

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS
Needs Assessment for the Establishment of Master's degree
programs in Respiratory Care in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Table S1. Needs assessment and RTs' level of interest for establishing a master degree in RC in Saudi Arabia.

Level of agreement among RTs Respondents (n= 504)	SD	D	N	A	SA
Needs Assessment					
The current levels of training in Respiratory Care need more advancement to meet the needs of the society at the present time.	3 (1%)	17 (3%)	52 (10%)	157 (31%)	275 (55%)
The training and education that you received were not enough to manage all levels of Respiratory Care (including clinical, educational and research practices).	32 (6%)	79 (16%)	95 (19%)	146 (29%)	152 (30%)
In the future, the levels of current Respiratory Care education and training need to be advanced to meet the needs of the society.	7 (1%)	11 (2%)	49 (10%)	167 (33%)	270 (54%)
The level of education and training of Respiratory Care Profession should be advanced to include a graduate degree (Masters of Respiratory Care Science)	14 (3%)	22 (4%)	46 (9%)	138 (27%)	284 (56%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would advance the levels of knowledge of Respiratory Therapists	13 (3%)	12 (2%)	60 (12%)	141 (28%)	278 (55%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would increase the levels of technical, clinical and research skills of Respiratory therapists	12 (2%)	14 (3%)	48 (10%)	139 (28%)	291 (57%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would increase the levels of satisfaction of Respiratory Therapists	14 (3%)	12 (2%)	72 (14%)	129 (26%)	277 (55%)
There is a need in my organization for Respiratory Therapists with the knowledge, training and skills acquired by those who complete a Master degree in Respiratory Care program?	19 (4%)	31 (6%)	79 (16%)	152 (30%)	223 (44%)
Mean N (%)	14 (3%)	25 (5%)	63 (12%)	146 (29%)	256 (51%)
Level of interest in a Master degree in Respiratory Care					
I will apply for admission to the Master Degree program in Respiratory Care if it is launched within the next 1-3 years.	20 (4%)	13 (2%)	61 (12%)	104 (21%)	306 (61%)
I will help others applying for admission to the Master Degree program in Respiratory Care if it is launched within the next 1-3 years.	8 (2%)	8 (2%)	58 (11%)	135 (27%)	295 (58%)
Do you believe that the Master Degree in respiratory Care will advance your or others career opportunities?	13 (3%)	27 (5%)	51 (10%)	120 (24%)	293 (58%)
Would you recommend to others that they consider enrolling in the proposed Master Degree program?	9 (2%)	16 (3%)	65 (13%)	137 (27%)	277 (55%)
Mean N (%)	12 (2%)	16 (3%)	59 (12%)	124 (25%)	293 (58%)

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Table S2. Needs assessment and RTs leaders' level of interest for establishing a master degree in RC in Saudi Arabia.

Level of agreement among RTs HEADs Respondents (n= 138)	SD	D	N	A	SA
Needs Assessment (8 questions)					
The current levels of training in Respiratory Care need more advancement to meet the needs of the society at the present time.	4 (3%)	3 (2%)	9 (6%)	45 (33%)	77 (56%)
The training and education that you received were not enough to manage all levels of Respiratory Care (including clinical, educational and research practices).	13 (9%)	26 (19%)	25 (18%)	37 (27%)	37 (27%)
In the future, the levels of current Respiratory Care education and training need to be advanced to meet the needs of the society.	2 (1%)	2 (1%)	10 (7%)	58 (42%)	66 (48%)
The level of education and training of Respiratory Care Profession should be advanced to include a graduate degree (Masters of Respiratory Care Science)	2 (1%)	6 (4%)	8 (6%)	51 (37%)	71 (51%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would advance the levels of knowledge of Respiratory Therapists	3 (2%)	4 (3%)	8 (6%)	45 (33%)	78 (57%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would increase the levels of technical, clinical and research skills of Respiratory therapists	2 (1%)	4 (3%)	8 (6%)	43 (31%)	81 (59%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would increase the levels of satisfaction of Respiratory Therapists	2 (1%)	3 (2%)	14 (10%)	39 (28%)	80 (58%)
There is a need in my organization for Respiratory Therapists with the knowledge, training and skills acquired by those who complete a Master degree in Respiratory Care program?	5 (4%)	4 (3%)	12 (9%)	47 (34%)	70 (51%)
Mean N (%)	4 (3%)	7 (5%)	12 (9%)	46 (33%)	70 (51%)
Level of interest in a Master degree in Respiratory Care					
I will apply for admission to the Master Degree program in Respiratory Care if it is launched within the next 1-3 years.	9 (6%)	7 (5%)	17 (12%)	24 (17%)	81 (59%)
I will help others applying for admission to the Master Degree program in Respiratory Care if it is launched within the next 1-3 years.	2 (1%)	1 (1%)	8 (6%)	43 (31%)	84 (61%)
Do you believe that the Master Degree in respiratory Care will advance your or others career opportunities?	3 (2%)	4 (3%)	14 (10%)	39 (28%)	78 (57%)
Would you recommend to others that they consider enrolling in the proposed Master Degree program?	4 (3%)	2 (1%)	12 (9%)	41 (30%)	79 (57%)
Mean N (%)	5 (4%)	4 (3%)	13 (9%)	37 (27%)	81 (59%)

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Table S3. Needs assessment and academic respondents' level of interest for establishing a master degree in RC in Saudi Arabia.

