

# Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2019 Standards of Professional Performance for RDNs (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Clinical Nutrition Management

## What are the Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP)?

SOPP are consensus standards for RDNs to use for professional development and to assure competence.

The standards provide a guide for self-evaluation; determine education and skills needed for advancing practice levels; and may be used by employers or regulatory agencies to determine competence for credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners.

## SOPP

### 6 Domains of Professionalism

Quality in Practice  
Competence and Accountability  
Provision of Services

Application of Research  
Communication and Application of Knowledge  
Utilization and Management of Resources



### WHAT?

What is a Focus Area?

- A focus area of nutrition and dietetics practice is a defined field of practice that requires specialized knowledge, skills and experience.
- It relates to how a practitioner specializes in a specific area of practice (e.g., diabetes care, post-acute and long-term care).<sup>1</sup>
  - The SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs<sup>2</sup> serves as the blueprint for the SOPP in Clinical Nutrition Management in competent, proficient, and expert levels of practice.



### WHEN?

When is a Focus Area SOP SOPP updated?

- Seven-year review process
- Indicated by changes in
  - healthcare and other business segments
  - public health initiatives
  - new research that guides evidence-based practice and best practices
  - consumer interests
  - technological advances
  - emerging practice environments



### HOW?

How were the CNM Standards updated?

The article, indicators, and figures were revised with input and consensus of content experts representing diverse CNM practice areas/settings and geographic perspectives.

Reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee of the Clinical Nutrition Management Dietetic Practice Group and the Academy Quality Management Committee.

#### Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Definition of Terms List. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Accessed February 4, 2021. <https://www.eatrightpro.org/definitions>.

<sup>2</sup> Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Quality Management Committee. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2017 Standards of Practice in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists. *J Acad Nutr Diet*. 2018;118(1): 132-140.

# Clinical Nutrition Management Overview and Application



Leadership



Collaboration



Customer-Centered



Quality-Focused

## Overview

The RDN in CNM is responsible for the provision of various nutrition services for specific populations; the leadership of individuals who implement these services on a daily basis; the quality, outcomes, and cost of these services; and adhering to all applicable rules, regulations, standards, and laws related to the services provided. .

RDNs in CNM have titles and roles such as lead dietitian, coordinator, supervisor, clinical nutrition manager, and director of clinical nutrition, depending on setting. CNM skills and knowledge can apply in many different settings beyond clinical nutrition, including other clinical services (eg, diabetes education center, wound care program), community or public health, informatics, foodservice, and roles that support quality, public policy, and professional resources.<sup>1</sup>



## Role Example – Director of Clinical Nutrition

A registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) employed as Director of Clinical Nutrition in a hospital reviews the SOPP for RDNs in Clinical Nutrition Management (CNM) periodically as a self-assessment tool. The RDN's goal is to ensure each clinical nutrition manager is competent or is gaining competence to lead the nutrition team. The expectations are to fully grasp the quality indicators required to successfully direct the provision of services, report to and interact effectively with hospital leadership, apply research, communicate and collaborate with others, manage resources, ensure quality of practice, and accept accountability. The Director of Clinical Nutrition uses the SOPP for RDNs in CNM to develop objectives and identify skills needed as part of an annual goal-setting process and career ladder plan.<sup>1</sup>

## Additional Information and Resources

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

- Scope of Practice: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/scope>
- Standards of Practice: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/sop>
- Food Security and Sustainability: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/practice-resources/food-security-and-sustainability>

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- Scope and Standards for RDNs and NDTRs Collection: <https://jandonline.org/content/core>
- Focus Area Standards for CDR Specialist Credentials Collection: <https://jandonline.org/content/credentialed>
- Focus Area Standards for RDNs Collection: <https://jandonline.org/content/focus>

Clinical Nutrition Management Dietetic Practice Group (CNM): <https://www.cnmdpg.org/>

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Doley J, Clark K, Roper S. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: Revised 2019 Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Clinical Nutrition Management. *J Acad Nutr Diet*. 2019; 119(9): 1545-1560e32.