


<b>Name of Policy:</b> Patient Education		<div></div> <p><b>Effective date:</b></p> <p><b>Original effective date:</b> 5/1999</p>	
<b>Policy Number:</b> 3364-104-401			
<b>Approving Officer:</b> Chief Administrative Officer			
<b>Responsible Agent:</b> Manager, Dietitians			
<b>Scope:</b> University of Toledo Medical Center, Clinical Nutrition			
Key words: Patient, Education, Nutrition, Diet			
	New policy proposal	X	Minor/technical revision of existing policy
	Major revision of existing policy		Reaffirmation of existing policy

(A) Policy statement

Nutritional care information is provided to patients and caregivers prior to discharge per assessment of patients' educational needs. The Clinical Nutrition staff will work in conjunction with the health care team to identify and assess each patient's learning needs, abilities, preferences, and readiness to learn. Additional nutrition resources available in the community will be provided to the patient if necessary.

(B) Purpose of policy

To identify patients who would benefit from nutrition education specific to their nutrition goals while promoting continuity of the nutrition care plan, and to provide a mechanism for assessing learning needs and providing patient-specific nutrition education.

(C) Procedure

- (1) Patients and/or their families who would benefit from nutrition education are identified through the assessment process and referrals from other disciplines.
- (2) Any member of the health care team, patients, or patients' families may request nutrition education for the patient.
- (3) Nutrition education consults are performed by the registered dietitian within 48 hours from the consult being ordered or when appropriate prior to discharge.
- (4) If nutrition education is deemed necessary outside of registered dietitian/registered dietitian technician hours
  - (a) Appropriate written nutrition materials can be obtained from the Nutrition Care Manual by health care staff and provided to patient/family.
  - (b) Responsible discharge staff should notify clinical nutrition staff at extension 4585, so appropriate follow up education can be completed.
- (5) Components of patient education will include:
  - (a) Assessment of food intake history, calculation of calorie, protein, and other pertinent nutrient needs.
  - (b) Explanation of diet rationale and principles, including appropriate food choices.

- (c) Patient-specific education based on medical needs, patient's perceived nutrition/diet-related needs and interests, and any religious, ethnic, and food preferences.
- (d) Questions to help assess patient's comprehension and intended compliance.
- (6) Large print, low literacy, and ethnic education materials will be provided to patient as appropriate. Outside resources are utilized for communication barriers. ~~Refer to Hospital Policy 3364-100-50-06 Accommodations for Patients Who Are Sensory Impaired and/or Who Have Limited English Proficiency.~~ Refer to procedure on the UToledo Policy Website: "Accommodations for Patients Who Have Sensory Impairment and/or Who have a Limited English-Proficiency" for additional information.
- (7) Refer patients for outpatient counseling or community resources when inpatient education is not feasible or when follow up education is appropriate.
- (8) Documentation will be recorded in the electronic medical record.

<p>Approved by:</p>  <p>_____          Marci Cancic Frey          Chief Administrative Officer</p>  <p>_____          Date</p>  <p>_____          Kristi Mason          Manager, Dietitians</p>  <p>_____          Date</p>  <p><i>Review/Revision Completed by:</i>  <i>Manager, Dietitians</i></p>	<p><b>Policies Superseded by This Policy:</b>          3364-104-402          3364-104-404          3364-104-406</p> <p>Initial effective date: 5/1999</p> <p>All Review/Revision Dates:          8/2002          5/2005          6/2/2008          7/1/2011          12/13/2012          6/13/14          3/3/17          3/6/20          3/31/23</p> <p>Next review date:</p>
--	--