Level of agreement among Academic Respondents (n= 61)	SD	D	N	A	SA
Needs Assessment					
The current levels of training in Respiratory Care need more advancement to meet the needs of the society at the present time.	3 (5%)	0	6 (10%)	14 (23%)	38 (62%)
The training and education that you received were not enough to manage all levels of Respiratory Care (including clinical, educational and research practices).	3 (5%)	5 (8%)	9 (15%)	22 (36%)	22 (36%)
In the future, the levels of current Respiratory Care education and training need to be advanced to meet the needs of the society.	2 (3%)	0	4 (7%)	21 (34%)	34 (56%)
The level of education and training of Respiratory Care Profession should be advanced to include a graduate degree (Masters of Respiratory Care Science)	2 (3%)	0	8 (13%)	11 (18%)	40 (66%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would advance the levels of knowledge of Respiratory Therapists	2 (2%)	0	9 (15%)	13 (21%)	37 (61%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would increase the levels of technical, clinical and research skills of Respiratory therapists	2 (3%)	1 (2%)	10 (16%)	11 (18%)	37 (61%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would increase the levels of satisfaction of Respiratory Therapists	2 (3%)	2 (3%)	9 (15%)	17 (28%)	31 (51%)
There is a need in my organization for Respiratory Therapists with the knowledge, training and skills acquired by those who complete a Master degree in Respiratory Care program?	2 (3%)	1 (2%)	7 (12%)	16 (26%)	35 (57%)
Mean N (%)	2 (3%)	1 (2%)	8 (13%)	16 (26%)	34 (56%)
Level of interest in a Master degree in Respiratory Care					
I will apply for admission to the Master Degree program in Respiratory Care if it is launched within the next 1-3 years.	6 (10%)	3 (5%)	16 (26%)	8 (13%)	28 (46%)
I will help others applying for admission to the Master Degree program in Respiratory Care if it is launched within the next 1-3 years.	2 (3%)	0	6 (10%)	15 (25%)	38 (62%)
Do you believe that the Master Degree in respiratory Care will advance your or others career opportunities?	2 (3%)	0	8 (13%)	17 (28%)	34 (56%)
Would you recommend to others that they consider enrolling in the proposed Master Degree program?	2 (3%)	0	6 (10%)	19 (31%)	34 (56%)
Mean N (%)	3 (5%)	1 (2%)	9 (15%)	15 (25%)	34 (56%)

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Table S4. Needs assessment and students' level of interest for establishing a master degree in RC in Saudi Arabia.

Level of agreement among Students Respondents (n= 547)	SD	D	N	A	SA
Needs Assessment					
The current levels of training in Respiratory Care need more advancement to meet the needs of the society at the present time.	2 (0.4%)	12 (2%)	45 (8%)	164 (30%)	324 (59%)
The training and education that you received were not enough to manage all levels of Respiratory Care (including clinical, educational and research practices).	17 (3%)	80 (15%)	131 (24%)	152 (28%)	167 (30%)
In the future, the levels of current Respiratory Care education and training need to be advanced to meet the needs of the society.	0	6 (1%)	44 (8%)	169 (31%)	328 (60%)
The level of education and training of Respiratory Care Profession should be advanced to include a graduate degree (Masters of Respiratory Care Science)	0	9 (2%)	38 (7%)	130 (23%)	370 (68%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would advance the levels of knowledge of Respiratory Therapists	0	7 (1%)	24 (5%)	115 (21%)	401 (73%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would increase the levels of technical, clinical and research skills of Respiratory therapists	0	4 (1%)	32 (6%)	119 (22%)	392 (71%)
A master's degree in Respiratory Care would increase the levels of satisfaction of Respiratory Therapists	0	7 (1%)	31 (6%)	146 (27%)	363 (66%)
There is a need in my organization for Respiratory Therapists with the knowledge, training and skills acquired by those who complete a Master degree in Respiratory Care program?	4 (1%)	14 (2%)	84 (15%)	162 (30%)	283 (52%)
Mean N (%)	3 (0.5%)	17 (3%)	54 (10%)	145 (27%)	329 (60%)
Level of interest in a Master degree in Respiratory Care					
I will apply for admission to the Master Degree program in Respiratory Care if it is launched within the next 1-3 years.	4 (1%)	11 (2%)	55 (10%)	118 (22%)	359 (65%)
I will help others applying for admission to the Master Degree program in Respiratory Care if it is launched within the next 1-3 years.	0	3 (1%)	48 (9%)	145 (26%)	351 (64%)
Do you believe that the Master Degree in respiratory Care will advance your or others career opportunities?	0	10 (2%)	32 (6%)	109 (20%)	396 (72%)
Would you recommend to others that they consider enrolling in the proposed Master Degree program?	3 (1%)	0	40 (7%)	145 (26%)	359 (66%)
Mean N (%)	2 (0.4%)	6 (1%)	44 (8%)	129 (23%)	366 (67%)