



Georgia Department of Public Health Dietetic Internship

Clinical Rotation Description

Clinical Rotation: In the acute care setting, interns will provide nutritional care to a population living with a wide variety of conditions, including 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 daily 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 module

Length of rotation: 12 - 18 weeks (288 - 432 hours) – depends on clinical placements as the intern may have other clinical rotations such as pediatrics, diabetes, bariatric, long term care, etc.

Standard hours: TBD 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 discuss the preceptor/intern task list and pre rotation clinical modules
3. Interns will abide by all internship 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 module
4. Computer and internet access

Learning Objectives:

1. The intern will be able to utilize technology to access credible scientific sources to research nutrition related question 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 appropriately review and critique documentation of nutrition care in patient records
7. The intern will be able to work independently and competently in the role of an RD

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 2.4: Use effective education and counseling skills to facilitate behavior change
10. CRD 2.5: Demonstrate active participation, teamwork, and contributions in group settings
11. CRD 2.6: Assign patient care activities to DTRs and support personnel as appropriate
12. CRD 2.7: Refer clients and patients to other professionals and services when needs are beyond individual scope of practice
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 2.12: Perform self assessment, develop goals and objectives and prepare a draft portfolio for professional development as defined by the Commission on Dietetics Registration
16. CRD 2.13: Demonstrate negotiation skills
17. 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



18. CRD 3.2: Demonstrate effective communication skills for clinical and customer services in a variety of formats
19. CRD 3.3: Develop and deliver products, programs or services that promote consumer health, wellness, and lifestyle management
20. CRD 3.4: Deliver respectful, science-based answers to consumer questions concerning emerging health trends
21. CRD 4.4: Conduct clinical and customer service quality management activities
22. CRD 4.5: Use current informatics technology to develop, store, retrieve and disseminate information and data

Evaluation – Interns will be evaluated by the clinical preceptor mid-way through the rotation using the GDPH DI midpoint evaluation form. Intern activities and assignments will be evaluated by the preceptor using activity specific grading rubrics or grading definitions included in final evaluation form. Interns will be given a final evaluation at the end of the rotation using the GDPH DI final evaluation form. 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 DI Program Director
 - a. Completed clinical pre-rotation module
 - b. Signed and dated clinical rotation orientation check list
 - c. Completed signed and dated clinical rotation goals and reflections form
 - d. All signed and dated activity logs for the entire clinical rotation
 - e. Completed, signed and dated clinical rotation hours summary form
 - f. Clinical research report, completed and dated and signed clinical research assignment grading rubric
 - g. Sample of the education material adapted or developed, bibliography, summary report, and completed/signed Education Materials Development/Adaptation grading rubric
 - h. Copy of each passing NCP (with client identifiers removed), along with a copy of each grading rubric completed, signed and dated
 - i. Completed, graded and signed clinical rotation interviewing and counseling evaluation form for each satisfactory session along with the clinical rotation nutrition counseling self evaluation form for each satisfactory session
 - j. Written summaries of interdisciplinary care team meetings
 - k. Copy of the typed case study and the completed and signed case study guideline form
 - l. Completed, graded and signed clinical chart audit tool, written report and grading rubric
 - m. Completed and signed Staff Relief Evaluation form
 - n. Completed and signed clinical rotation final evaluation form
 - o. Completed Professional Development Portfolio module