



Georgia Department of Public Health WIC Dietetic Internship Program Acute Care Clinical Rotation Description

In the acute care setting, interns will provide nutritional care to a population living with a wide variety of conditions, which may include obesity, HIV/AIDS, cancer, and diseases of the cardiovascular, neurologic, hepatic, gastrointestinal, hematologic, endocrine, pulmonary, and immune systems. Interns will apply their medical nutrition therapy knowledge and skills of the Nutrition Care Process by reading and interpreting computerized medical records, screening and assessing patients, diagnosing nutritional problems, using the nutrition care process, planning and implementing nutrition interventions, establishing goals, monitoring and evaluating patients' progress toward nutritional goals, conducting meal rounds, providing nutrition education to patients and/or caregivers, and arranging for follow-up nutritional care as needed.

Interns will review patients' current and past medications, identify potential drug-nutrient interactions, and provide food-drug education as needed. Interns will select and implement tube feeding formula for patients requiring enteral nutrition support, monitor tolerance, and assist with transition to long-term feeding regimen.

The interns presence in the patient-care areas and attendance at interdisciplinary rounds will allow interaction and collaboration with a variety of professionals (e.g., physicians, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists) to discuss patient treatment and discharge planning.

Before the rotation:

1. Contact clinical preceptor two weeks before the start of the rotation to arrange the clinical rotation schedule.
2. Complete the pre-rotation clinical modules.

Length of rotation: Varies – depends on clinical placements as the intern may have other clinical rotations such as pediatrics, diabetes, bariatric, long term care, etc.

Standard hours: To be determined by rotation preceptor.

Expectations:

1. Interns have completed all clinical pre-rotation modules entirely before the first day of the clinical rotation.
2. Interns will meet with preceptor on the first day of rotation to review and complete the orientation checklist and rotation goals forms.
3. Interns will abide by all internship and facility policies.

Resources needed for rotation:

1. Calculator and black ink pen.
2. *Food Medication Interaction Handbook, Nutrition Assessment Pocket Guide and Nutrition Care Process Pocket Guide, Nutrition and Diagnosis Related Care Textbook, Nutrition Diagnosis and Intervention: Standardized Language for the Nutrition Care Process, Nutrition Therapy & Pathophysiology, 2nd Edition.*
3. Completed pre-rotation clinical modules.



4. Computer and Internet access.
5. Transportation.

Activities:

1. Conduct a clinical quality improvement study.
2. Perform nutrition care process (NCP) on a variety of patients including diabetes, overweight, obesity, cancer, cardiovascular disease, gastrointestinal disorders, respiratory, enteral/parenteral feeding etc. in a variety of population groups (men, women, geriatric, adult, etc., as available).
3. Participate in interdisciplinary meetings.
4. Develop, adapt, and/or review educational materials.
5. Complete a case study.
6. Provide staff relief toward the end of the rotation.

Learning Objectives:

1. The intern will be able to utilize technology to access credible scientific sources to research nutrition related questions and apply evidence-based guidelines.
2. The intern will be able to appropriately develop or adapt credible educational materials based on the needs of a target audience.
3. The intern will be able to appropriately complete nutrition assessments, distinguish nutrition diagnoses, plan nutrition interventions, and identify parameters to monitor intervention success.
4. The intern will be able to use motivational interviewing techniques to effectively counsel, educate, and facilitate behavior change of target audience.
5. Intern will be able to confidently and effectively work as part of an interdisciplinary care team to provide high quality patient care.
6. The intern will be able to work independently and competently in the role of a registered dietitian.
7. The intern will be able to conduct quality monitoring activities, analyze results, and make recommendations for improvement.

Competencies:

1. CRD 1.1: Select indicators of program quality and/or customer service and measure achievement objectives
2. CRD 1.2: Apply evidence-based guidelines, systematic reviews, and scientific literature (such as the *Academy's Evidence Analysis Library and Evidence-based Nutrition Practice Guidelines*, the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* and the *U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, National Guideline Clearinghouse* Web sites) in the nutrition care process and model and other areas of dietetics practice
3. CRD 1.3: Justify programs, products, services and care using appropriate evidence or data
4. CRD 1.4: Evaluate emerging research for application in dietetics practice

5. CRD 1.5: Conduct projects using appropriate research methods, ethical procedures, and data analysis
6. CRD 2.1: Practice in compliance with current federal regulations and state statutes and rules, as applicable and in accordance with accreditation standards and the *Scope of Dietetics Practice and Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics*
7. CRD 2.2: Demonstrate professional writing skills in preparing professional communications
8. CRD 2.3: Design, implement, and evaluate presentations to a target audience
9. CRD 2.5: Demonstrate active participation, teamwork, and contributions in group settings
10. CRD 2.6: Assign patient care activities to registered dietetic technicians (DTRs) and support personnel as appropriate
11. CRD 2.7: Refer clients and patients to other professionals and services when needs are beyond individual scope of practice
12. CRD 2.8: Apply leadership skills to achieve desired outcomes
13. CRD 2.10: Establish collaborative relationships with other health professionals and support personnel to deliver effective nutrition services
14. CRD 2.11: Demonstrate professional attributes within various organizational cultures
15. CRD 2.13: Demonstrate negotiation skills
16. CRD 3.1: Perform the Nutrition Care Process (a through e below) and use standardized nutrition language for individuals, groups and populations of differing ages and health status, in a variety of settings
 - a. Assess the nutritional status of individuals, groups, and populations in a variety of settings where nutrition care is or can be delivered
 - b. Diagnose nutrition problems and create problem, etiology, signs, and symptoms (PES) statements
 - c. Plan and implement nutrition interventions to include prioritizing the nutrition diagnosis
 - d. Monitor and evaluate problems, etiologies, signs, symptoms, and the impact of interventions on the nutrition diagnosis
 - e. Complete documentation that follows professional guidelines, guidelines required by the health care systems, and guidelines required by the practice setting
17. CRD 3.2: Demonstrate effective communication skills for clinical and customer services in a variety of formats
18. CRD 3.3: Develop and deliver products, programs or services that promote consumer health, wellness, and lifestyle management
19. CRD 3.4: Deliver respectful, science-based answers to consumer questions concerning emerging health trends
20. CRD 4.4: Conduct clinical and customer service quality management activities
21. CRD 4.5: Use current informatics technology to develop, store, retrieve, and disseminate information and data
22. CRD 4.6: Analyze quality, financial or productivity data and develop a plan for intervention



Evaluation:

1. Interns will be evaluated by the preceptor mid-way through the rotation using the DPH WIC Dietetic Internship midpoint evaluation form.
2. Intern activities and assignments will be evaluated by the preceptor using specific activity rubrics or grading definitions included in final evaluation form.
3. Interns will be given a final evaluation at the end of the rotation using the DPH WIC Dietetic Internship final evaluation form.
4. The final evaluation form will include grades from all activities/assignments as well as a review of professionalism parameters.

After the rotation:

1. Submit electronically to DPH WIC Dietetic Internship Program Director:
 - a. Signed and dated rotation orientation checklist.
 - b. Completed signed and dated rotation goals and reflections form.
 - c. Documentation from all activities and assignments.
 - d. All signed and dated activity logs for the entire rotation.
 - e. Completed, signed, and dated rotation hours' summary form.
 - f. Completed and signed rotation final evaluation form.