

Alphabet Soup!

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One can drown in all the initials!

If you are one that cannot tell the difference between the NBRC and the AARC, or the Arizona Board of Respiratory Care Examiners from the AzSRC Board of Directors, here are a few pointers to help you know what they are and how they affect you.

AARC: The American Association for Respiratory Care

(www.aarc.org)

- The official national respiratory care practitioner's professional organization that is over 50,000 members strong.
- With affiliate organizations in all 50 states
- Membership requires an approved application and annual dues.
- Provides professional journals and a multitude of other benefits.
- Provides the only voice for respiratory care practitioners in Washington, D.C. through its PAC (Political Action Committee)

AzSRC: The Arizona Society For Respiratory Care

(www.azsrc.org)

- A chartered affiliate of the AARC.
- Provides local activities and educational opportunities for respiratory care practitioners in Arizona.
- Membership is automatic upon obtaining membership with the AARC.
- Provides a voice for RCP's in the state of Arizona legislature through its lobbyist.

AzSRC Board of Directors

- This is the board elected by the active membership of the AzSRC.
- This board has no direct association with the Arizona Board of Respiratory Care Examiners.
- This board works within the confines of the chartered bylaws approved by the AARC.

The Arizona Board of Respiratory Care Examiners

(www.rb.state.az.us)

- The governing board that regulates the licensure of respiratory care practitioners in the state of Arizona.
- This Board's responsibility is to enforce statutes of Arizona law developed to protect the public from any harm brought about by a respiratory care practitioner.
- This Board was not developed to protect respiratory care practitioners' jobs, nor is it intended to be a voice for respiratory care practitioners.
- An application is required and a fee is charged for an initial state license. A renewal fee is charged every two years along with continuing education requirements.

NBRC: The National Board for Respiratory Care

(www.nbrc.org)

- The organization that provides the testing used to achieve various credentialing in the field of respiratory care, including CRT (Certified Respiratory Therapist), RRT (Registered Respiratory Therapists), and others.
- Although the CRT is the minimum requirement for licensure in most states, the NBRC has no affiliation with the various state boards.
- There are dues required if one wishes to remain as an "Active" member. Consult the website for more details.