Objectives

- Describe the purpose of each component of the Comprehensive Scope of Practice Resource for the RD/RDN and DTR
- Utilize the scope of practice documents for self-assessment to determine competence and how to advance practice
- Utilize the online interactive Scope of Practice Decision Tool to determine if an activity is within an RD’s/RDN’s or DTR’s individual scope of practice

Published in June 2013!

Published as a Supplement to the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

“Comprehensive Scope of Practice Resources for the Registered Dietitian or Registered Dietitian Nutritionist”

and

“Comprehensive Scope of Practice Resources for the Dietetic Technician, Registered”
What do these Resources do?

- Provide an overview of the profession
- Outline practice standards, practice management and advancement, and practice resources
- Detail roles and activities in which the RD or RDN and DTR performs

Code of Ethics

Principle #14-
The dietetics practitioner assumes a life-long responsibility and accountability for personal competence in practice, consistent with accepted professional standards, continually striving to increase professional knowledge and skills and to apply them in practice.

Comprehensive Scope of Practice

Resource Components:
- Scope of Practice in Nutrition and Dietetics
- Scope of Practice for the RD
- Revised 2012 Standards of Practice (SOP) in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for RDs
- Scope of Practice for the DTR
- Revised 2012 SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for DTRs
- Scope of Practice Decision Tool
- Definition of Terms
Resource Components

Let’s Review!

Scope of Practice in Nutrition and Dietetics

RD or RDN Scope of Practice

Describes the range of roles and activities within which the RD or RDN performs

- Must be consistent with statutory and individual scope of practice
Arizona Statutory Scope of Practice

• Currently, Arizona has no statutory scope of practice for RDs or RDNs or DTRs

• However, every RD or RDN, and DTR has an individual scope of practice
  • An individual scope of practice is fluid and can change as the knowledge and skills of the practitioner change

RD or RDN Scope of Practice

If there is no statutory scope of practice; i.e., state law, the information within the Scope of Practice for the RD/RDN and DTR may assist you in identifying activities that may be permitted within your individual scope of practice.

RDs or RDNs only practice in areas in which they are qualified and demonstrate competence in the delivery of food and nutrition services.
RD or RDN Scope of Practice

RDs or RDNs provide Medical Nutrition Therapy

- cost-effective, essential component of comprehensive nutrition care of medical diseases and conditions

Medical Nutrition Therapy is an evidenced-based application of the Nutrition Care Process (NCP)

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RD or RDN Scope of Practice

RDs or RDNs are ultimately accountable and responsible for nutrition care provided to individuals

- RDs or RDNs may assign tasks within the Nutrition Care Process to administrative and technical support personnel
- RDs or RDNs are accountable and responsible to patients/clients, physicians, regulators, accrediting organizations, and employers for actions assigned to others

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RD or RDN Scope of Practice

• How many of you work in hospitals?

• How many of you have clinical privileges in the hospital in which you work?

➢ CMS Proposed Rule (Feb 4, 2013) is now a Final Rule; effective date of May 12, 2014
➢ Allows RDs/RDNs with clinical privileges in their hospital to order for patient diets independently
Let’s Review

Revised 2012 Standards of Practice in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance

SOP and SOPP
Standards of Practice (SOP) in Nutrition Care for Registered Dietitians or Registered Dietitian Nutritionists and Dietetic Technicians, Registered and Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for Registered Dietitians or Registered Dietitian Nutritionists and Dietetic Technicians, Registered

• Identify the minimum competent level of nutrition and dietetics practice and professional performance for RDs or RDNs and DTRs
• Self-assess RD or RDN and DTR practice and performance
• Measure quality and performance improvement through outcomes examples
• Utilize quality indicators for practice and performance
• Direct the RD or RDN and DTR to incorporate the Dietetics Career Development Guide

SOP
Apply to RDs or RDNs and DTRs in direct patient/client care
• Based on the Nutrition Care Process
  • Nutrition Assessment
  • Nutrition Diagnosis
  • Nutrition Intervention/Plan of Care
  • Nutrition Monitoring and Evaluation
SOPP

- Apply to RDs or RDNs and DTRs in all practice settings
- Formatted according to the 6 domains of professional behavior
  - quality in practice, competence and accountability, provision of services, application of research, communication and application of knowledge, utilization and management of resources
- Reflect the training, responsibility and accountability of the RD or RDN and DTR

