

POSITION TITLE	Diabetes Dietitian
CLASSIFICATION	Dietitian Level 3
AWARD	NSW Health Service Health Professionals (State) Award
PURPOSE OF POSITION <p>Provide a high quality specialist Dietetic service to patients and carers of the Diabetes Service to ensure the provision of optimal health outcomes for patients of the service.</p>	
KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide specialist patient centred clinical medical nutrition therapy advice to patients, carers and other health care professionals to ensure delivery of innovative clinical practice models and therapeutic techniques. • Actively communicate future issues and new directions for the service to ensure appropriate notification and escalation of issues impacting on clinical practice and care delivery. • Ensure patient care is delivered within professional, organisational, legal and ethical boundaries and reflects evidence based, best practice knowledge and practice. • Utilise and disseminate the findings of research to ensure current evidence based clinical practice is implemented and applied in the clinical setting. • Contribute to research projects to ensure that delivery of current, evidence based services that maximise patient outcomes. • Develop, design and implement continuous improvement initiatives to enhance service delivery and patient outcomes. • Liaise with other care and service providers to ensure seamless continuum of care from hospital to community that meets the needs of patients and carers. • Mentor and supervise junior professionals to ensure their ongoing professional growth and enhanced application of clinical knowledge. • Participate in planning, implementing and evaluating health education, prevention and promotion programs to ensure that the needs of the target audience are met. • Provide medical nutritional therapy and education to patients with diabetes and their carers in an individual or group setting. • Representing Diabetes service on relevant District wide committees/meetings including 	<p>the Senior Dietitian meeting and HNELHD dietitian CPD committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work within risk management, safety, infection control and quality frameworks applicable to the organisation. • Maintain professional knowledge and skills by actively contributing to own professional development. • Act in accordance with the HNE Health Values Charter and the NSW Health Code of Conduct. • Participate in relevant patient safety and quality education and deliver services in accordance with the National Patient Safety and Quality Standards, Work Health & Safety Act and NSW Health risk management frameworks. • Ensure that work is conducted in a manner that demonstrates values of cultural respect in accordance with HNE Health's Closing the Gap strategy. • Actively work to improve workplace safety within HNE Health by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Performing work in a manner that is safe and does not pose a risk to others ○ Complying with all WHS policies, procedures and education provided by HNE Health ○ Reporting any identified safety matters ○ Speaking up about safety issues, including speaking to colleagues who are observed to work in an unsafe manner
	CHALLENGES <p>Major challenges for the occupant of the position include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying evidence based practice while dealing effectively and efficiently with a broad range of clinical issues including interventions, health promotion programs, education and research. • Taking personal responsibility for acting in ways that consistently place the patient at the center of care delivery in the face of conflicting priorities and agendas. • Delivering care for patients with complex needs in an environment requiring adaptation to a variety of clinical settings.

- Tailoring delivery of nutrition education, nutrition advice and resources to patients and carers with CALD backgrounds or low literacy levels.

COMMUNICATION

Communicate effectively with the Service Manager and other staff within the Diabetes Service and Acute Diabetes Service and foster close relationships with other units and services within HNE Health and other relevant organisations to enhance the patient experience of a continuous seamless health support journey.

Communicate with multidisciplinary team regarding clinical and operational matters in the interests of good teamwork and high quality service delivery.

Key Internal Relationships

- Service Manager for operational management, professional leadership and support.
- Senior Diabetes Dietitian for professional and clinical leadership and support
- Medical staff for clinical leadership.
- Administrative and clinical staff in Diabetes Service, the Acute Diabetes Service, the Hunter Alliance and relevant staff in other HNELHD Health Services.

Key External Relationships

- Patients and carers regarding care.
- General Practitioners, Practice Nurses and private practising Diabetes Specialists.
- Other HNELHD Diabetes Services for area wide knowledge sharing and consistency of care
- Peak dietitian organisations including the the Dietitians Association of Australia.
- Pharmaceutical companies and Australian Diabetes Council for education, information and collaborative consumer-focussed care.
- Aboriginal Controlled Community Health Services and Primary Health Networks.

DECISION MAKING

The position holder:

- Is responsible for the day to day clinical decisions relating to patient care.
- Seeks clinical advice from senior Diabetes Dietitian as necessary
- Consults with the Service Manager on major policy issues or conflicts arising in the course of his/her duties.
- Refers to the Service Manager, any decision that falls outside routine clinical and operational service delivery parameters and any unusual care requirements.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Tertiary qualifications in Nutrition and Dietetics that provides eligibility for full membership to the Dietitians Association of Australia.
- Demonstrated clinical experience and knowledge in the nutritional management of patients with diabetes
- Experience in supervision of students and other staff with demonstrated commitment to ongoing professional development in the area of Diabetes and Nutrition
- Proven experience of participation in planning and implementing quality activities and evaluating project outcomes
- Demonstrated high standard of oral and written skills, including computer literacy, group education and ability to contribute to the overall effectiveness of the team.
- Demonstrated and extensive experience in developing group education programs, leading the group education and evaluating the program. Extensive experience educating patients requiring insulin delivered via injection or pump
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and exercise professional judgment in solving problems and managing complex cases
- NSW Drivers License.