



## Excellence in Action

### Advancement through Research

A success story from our Merritt Island, FL  
Team as told by Wendy Underwood, COTA/L



While doing some personal research, I found information on the intrapulmonary percussive ventilator (IPV) and felt this was something I should share with my facility DON and administrator.

After sharing the research with my administrative staff, they were on board to acquire this device to help improve outcomes for their patients. The rounding pulmonologist was especially excited as they will be able to decrease the risk of pulmonary patients coming and going to the hospital.

In general, the IPV is a pneumatic positive pressure device used to move mucus. It sends small, fast bursts of air that open the airways, which loosen and free mucus from the airway walls. It works like chest physical therapy, but does not require rigid positioning for it to be effective.

This is an out of the box idea as we prepare for how to best care for our medically complex patients as the industry changes occur. The benefit to the population we serve is great, and the potential is there to help many other residents across the country.

The IPV has great potential as a tool for compromised respiratory patients. It can help decrease hospital readmissions as well as develop a specialty that is appealing to hospitals looking to establish partnerships with SNFs in the near future.

***“The rounding pulmonologist was especially excited as they will be able to decrease the risk of his pulmonary patients returning in and out of the hospital.”***

***Stay tuned for next month’s Excellence in Action Story from more of our teams in the field!***