SOP and SOPP

Standards provide:
- minimum competent levels of practice and performance
- common indicators for self-evaluation
- activities for which RDs or RDNs and DTRs are accountable
- a description of the role of nutrition and dietetics and the unique services that RDs or RDNs and DTRs offer
- guidance for policies and procedures, job descriptions, competence assessment tools and academic objectives for education programs

SOP and SOPP

Standards can be used for professional development and to advance practice

- Use the SOP SOPP to identify learning needs and opportunities for advancement
- Develop goals
- Focus continuing education efforts
SOP and SOPP

- Serve as the foundation for development of focus area SOP SOPP for RDs or RDNs
  - “core” SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDs

- Focus area SOP SOPP delineate levels of practice for RDs
  - Competent
  - Proficient
  - Expert

Focus Area SOP SOPP

For the RD or RDN:

- Clinical Nutrition Management
- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- Disordered Eating & Eating Disorders
- Integrative & Functional Medicine
- Extended Care Settings
- Diabetes Care
- Oncology Nutrition Care
- Nephrology Care (Revision will publish Sept 2014; will publish in J Renal Nutrition as well)
- Pediatric Nutrition (Revision scheduled for publication Oct 2014 in the Journal)
- Educators of Dietetics Practitioners
- Nutrition Support (under revision)

Focus Area SOP SOPP

For the RD or RDN:

- Sustainable, Resilient, and Healthy Food and Water Systems
- Management of Food & Nutrition Systems (Revised; to be published in July 2014)
- Behavioral Health Care
- Sports Nutrition and Dietetics (Revised; published online 2014)
- Under development:
  - Public Health/Community Nutrition; projected to be published in April 2015
  - Weight Management (Adult); projected to be published in March 2015
Career Development Guide Definitions

**Competent**
A dietetics practitioner who has just obtained RD or RDN/DTR status, starting in an employment situation as a professional, and gains on the job skills as well as tailored continuing education to enhance proficiency and knowledge.

**Proficient**
A RD or RDN or DTR who is three plus years beyond entry into the profession, who has obtained operational job performance skills and is successful in the chosen focus area of practice.

**Expert**
A RD or RDN or DTR who is recognized within the profession and has mastered the highest degree of skill in or knowledge of a certain focus or generalized area of dietetics.

**Specialist**

**Definition:** A practitioner who demonstrates additional knowledge, skills and experience in a focus area of dietetics practice by the attainment of a credential.

**Rationale:** The term specialist requires a credential.
Advanced Practice

**Definition:** The practitioner demonstrates a high level of skills, knowledge and behaviors. The individual exhibits a set of characteristics that include leadership and vision and demonstrates effectiveness in planning, evaluating and communicating targeted outcomes.

Let's review

**DTR Scope of Practice**

DTRs may practice only in areas in which they are qualified and demonstrate competence in delivery of food and nutrition services.
Academy Scope of Practice for RDs and DTRs: A Tool for Determining Competence and Advancing Practice
Marsha Stieber, MSA, RD, CNSC

June 6, 2014

DTR Scope of Practice

- Work under the supervision of the RD or RDN:
  - Direct patient/client nutrition care

- Work independently:
  - Provide general nutrition education to healthy individuals
  - Consult with food service business and industry
  - Conduct nutrient analysis
  - Collect data and conduct research
  - Manage food and nutrition services in a variety of settings

Supervision Defined

What is meant by “under the supervision of the RD or RDN”?

- The RD or RDN is ultimately accountable and responsible for the nutrition care of patients/clients in various health-care settings and social services programs
- Direct or Indirect supervision

DTR Scope of Practice

Direct Patient/Client Nutrition Care

- RDs or RDNs supervise the nutrition care provided by DTRs
- Supervision of the DTR is determined by
  - Medical complexity of the patient/client
  - DTR's experience and demonstrated, documented competence
  - State dietetics/nutritionist practice act and statutory scope of practice (if defined)
  - Rules which may define supervision (direct or indirect)
### DTR Scope of Practice

DTRs participate in the Nutrition Care Process:
- Assist RD or RDN with data collection
- Assist with development of nutrition-related priorities, goals and objectives; participate as assigned
- Implement nutrition interventions and education as assigned by the RD or RDN
- Complete, document, and report the results and observations of patient/client monitoring activities as assigned by the RD or RDN

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### Scope of Practice Resources

