

# Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition: Revised 2021 Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for RDNs (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Nutrition Support



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

- SOP and 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.

### SOP – Direct care to patient/client/customer

- Nutrition Assessment
- Nutrition Diagnosis
- Nutrition Intervention/Plan of Care
- Nutrition Monitoring and Evaluation

### 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, pediatric nutrition, nephrology nutrition).<sup>1</sup>
  - The SOP in Nutrition Care and SOPP for RDNs<sup>2</sup> serves as the blueprint for the SOP SOPP in Nutrition Support (NS) 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
  - health care 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 Nutrition Support Standards updated?

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

Reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee of the Dietitians in Nutrition Support Practice Group, American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Clinical Practice Committee and Board of Directors, and the Academy Quality Management Committee.

Sources:

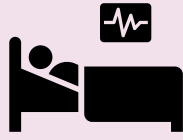
<sup>1</sup> Definition of Terms List. Accessed September 30, 2022. <https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/scope-and-standards-of-practice>

<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.

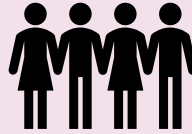
# Nutrition Support Overview and Application



**Nutrition Support**



**Critical Care**



**Interprofessional Care**



**Practice Guidelines**

## Overview

- Nutrition support therapy is defined as providing enteral or parenteral nutrition with therapeutic intent or to treat or prevent malnutrition and is utilized with individuals of all ages, diseases, or conditions.
- RDNs, as integral members of the nutrition support or interprofessional team, provide needed expertise on the identification of risk or presence of malnutrition, macro- and micronutrient requirements, type of nutrition support therapy and appropriate nutrition support or route (eg, nasogastric vs nasojejunal or tunneled catheter vs port).
- A person-centered approach is critical to care -- RDNs must have the knowledge, skill, and experience in the application of principles and guidelines in delivering nutrition support, and general knowledge of potential comorbidities to appropriately address and provide quality nutrition care and services, or to know when to confer with or refer to another provider.
- Nutrition Support RDNs can advance nutrition and dietetics practice by assisting with measurement and reporting of patient-related outcomes; increasing promotion; and becoming trained on new technologies such as bedside ultrasound to assess muscle changes; and leading nutrition support clinics to assess adequacy and tolerance of nutrition support therapies.<sup>1,2</sup>



## Role Example – Clinical Practitioner (acute care setting)

“An RDN providing coverage on a general medical unit will now also be providing care to patients in the medical intensive care unit (ICU). Working with an experienced colleague when needed, the RDN has managed short-term nutrition support therapy for non-ICU patients but recognizes more in-depth knowledge and skills are needed when caring for critically ill patients in an ICU setting. The RDN reviews the Standards of Practice (SOP) and Standards of Professional Performance (SOPP) in Nutrition Support to evaluate level of practice and competence. The RDN reviews the nutrition support-related practice guidelines and seeks mentoring from an experienced nutrition support RDN who is ideally a Certified Nutrition Support Clinician (CNSC) to discuss approach to care, decision-making process for determining enteral nutrition (EN) versus parenteral nutrition (PN), and for monitoring and adjusting nutrition care plan. The RDN identifies continuing education opportunities to pursue to enhance skills and to help decide if working toward eligibility for the CNSC certification is a career goal.”<sup>1,2</sup>

## Additional Information and Resources

Webpages:

- Scope of Practice: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/scope-and-standards-of-practice>
- Standards of Practice: <https://www.eatrightpro.org/practice/scope-and-standards-of-practice>

*Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics*

- 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>

Dietitians in Nutrition Support Dietetic Practice Group: <https://www.dnsdpg.org>

American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition: <https://www.nutritioncare.org>

- Clinical Practice Library and Standards:

[https://www.nutritioncare.org/Guidelines and Clinical Resources/Clinical Practice Library/Standards/](https://www.nutritioncare.org/Guidelines%20and%20Clinical%20Resources/Clinical%20Practice%20Library/Standards/)

*Nutrition in Clinical Practice*: <https://aspenjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/19412452>

National Board of Nutrition Support Certification: <https://www.nutritioncare.org/NBNSC/>

Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Corrigan ML, Bobo E, Rollins C, Mogensen KM. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition: Revised 2021 Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Nutrition Support. *J Acad Nutr Diet*. 2021; 121(10): 2071-2086.e59.

<sup>2</sup> Corrigan ML, Bobo E, Rollins C, Mogensen KM. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition: Revised 2021 Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (Competent, Proficient, and Expert) in Nutrition Support. *Nutr Clin Pract*. 2021; 36(6):1126-1143.