

WRHA Clinical Nutrition Network Terms of Reference

1.0 Purpose

The “Specific” Clinical Nutrition Network is a regional network of registered dietitians practicing or interested in the area of “specific” clinical nutrition. The goal is to increase communication and collaboration amongst registered dietitians practicing in or who have an interest in this specific domain of practice. Long term goals are to provide recommendations or support for standardization of regional practice, to increase collaborative practice-based research opportunities, to decrease gaps in the continuum of nutritional care while increasing efficiencies across the region.

2.0 Composition/Membership

Membership includes registered dietitians practicing in or interested in the “specific” clinical nutrition practice area. Members may belong to more than one network. There is no limit on the number of members. The network will have co-chairs who will be chosen on a volunteer basis by the membership. The terms of appointment of the chair will be for two years.

3.0 Functions

- The network co-chairs will communicate issues and needs with the appropriate WRHA Clinical Nutrition Practice Council.
- The network will link with other health care professional groups as required.
- Sharing of professional resources.
- Participate in development of client education resources as per Client Nutrition Education Resource: Process for Development, Evaluation and Approval Best Practice Guideline
- Develop evidence summaries.
- Sharing of current practice area specific research and literature reviews.
- Initiate and collaborate on regional practice-based research initiatives.
- Individual members practicing in the specific area may participate in the WRHA Clinical RD Expert Review Groups as requested.
- Support application of standardized regional practice (e.g. IDNT)
- Identify, plan and participate in the development of continuing education sessions
- Apply for funding to regional funding sources as required.
- Provide recommendations or support for evidence based standardization of regional practice on a consultative basis.

4.0 Meetings

- The network will meet quarterly or as needed to discuss current issues and establish working groups as required.
- Minutes will be recorded at all meetings by a rotating secretary amongst the group.
- Minutes will be maintained on share point site <http://programsharepoint.manitoba-health.ca/nfservices/clinnutrition>

5.0 Voting

Decision-making will be reached through consensus where possible. Decisions will be supported by all members once consensus is reached.

6.0 *Accountability*

Activities of the network are accountable to appropriate regional clinical nutrition manager. Financial responsibility for travel and parking are the responsibility of the individual member and their employer, decided upon between the member and their employer.

7.0 *Terms of Reference*

The terms of reference will be reviewed regionally every two years.

November 5, 2010 FINAL