

[14-5A-19.] 14-5A-20.

Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a person may not practice, attempt to practice, or offer to practice respiratory care in this State unless licensed to practice respiratory care by the Board.

[14-5A-20.] 14-5A-21.

(a) Unless authorized to practice respiratory care under this subtitle, a person may not represent to the public by title, by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise, that the person is authorized to practice respiratory care in this State.

(b) Unless authorized to practice respiratory care under this subtitle, a person may not use the abbreviation "R.C.P." or any other words, letters, or symbols with the intent to represent that the person practices respiratory care.

[14-5A-21.] 14-5A-22.

A person may not provide, attempt to provide, offer to provide, or represent that the person provides respiratory care unless the respiratory care is provided by an individual who is authorized to practice respiratory care under this subtitle.

[14-5A-22.] 14-5A-23.

(A) A person who violates any provision of this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding 1 year or both.

(B) ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES § 14-5A-21 OF THIS SUBTITLE IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$5,000 TO BE LEVIED BY THE BOARD.

(C) THE BOARD SHALL PAY ANY PENALTY COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION INTO THE BOARD OF PHYSICIAN QUALITY ASSURANCE FUND.

[14-5A-23.] 14-5A-24.

This subtitle may be cited as the "Maryland Respiratory Care Practitioners Act".

[14-5A-24.] 14-5A-25.

Subject to the evaluation and reestablishment provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act, this subtitle and all rules and regulations adopted under this subtitle shall terminate and be of no effect after July 1, 2006.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2001.

Approved May 15, 2001.