- Scope of Practice Decision Tool
- Definition of Terms

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### How do you know you are competent to do what you’ve been asked to do?
- Are you trying to change practice areas?
- Use the Scope of Practice Decision Tool to assess your competence
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Marsha Stieber, MSA, RD, CNSC

June 6, 2014

Scope of Practice Resources

Scope of Practice Decision Tool
- An online, interactive tool
- Permits the individual RD or RDN and DTR to answer a series of questions
- Determines if a particular activity is within his or her scope of practice

Locate the Decision Tool at www.eatright.org/shop, under Quality Management

Scope of Practice Resources

Definition of Terms List
- An alphabetical cross-referenced list of terms
  - Members- www.eatright.org/scope
  - Non-members- Health Professionals Web page
    - Resources for Health Practitioners www.eatright.org/HealthProfessionals/content.aspx?id=6866

Scope of Practice Decision Tool

Let's analyze activities that an individual RD or RDN or DTR use to verify his/her scope of practice!
Academy Scope of Practice for RDs and DTRs: A Tool for Determining Competence and Advancing Practice

Marsha Stieber, MSA, RD, CNSC

June 6, 2014

Arizona Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Annual Meeting
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Scope of Practice Decision Tool

Your Activity (Click to change)

Is the activity become outcome or disease in addition to being non-disease practice?

Yes

No

Is the activity consistent with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Code of Ethics and Code of Ethics?

Yes

No

Did you use the Academy Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance and Ethics when performing this activity?

Yes

No

If the activity is performed in a setting where there is any language that prohibits performing this activity?

Yes

No
Academy Scope of Practice for RDs and DTRs: A Tool for Determining Competence and Advancing Practice

Marsha Stieber, MSA, RD, CNSC

June 6, 2014

Arizona Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Annual Meeting
Case Scenario #1

A Registered Dietitian would like to screen for swallowing difficulty.

The Registered Dietitian...
- Practices and is licensed in Illinois
- Has a Master's of Science in Nutrition
- Has been practicing in nutrition support for 10 years and is a Certified Nutrition Support Clinician (CNSC)
- Has reviewed the Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for RDs in Nutrition Support and assesses herself to be at the Expert level of practice
- Has reviewed the organization’s protocols and policies which allow a pathway for the RD to screen for swallowing difficulties if the Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) is not available
- Has been trained by the SLP
- Ensures the SLP assesses her competence to screen for swallowing difficulties annually
Case Scenario #2

A private practice Registered Dietitian would like to initiate orders for functional medicine labs

The Registered Dietitian...

• Practices and is licensed in Illinois
• Holds a MS and has been practicing nutrition for 1 year in an acute care setting
• Is transitioning to private practice
• Reviewed the Standards of Practice (SOP) and Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for RDs in Integrative and Functional Medicine and assesses himself as competent

Case Scenario #3

A Registered Dietitian is asked to assess physical activity history, current physical activity, and exercise status of clients as part of an outpatient weight management program.

The Registered Dietitian...

• Practices and is licensed in Montana
• Has practiced in an outpatient setting for 1 year
• Has reviewed the 2012 Standards of Practice (SOP) and Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) for RDs and assesses herself as competent

Case Scenario #4

A Dietetic Technician, Registered would like to teach carbohydrate counting to inpatients of an acute care facility

The Dietetic Technician, Registered...

• Practices in Illinois under the supervision of an RD
• Holds an Associate Degree and has been practicing in acute care for 20 years
• Understands the Scope of Practice in Nutrition Care for RDs and DTRs
• Is assessed annually by the RD to determine the DTR's competency to provide carbohydrate counting education
• Is incorporated in the Organization's policies and the DTR's job description includes the DTR in providing basic inpatient nutrition education
Case Scenario #5

A private practice DTR would like to contract with pediatricians to provide nutrition counseling on food allergies and food sensitivities

The Dietetic Technician, Registered ...

- Practices in Illinois
- Graduated from a didactic program (DPD) and passed the DTR exam 1 year ago
- Has obtained professional liability insurance
- Reviewed the Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for RDs in Pediatric Nutrition, but does not apply the standards for self-assessment

Conclusion

- Become familiar with the Comprehensive Scope of Practice Resources for the RD or RDN and for the DTR
- Complete self-assessment of knowledge, skills and competence level by using the Scope of Practice Decision Tool
- Assess and document your own practice to ensure quality, competent care

Questions?