated and non-regulated) and/or students.**
  - Health promotion, health counselling services (e.g., smoking cessation, spirometry testing).
  - Developing/delivering learning resources.
  - Information/education related to RT equipment & products.
- **Providing administrative services that have a direct or indirect effect on those who receive healthcare services.**
  - Policy/practice development & implementation.
  - Collection of healthcare data/RT-related data (e.g., chart audits, RT-related research, data/analysis).
  - Management of healthcare resources (e.g., staffing, equipment)
  - Influencing respiratory therapy practice and/or policy.
- **Other activities**
  - Sale of RT-related products (e.g., medical equipment).
  - Respiratory research and data collection.
  - Providing consultation on Respiratory Therapy and related care, equipment, and services.
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## **PRACTISING HOURS REQUIREMENT**

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Per the Respiratory Therapists Regulations, a member must have completed at least 1500 hours practising respiratory therapy in the four years immediately before applying for an Active Practice licence.

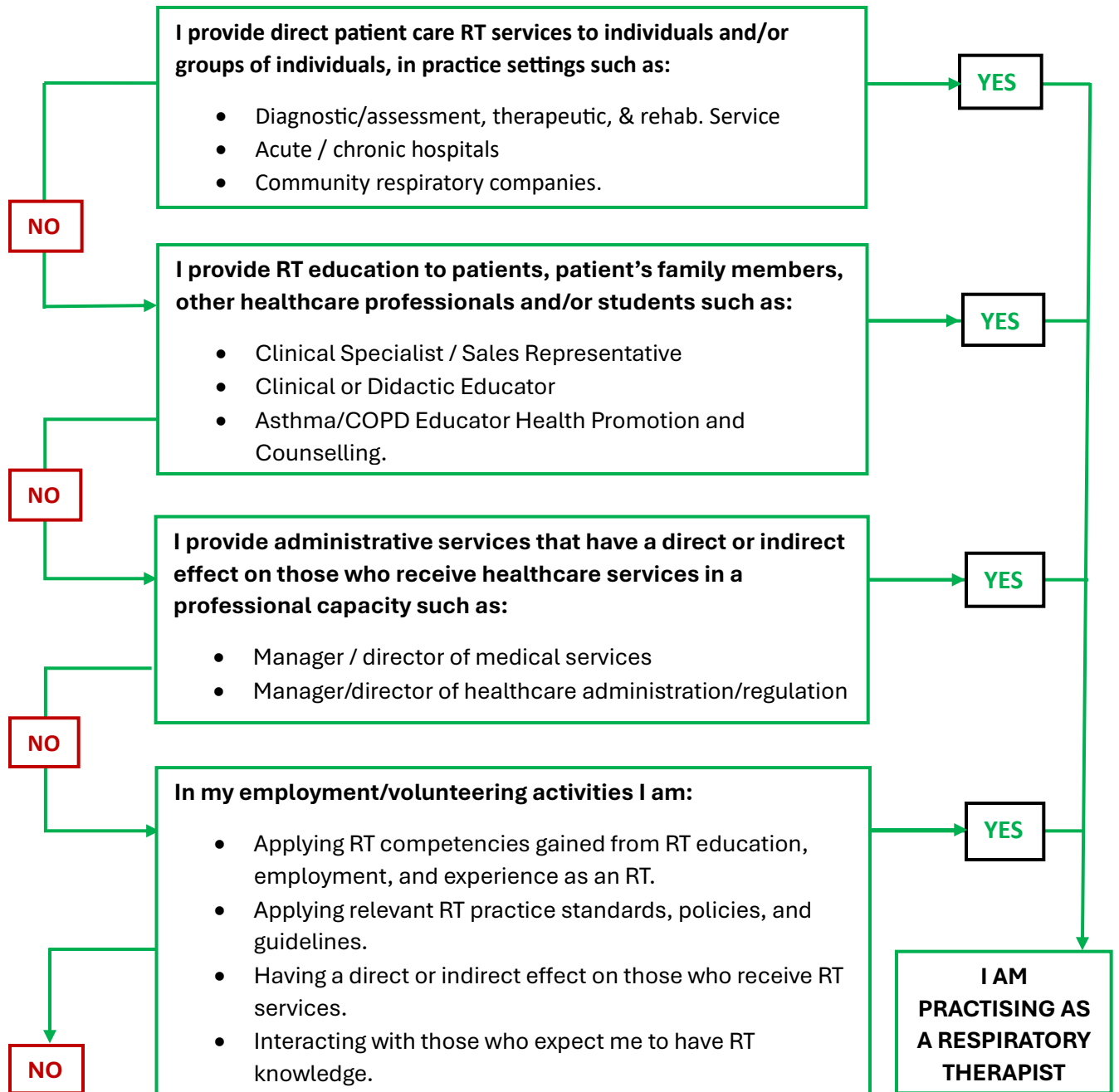
## **NON-PRACTISING**

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A Non-Practising member has qualified for an Active Practice licence, is not subject to any disciplinary findings, and chooses to be on leave from practice for medical or personal reasons. Therefore, they do not hold a licence to practice.



## AM I PRACTISING? FACT SHEET





## *Nova Scotia College of Respiratory Therapists*

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### **RESOURCES:**

- Am I Practicing Respiratory Therapy – New Brunswick Association of Respiratory Therapists
- Am I Practising? Fact Sheet [Am I Practising FS.pdf \(crto.on.ca\)](http://crto.on.ca)