Name of Policy:	Patient Education	THE UNIVERSITY OF	
<b>Policy Number:</b>	3364-104-401	TOLEDO	
Department:	Clinical Nutrition	1872	
Approving Officer:	Associate VP Patient Care Services/CNO		
Responsible Agent:	Chief Clinical Dietitian		
Scope:	Clinical Nutrition	Effective Date: 4/1/2020 Initial Effective Date: 5/1999	
New policy proposal Major revision of existing policy  X Minor/technical 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

Patients and/or their families who would benefit from nutrition education are identified through the assessment process and referrals from other disciplines.

- 1. Any member of the health care team, patients, or patients' families may request nutrition education for the patient.
- 2. Nutrition education consults are performed by the registered dietitian within 48 hours from the consult being ordered or when appropriate prior to discharge.
- 3. 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 in the Clinical Portal 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.
- 4. 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.
- 5. 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.
- 6. Refer patients for outpatient counseling or community resources when inpatient education is not feasible or when follow up education is appropriate.
- 7. Documentation will be recorded in the electronic medical record.

Approved by:		Review/Revision Date:	
		8/2002	
		5/2005	
<u>/s/</u>		6/2/2008	
Michele Lovett, RD, LD	Date	7/1/2011	
Chief Clinical Dietitian		12/13/2012	
		6/13/14	
		3/3/17	
/s/		3/6/20	
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Services/CNO			
Review/Revision Completed By:			
Clinical Nutrition			
		<b>Next Review Date:</b> 4/1/2023	
Policies Superseded by This Policy: #3364-104-402, #3364-104-404, #3364-104-406			