

UW HEALTH JOB DESCRIPTION

Senior Registered Dietitian Nutritionist

Job Code: 430027A 430027B 430027C	FLSA Status: Exempt	Mgt. Approval: M. Waltz, D. Meier	Date: January 2024
Department: Multiple		HR Approval: S. Whitlock	Date: January 2024

JOB SUMMARY

The Senior Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (Sr RDN) provides specialized nutrition consultation and education for patients and their families and specializes in an area of nutrition practice that requires additional training to obtain a specialist certification in a clinical nutrition-related topic. The certification enables the Nutritionist to write orders to titrate medications to assist in disease management or medical care under the direction of delegation protocols. The Senior Registered Dietitian Nutritionist provides specialized medical nutrition therapy to populations for nutrition-related problems, chronic disease management, and management of nutrition support to meet regulatory requirements or for prevention and wellness. The Senior RDN is a content expert in their area of specialization and is an integral part of the multidisciplinary team who serves as the patient's nutrition advocate. The Sr RDN ensures that the patient's nutrition needs are being met, including when nutrition support (enteral or parenteral) initiation and/or management is necessary, during patient care, and during clinic visits and/or unit/clinic rounds. Primary responsibilities include the application of the Nutrition Care Process (NCP), including completion of the nutrition assessment, determination of the nutrition diagnosis, developing and implementing evidence-based nutrition intervention(s), monitoring and evaluating the patient's progress, and communicating the nutrition care plan with other members of the care team through effective verbal and written communication. The nutrition assessment may include nutrition-focused physical exam, identification and documentation of malnutrition, and care plan development for patients with complex medical, surgical, and biochemical histories. The Sr RDN provides evidence-based medical nutrition therapy to patients of varying acuity levels, including management of medications when delegated authority by the primary service, per delegation protocols.

The Sr RDN works independently and performs business and supervisory functions, such as management of resources in a cost-effective manner, and participates in compliance and quality performance improvement efforts to ensure nutrition care is safe and effective. The Sr RDN oversees the experiences for dietetic interns and is involved in education of physicians, residents, medical students, and other health professionals as requested via lectures, in-service opportunities, and team conferences and contributes to the development and revision of organizational policies and guidelines. The Sr RDN maintains professional competency and skills required for professional practice.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conduct comprehensive nutrition assessments that consider other chronic conditions, social determinants of health, and culture utilizing the Nutrition Care Process.
- Integrate skills and knowledge of pathophysiology, epidemiology, clinical management, cardiometabolic condition, and self-management of the medical condition into clinical practice.
- Provide education to patient, families, and caregivers related to disease, medical therapy, medication management, and healthy lifestyle, including meal planning, physical activity, mental health, and complication prevention and personal monitoring of disease or illness.
- Monitor patient's disease status through assessment of laboratory data and routine testing to ensure patient receives safe and timely care in collaboration with the medical providers.
- Titrate medications and order additional testing or consultations in accordance with applicable delegation protocols using UW Health clinical practice tools.
- Develop and review evidence-based educational curriculum for patients and other members of the healthcare team for area of specialization.
- Assist in the review and/or development of clinical practice guidelines, policies, and procedures for the nutrition management of the patient population and serve as the content expert.
- Follow national practice guidelines set forth by population specific associations or societies that align with credential specialization.
- Serve as a point of contact and content expert for specialty care area of practice, including training to other RDNs specializing in the same practice area of medical nutrition therapy.
- Participate and/or lead quality improvement and research projects to meet and improve standards of care.

Performs other related duties as required.

