

## Active Cycle of Breathing Technique

Medications prior to this technique:

Position(s):\_\_\_\_\_

## ACBT Steps:

- 1. Relax and take some quiet breaths, as instructed, until you feel ready to begin
- 2. Take a slow, deep breath into your lower chest as instructed (keeping your shoulders and neck relaxed)
- 3. When your lungs feel full of air, hold your breath for\_\_\_\_\_\_ seconds
- 4. Relax and let the air out of your lungs (either through your mouth or your nose)
- 5. Take \_\_\_\_\_ more slow deep breaths (as in Step 2)
- 6. Relax and breathe quietly until you feel ready to continue
- 7. If prescribed, repeat steps 2, 3 and 4
- 8. Huff \_\_\_\_\_\_ times (with / without the tube in your mouth) as instructed
- 9. Breathe quietly
- 10. Cough (do not keep coughing if your cough is dry)

An irritable cough can usually be settled by a drink or sucking on a lozenge.

Repeat the cycle above if you feel that there are more secretions in your lungs.

Repeat this cycle\_\_\_\_\_ times per day.

If you have a chest infection, it is advisable to use this technique more frequently.