



## UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

**JD564**

<b>JOB TITLE:</b>	Clinical Dietitian	<b>JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:</b>	60264/P.VI.30100.001
<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	Dietitian P1	<b>GRID/PAY LEVEL:</b>	H-G-P1
<b>COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:</b>	Health Science Professionals	<b>HSCIS NO.:</b>	30901
<b>UNION:</b>	HSA	<b>JOB/CLASS CODE:</b>	30901
<b>PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:</b>	Chronic Disease Management and Nutrition Therapy Services	<b>BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):</b>	
<b>REPORTING TO:</b>	Coordinator, Nutrition Services		
<b>FACILITY/SITE:</b>	Victoria General Hospital; Royal Jubilee Hospital; Saanich Peninsula Hospital; Gorge Road Hospital; Summit at Quadra Village; Glengarry Hospital; North Island Hospital (Comox Valley Campus); Port McNeill Hospital		

### JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of the Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health) patient and staff safety is a priority and a responsibility shared by everyone; as such, the requirement to continuously improve quality and safety is inherent in all aspects of this position.

Reports to Coordinator, Nutrition Services; plans, implements, and evaluates medical nutritional therapy for hospital-based and/or facility-based patients according to guidelines established by Nutrition Services. Instructs and counsels patients and families regarding appropriate nutritional requirements, nutritional regimes, and food planning and preparation.

### TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Plans, implements and evaluates medical nutritional therapy according to current clinical practice guidelines to meet nutritional needs of patients in a variety of settings within the Vancouver Island Health Authority, such as acute care, rehabilitation, ambulatory care, long-term care and within the community.
2. Provides cost effective, evidence-based quality nutritional support in consultation with other members of the health care team by:
  - Responding to referrals from professional staff;
  - Assessing patients' nutritional status and screening for dysphagia
  - Interpreting and making recommendations regarding diet, enteral orders as appropriate;
  - Developing and implementing nutritional care plans, including discharge planning;
  - Monitoring and evaluating patients' nutritional care (e.g. monitoring laboratory results and adjusting care as appropriate
  - Planning, organizing, implementing and evaluating nutrition education for patients, families, and caregivers;
  - Discussing patients' nutritional care at health team conferences and patient care rounds as appropriate;
  - Providing accurate and complete nutritional documentation in the patients' health record;

- Providing effective communication with physicians and health team members about nutrition management.
  - Providing nutritional counselling to patients and clients on an individual and/or group basis, as required.
3. Inpatient Registered Dietitian (RD) communicates to Food Services personnel specific information required to provide appropriate foodservice to individual patients (e.g. care plans, enteral orders).
  4. Performs computerized nutritional assessments as required.
  5. Develops and presents in-service education for VIHA staff and students.
  6. Inpatient RD maintains communication with Nutrition Liaison Coordinator regarding ward food service issues. May participate in evaluation of clinical standards and development of guidelines for menu planning. May participate in evaluation of products from a clinical nutrition perspective.
  7. May be required to preceptor dietetic interns as requested by Internship Coordinator.
  8. Develops, implements and evaluates nutrition practice tools (e.g. patient education materials, screening and nutrition therapy algorithms) in the implementation of medical nutrition therapy.
  9. Makes recommendations to Nutrition Services Coordinator regarding projects, studies and department goals for improving the delivery of nutritional care.
  10. Represents Nutrition Services at various committees as delegated by the Nutrition Services Coordinator.
  11. Participates in the department quality assurance program by assisting/completing a variety of audits, such as statistics and client outcomes data collection.
  12. Keeps abreast of current developments in the dietetic field by reviewing current literature, participating in journal club, and attending related in-services and workshops.
  13. Performs other related duties as assigned.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

### **Education, Training And Experience**

Bachelor's degree from a recognized university with a major in dietetics/nutrition or equivalent. Completion of an accredited dietetic internship program. Current licensure in a practicing category with the College of Health and Care Professionals of BC as a Dietitian. Eligible for membership with the Dietitians of Canada (DC). Experience as a practicing Dietitian preferred. Evidence of ongoing professional development.

### **Skills And Abilities**

- Ability to establish and maintain effective work relationships with patients and their families, members of the medical team, departmental employees and representatives of community agencies.
- Ability to coordinate activities and liaison with medical and nursing staff, patients and the food service department and/or support agencies.
- Ability to organize workload, set priorities and work with minimal supervision.
- Ability to effectively use computers and software applications.