(A) Policy Statement

The Registered Dietitian (RD) will utilize an approved process when writing Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) orders in the medical record, with and without physician co-signature. Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) protocol for Registered, Licensed Dietitians (RD), allows the qualified RD, LD to accept delegation for writing nutrition-related orders within their scope of practice, as defined by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Ohio Board of Dietetics. This protocol meets the criteria set forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and has been approved by the Medical Executive Committee. These privileges may be utilized whenever the registered dietitian is involved in patient care and allows the RD/LD to order Medical Nutrition Therapies as defined below (following successful completion of competency training and through the annual performance appraisal review). Specialty certifications in advanced nutrition practice may be obtained to further support one’s competency level. Supervision by a physician currently credentialed in accordance with the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the University Medical Center Staff.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To provide an efficient and effective process for initiating medical nutrition therapy by the Registered Dietitian.

(C) Procedure

Physician:
1. Has direct control of patient care in all cases and at all times.
2. May discontinue orders of MNT at any time.

Registered Dietitian, Licensed Dietitian (RD, LD):
1. The RD may order or change when necessary to complete the nutrition screen, assessment, reassessment/follow-up to implement nutrition care plans:
   a. Height and weight
   b. Therapeutic diets
      i. Downgrade texture and liquid consistency: (i.e. change from Regular to Chopped or Thin Liquid to Thick Liquid) due to (includes but not limited to) the following: dentition, shortness of breath, weakness, impaired self-feeding, patient request, aspiration precautions, suspected swallowing dysfunction.
      ii. Diet will not be advanced from NPO to an oral diet/enteral nutrition OR from a liquid diet to solids unless authorized by a physician.
FAQs - CMS Final Rule Related to Therapeutic Diet Orders

Ohio Board of Dietetics
http://www.dietetics.ohio.gov/

PRACTICE TIPS: Hospital Regulation - Ordering Privileges for the RDN
http://www.eatrightpro.org/-/media/eatrightpro%20files/advocacy/practice-tips-implementation-steps-ordering-privileges-for-the-rdn.ashx

PRACTICE TIPS: Implementation Steps – Ordering Privileges for the RDN
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Therapeutic Diet Orders: State Status and Regulation

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<td>Michele Lovett RD, LD, CNSC 3/14/17</td>
<td>6/2/2008</td>
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<td>Michele Lovett RD, LD, CNSC Date</td>
<td>8/20/09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Clinical Dietitian</td>
<td>03/26/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moneca Smith MSN, RN 3/14-3/17</td>
<td>7/1/2011</td>
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<td>Moneca Smith MSN, RN Date</td>
<td>1/30/17</td>
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<td>Director of Nursing/CNO</td>
<td>Next Review Date: 2/20/2020</td>
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