ALL DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS MUST BE PERFORMED CONSISTENT WITH THE UW HEALTH PERFORMANCE

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STANDARDS.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Education	Minimum	Bachelor's Degree in Nutrition or related field
	Preferred	Master's Degree in Nutrition or related field
Work Experience	Minimum	Two (2) years of clinical and nutrition related experience
	Preferred	Three (3) years of clinical and nutrition related experience
Licenses & Certifications	Minimum	Please see license and certification table below
	Preferred	Maintain CPR certification
On Call Requirements		Weekend and holiday rotation for inpatient locations
Required Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the Nutrition Care Process and ability to apply all steps • Comprehensive knowledge and application of medical nutrition therapy, human behavior, and techniques for affecting behavior change • Comprehensive knowledge and application of nutrition support services • Critical thinking to integrate facts, informed opinions, active listening, and observations • Decision making, problem solving, and collaboration skills • Excellent counseling skills and ability to relate to a multi-ethnic community and varied learning levels • Strong interpersonal skills to establish productive working relationships with multidisciplinary team and support services • Ability to communicate effectively in both written and verbal form to patients, public, medical staff, and physicians • Ability to organize tasks and function independently • Ability to counsel and motivate others, as individuals and as a group • General knowledge of nutrient analysis, word processing, spreadsheet, and professional presentation software

AGE SPECIFIC COMPETENCY (Clinical jobs only)

Identify age-specific competencies for direct and indirect patient care providers who regularly assess, manage and treat patients.

Instructions: Indicate the age groups of patients served either by direct or indirect patient care by checking the appropriate boxes below. Next,

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Infants (Birth – 11 months)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Adolescent (13 – 19 years)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Toddlers (1 – 3 years)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Young Adult (20 – 40 years)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Preschool (4 – 5 years)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Middle Adult (41 – 65 years)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School Age (6 – 12 years)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Older Adult (Over 65 years)

JOB FUNCTIONS

Review the employee's job description and identify each essential function that is performed differently based on the age group of the patient.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Indicate the appropriate physical requirements of this job in the course of a shift. *Note: reasonable accommodations may be made available for individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this position.*

Physical Demand Level		Occasional Up to 33% of the time	Frequent 34%-66% of the time	Constant 67%-100% of the time
	Sedentary: Ability to lift up to 10 pounds maximum and occasionally lifting and/or carrying such articles as docket, ledgers and small tools. Although a sedentary job is defined as one, which involves sitting, a certain amount of walking and standing is often necessary in carrying out job duties. Jobs are sedentary if walking and standing are required only occasionally and other sedentary criteria are met.	Up to 10#	Negligible	Negligible
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Light: Ability to lift up to 20 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 10 pounds. Even though the weight lifted may only be a negligible amount,	Up to 20#	Up to 10# or requires significant walking or standing, or	Negligible or constant push/pull of items of negligible weight

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a job is in this category when it requires walking or standing to a significant degree.		requires pushing/pulling of arm/leg controls	
Medium: Ability to lift up to 50 pounds maximum with frequent lifting/and or carrying objects weighing up to 25 pounds.	20-50#	10-25#	Negligible-10#
Heavy: Ability to lift up to 100 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying objects weighing up to 50 pounds.	50-100#	25-50#	10-20#
Very Heavy: Ability to lift over 100 pounds with frequent lifting and/or carrying objects weighing over 50 pounds.	Over 100#	Over 50#	Over 20#
List any other physical requirements or bona fide occupational qualifications:			

Note: The purpose of this document is to describe the general nature and level of work performed by personnel so classified; it is not intended to serve as an inclusive list of all responsibilities associated with this position.

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS			
Job Title	Job Code	Department	License/Certifications
Senior Registered Dietitian Nutritionist	430027A	3042065 – Clinical Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Dietitian Nutritionist as delineated by the Commission on Dietetic Registration • Certified Dietitian in the State of Wisconsin • Certified Nutrition Support Clinician (CNSC)
	430027B	3030168 Clinics – Diabetes Education 3030123 Clinics - Endocrinology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Dietitian Nutritionist as delineated by the Commission on Dietetic Registration • Certified Dietitian in the State of Wisconsin • Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist (CDCES) or Certified Nutrition Support Clinician (CNSC) or Board Certified-Advanced Diabetes Management (BC-ADM)
	430027C	3042065 – Clinical Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Dietitian Nutritionist as delineated by the Commission on Dietetic Registration • Certification/Licensure as required by the State of Wisconsin. • Illinois Licensed Dietetic Nutritionist credential for interstate practice as required by the State of Illinois for RDNs in the ambulatory setting within 3 months of employment • Certified Nutrition Support Clinician (CNSC)