

<b>Title</b>	<b>Describe the human respiratory system</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>3</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard can describe: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the structure and function of the human respiratory system; and</li> <li>the factors influencing respiratory function.</li> </ul>
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<b>Classification</b>	Health, Disability, and Aged Support > Core Health
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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### Guidance Information

- Assessment note**  
 Evidence generated for assessment against this standard must reflect descriptions and principles in, *Essentials of human anatomy and physiology*, or another current medical text that describes human anatomy.
- Reference**  
 Marieb, E.N. (2017). *Essentials of human anatomy and physiology, Global Edition* (12th ed.). Harlow, United Kingdom: Pearson Education Limited.

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### Outcomes and performance criteria

#### Outcome 1

Describe the structure and function of the human respiratory system.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 The structure and functions of the organs of respiration are identified and described.  
  
 Range            nose, pharynx, larynx, lungs, trachea, bronchi, bronchioles, alveoli.
- 1.2 The functions of the protective mechanisms of the respiratory system are described.  
  
 Range            mucous, cilia, epiglottis, cartilage, alveolar macrophages, cough reflex.

1.3 The mechanics of breathing are described.

Range cycle of respiration – inspiration, expiration;  
mechanics of – intercostal muscles, diaphragm, lung expansion  
and deflation, accessory muscles.

## Outcome 2

Describe the factors influencing respiratory function.

### Performance criteria

2.1 The effects of physical and emotional factors on respiratory rate and depth are described.

2.2 The effects of chemical factors on respiratory rate and depth are identified and described.

Range carbon dioxide, blood pH, oxygen.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2026
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### Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	23 October 1998	31 December 2012
Review	2	26 May 2004	31 December 2012
Review	3	20 March 2008	31 December 2012
Review	4	20 September 2012	31 December 2023
Rollover and Revision	5	26 September 2019	31 December 2023
Review	6	30 September 2021	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0024
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

### Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Careerforce [info@careerforce.org.nz](mailto:info@careerforce.org.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.