



This standard of practice is to support the PSW in providing safe, respectful, and effective personal care to the public population in a dignified and ethical approach. Standards of Practice outline the expectations of the PSW and their responsibility in the delivery of care.

Oxygen Administration

The PSW may assist the nurse, respiratory therapist, or physiotherapist in positioning for postural drainage.

As a PSW, you do not administer oxygen. The RN / RPN and Respiratory Therapist are responsible for starting and maintaining a person(s) oxygen therapy. A PSW provides safe care to person(s) receiving oxygen.

Check with facility policy or with your employer regarding the delegation of adjusting a flow rate for oxygen.

PSW – Personal Support Worker

RN/RPN – Registered Nurse/ Registered Practical Nurse

RHPA – Regulated Health Professions Act

Resources - Sheila A. Sorrentino, PhD, RN, Leighann Remmert, MS, RN and Mary J. Wilk, RN, GNC(C), BA, BScN, MN, Mosby's Canadian Textbook for the Support Worker, 3rd Edition