

CentraCare Health (CCH) adopts the following policy/procedure for:
St. Cloud Hospital Dietetic Internship (SCH DI)

Policy: Dietetic Internship: Educational Purpose of Supervised Practice

Original: 03/16

Minor Revision(s):

Full Review: 04/25/16

Replaces:

Responsible Person(s): Internship Director

Approving Cmte: Dietetic Internship Committee

Category: Clinical Nutrition Services

Cross Reference:

Type: Policy

I. PURPOSE:

To provide clarification of the educational purpose of the St. Cloud Hospital Dietetic Internship (SCH DI) supervised practice experience.

II. POLICY:

- A. The purpose of the dietetic internship experience is to fully prepare graduates to enter the field as competent, entry-level registered dietitians, with an expertise in medical nutrition therapy. St. Cloud Hospital dietetic interns shadow healthcare professionals and are provided progressive training in various aspects of duties routinely performed by registered dietitians. Dietetic interns may not replace employees in the workplace.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. EMR: Electronic Medical Record
- B. MNT: Medical Nutrition Therapy

IV. GUIDELINES

- A. St. Cloud Hospital dietetic interns shadow healthcare professionals to gain a broad understanding of the healthcare field.
- B. St. Cloud Hospital dietetic interns progress from entry level to more complex areas of MNT experiences throughout the program. They are given progressively more patient care responsibility within the MNT rotations experience.
- C. MNT dietitian preceptors and other health care professionals will be responsible for patient care within their scope of practice on assigned units(s) when giving guidance to dietetic interns.
- D. Dietetic interns will notify the MNT preceptor of the need to cosign all notes within the EMR.
- E. Dietetic interns will not complete duties of food service or healthcare staff for the purpose of replacing staff at any time.
- F. The registered dietitian is ultimately responsible for all patient care on assigned units during dietetic intern "staff relief" rotations.

V. REFERENCES

U.S. Department of Labor - Wage and Hour Division (WHD) - Fact Sheet. *US Department of Labor - Wage and Hour Division (WHD) - Fact Sheet*. 2010. Available at:

<http://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs71.htm>. Accessed April 21, 2016.