



DEPARTMENTAL POLICY & PROCEDURE

Entity Name & Region: Clinical Nutrition Services-WR

Subject: Referral System For Clinical Dietitian Consultation

Original Date: Version 1 August 2010

Effective: August 2012

Reference: 028010-04 Version-7

Replaces Number: NUT-01-01-09 Version-6

Targeted Employees/Departments: Clinical Dietitians, Nursing Staff & Medical Staff

1. Purpose:

1.1 To meet the nutritional needs of the patient by addressing nutrition related problems and providing safe and effective quality nutrition care.

2. Definitions:

2.1 Nutrition Care Process (NCP): is a systematic problem solving method that dietetic professionals use to critically think and make decisions to address nutrition related problems and provide safe and effective quality nutrition care.

2.2 Nutrition Assessment: is the systematic process of obtaining, verifying and interpreting data (laboratory results, anthropometric, physical, and dietary) in order to make decisions about the nature and cause of nutrition-related problems.

2.3 Nutrition Screening: is an interdisciplinary process that involves the gathering of pre-established data from the patient medical record, computer, or by brief patient interview. The collected data is then evaluated to determine whether the patient is nutritionally compromised or at risk for malnutrition, based on the criteria developed by the dietitian and the interdisciplinary care team.

2.4 QCPR: QuadraMed Computerized Patient Record

3. Policy Statements:

3.1 Referring a patient to the Clinical Dietitian is based on the patient's nutritional status and need for continuing nutrition care or services.

4. Procedures:

4.1 On initial assessment, the patient is screened by Nursing Staff to identify who is at nutritional risk (refer to attached Nutrition Screening).

4.2 Patients at nutritional risk are referred to the Clinical Dietitian for further assessment to identify nutritional needs.



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4.3 Official Nutrition consultation/referral order should be initiated via the electronic system (QCPR) through the Order Entry functionality-“Nutritional Referral”.

4.4 Nutrition Consultation/Referral for (In- Patients):

4.4.1 All in- patients for Nutrition Consultation/Referral shall be ordered via QCPR by the Nursing Staff from 8:00 hours – 16:00 hours. Beyond these hours, such referral will be seen by the Clinical Dietitian on the next working day (*except week-ends*).

4.4.2 All In- patients for nutrition referral on the day of discharge specifically beyond 8:00 – 16:00 hours should be provided with an OPD appointment to be seen in the Dietetics Clinic.

4.5. Nutrition Consultation/Referral for In- Patients during Week-ends (Thursday & Friday):

4.5.1 Week-end, (On Call) Clinical Dietitian is responsible for Nutrition Consult/Referral by contacting via paging system, (Bleep Number is 1538).

4.5.2 Urgent cases for Consultation/Royal Family patients will be attended by the Clinical Dietitian from 08:00 hours – 16:00 hours as ordered by the physician.

4.6 Nutrition Consultation/Referral for Out- Patients:

4.6.1 For all Out-patients for nutrition referral, the Physician will complete the Clinical Nutrition Referral Form.

4.7 The Clinical Dietitian will plan for patient’s nutrition therapy and monitor, complete and record the patient’s progress in his or her medical record.

4.8 Physicians, nurses, dietetics service, and when appropriate, the patient’s family, collaborate to plan and to provide nutrition therapy.

5. Equipments/Forms:

5.1 Out-Patient Appointment Slip

5.2 Clinical Dietitian’s Referral



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5.3 QCPR System

6. Related References:

6.1 The applicable standard: Joint Commission International Accreditation Standards for Hospitals (JCIA), Fourth (4) Edition, 2011.

7. Appendices:

None

8. Recommendations:

None