



POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Community Dietitian – Diabetes & COPD

RESPONSIBLE TO: Health Wellness Director

GENERAL ACCOUNTABILITES:

The Community Dietitian – Diabetes & COPD serves as a champion of the Health Centre’s Vision and Mission and promotes an environment that is consistent to the Organization’s Statement of Values and Principles. The Community Dietitian – Diabetes & COPD is an essential member of the client-centred health professional Team. The Community Dietitian – Diabetes & COPD will work with the other members of the Health Centre’s teams to effectively and efficiently serve Health Centre clients through traditional, non- traditional and innovative approaches to service delivery within the broad determinants of health framework.

SUMMARY OF FUNCTIONS:

As a member of an interdisciplinary team, the Diabetes& COPD Community Dietitian plans and directs the nutritional care of Health Centre patients/Clients, and participates in community health education to promote better nutrition. The Diabetes& COPD Community Dietitian will deliver diabetes respiratory education and chronic disease management according to best practice guidelines. Diabetes& COPD Community Dietitian’s approach to client care is evidenced based and innovative and utilizes current therapeutic techniques within the determinants of health framework. This position works within an inter-professional team-based model in terms of both the clinical practice and program planning aspects of its responsibilities. A systems perspective and attention to continuous quality improvement are essential to the success of this position.

SPECIFIC ACCOUNTABILITIES:

A. HEALTH PROMOTION

1. Facilitator, leader and resource for programs such as Caring for My COPD, prenatal and diabetes education classes and community kitchens
2. Identifies barriers to food access and nutrition information and facilitates initiatives to improve nutrition with clients living with diabetes and COPD.
3. Obtains or develops, and evaluates nutrition education resources to meet the needs of program clients.
4. Participates in health promotion activities, outreach, programs, and advocacy.
5. Develops and maintains networks within the community.
6. Recruits the participation of Health Centre clients in Health Centre activities, programming and policy decision.

B. CLIENT CARE

1. Integral member of the interdisciplinary diabetes and Caring for My COPD teams.
2. Assess the Health Centre clients’ nutritional status by gaining an understanding of food habits or preferences, socio-economic and cultural background, psychological factors and medical profile.
3. Develops, implements and evaluates with the patient/client their individualized care plan, considering literacy level and relevant cultural and psychosocial factors.

4. Provides consultation and/or resources to other team members on nutrition issues.
5. Ensure continuity of care by maintaining up-to-date clinical records, monitoring clients on a regular basis, and case conferencing with other members of the health care team as required.

C. EDUCATION, EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

1. Provides consultation to team members, community groups and organizations, and students on placement.
2. Plans for individual and team learning based on needs for quality improvement.
3. Maintains professional competency.
4. Participates in the Health Centre's performance enhancement process.
5. Other duties as assigned.

SPECIFIC TARGETS:

All Community Dietitians will have a target of seven (7) clients seen (units of service) per full clinical day worked. The average appointment length will be 60 minutes or less with the exception appointments where an interpreter is engaged or when examinations and procedures require more time. Time will be scheduled for non-direct client care as needed and activity will be encountered in the EMR.

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Professional background in community nutrition and clinical counseling.
2. Knowledge of and sensitivity to the impact of social, economic, environmental and cultural issues in diet and nutrition.
3. Appreciation of current health promotion strategies and commitment to a health promotion and community development philosophy.
4. Experience and knowledge working with populations living with chronic disease especially people living with diabetes and respiratory disease.
5. Proficiency in group facilitation and education.
6. Demonstrated ability to work effectively on an interdisciplinary team and within a participatory management structure.
7. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.
8. Demonstrated computer skills.
9. Baccalaureate degree in foods and nutrition from a recognized university.
10. Completion of Dietitians of Canada accredited Dietetic Internship program or equivalent approved experience.
11. Member in good standing (or eligible for membership) with the College of Dietitians of Ontario.

I understand the requirements, essential functions and duties of the position.

Employee Signature

Date:

Revised: November 2014