

Position Summary Description

Position Title: Clinical Dietitian
(X) Non-Exempt / Hourly () Exempt / Salaried

Department: Dietary

Reports To: Director of FNS

Date Written: October 16, 2000 **Revised:** _4/09__

I. JOB SUMMARY

The Registered Dietitian plans, directs, and provides nutritional care to patients, conducts nutrition assessments.

II. ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Provides care for the Adult or Geriatric patient, ages 18 and over.
- Reviews and documents medical orders for all patient diets.
- Calculates diets for diabetic patients and other therapeutic diets.
- Documents appropriately in the patient medical record after each patient contact.
- Serves as nutrition resource person for medical, nursing staff, and food service staff as requested.
- Calculates enteral and parenteral feeding requirements for all patients who require it.
- Supervises all nutritional aspects of patient care.
- Communicates on a regular basis with the Chief Clinical Dietitian to identify areas of concern and determine appropriate interventions.
- Maintains professional growth and development through seminars, conferences, and professional affiliations.
- Conducts nutritional assessments on all new patients as assigned and completes periodic reassessments as indicated.

II. REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Must have thorough knowledge of nutrition and dietetics and the administration/operation of hospital food services.

- Must be familiar with various teaching methods and possess a thorough knowledge of theories and practices of dietetics. This knowledge should include, but is not limited to, human physiology, nutritional requirements of adult and geriatric patients with various disease states, and food sanitation principles as identified through HACCP.
- Must have the ability to maintain good working relations among personnel. Good communication skills required when working with persons of other departments, other hospital and/or professional organizations, and physicians.
- Assists as needed in nutritional care assessments, screening and education of patients.
- Considerable initiative and professional judgement required in the scientific planning of individually prescribed diets, planning work sequences, and selecting most suitable methods or procedures.

III. PHYSICAL/MENTAL DEMANDS

- The ability to lift, carry, push, pull, or otherwise move objects weighing up to ten (10) pounds. Employee will be standing and walking intermittently during the day. Primary amount of work is sedentary.
- Talking and the ability to express and exchange ideas by means of language.
- Hearing and the ability to perceive the nature of sounds.
- Near acuity with clarity of vision at 20 inches or less required.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL/WORKING CONDITIONS

- Working long hours (> 4 hours) between breaks and meals may be required.
- Ability to work under and handle stress in an appropriate manner required.
- May be exposed to low, medium, or high noise intensity.
- Will be in constant contact with co-workers. Will have constant contact with patients and their families.
- May be exposed to fluctuations in temperature.
- May have minimal exposure to blood, body fluids, or tissues. The normal work routine involves minimal exposure to blood, body fluids, or tissues.

V. MACHINERY/TOOLS/EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Computer
- Printer
- Fax machine
- Copy machine
- Hand calculator

VI. EDUCATIONAL/EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- Must have at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
- Must possess current registration through the Commission on Dietetic Registration and current Dietetic Licensure in the state of Texas. Current member of the American Dietetic Association preferred.
- Three years of experience in clinical field is preferred.

A review of this position description may have excluded some of the marginal functions of the position that are incidental to the performance of fundamental job duties. This position description in no way states or implies that these are the only duties to be performed by the employee in this position. Employees will be required to follow any other job related instructions and to perform any other job related duties requested by their supervisors.