

Name of Policy:	<u>Food on the Clinical Units</u>	
Policy Number:	3364-104-1005	
Department:	Food & Nutrition Infection Prevention & Control Hospital Administration Medical Staff	
Approving Officer:	Chief Executive Officer, UTMC Chair, Infection Control Committee Director, Food & Nutrition Services	
Responsible Agent:	Director, Food & Nutrition Infection Preventionist	
Scope:	The University of Toledo Medical Center and its Medical Staff, Food & Nutrition	
		Effective Date: 7/10/23 Initial Effective Date: 8/2002
<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy <input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy		

(A) Policy Statement

Handling and consumption of food will be managed according to the following procedure. Food and Nutrition Services (FANS) representatives will not serve food prepared outside the department.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To protect patients and staff from cross-contamination and infection related to food.

(C) Procedure

(1) Patient Food

- (a) FANS representatives will not serve food to patients that was prepared outside the FANS department.
 - (i) Family members or friends of inpatients will be discouraged from bringing food from outside of the facility.
 - (ii) Foods or beverages brought in by family or friends must be taken directly to the patient’s room for immediate consumption.
 - (iii) No food or beverages previously in a patient’s room will be allowed to be stored in the nourishment room or refrigerator, including items from their meal trays.
 - (iv) No open containers or partially eaten foods will be kept inside unit refrigerators (This includes partial individual soda and milk).
- (b) Stock supply of patient food will be stored in the galley/kitchen of each unit. Commercial or dietary prepared foods will have an expiration date and must be rotated according to the expiration date.

(2) Employee Food

Employee food will be stored in a separate, designated refrigerator, away from patient food and medications.

