



CYPRUS DIETETIC & NUTRITION ASSOCIATION

Appendix 1 of the Statutes of the Cyprus Dietetic Association

Code of Ethics

By virtue of article 28 of the Statutes of the Cyprus Dietetic Association, the General Meeting, with its resolution following a proposal of the Administrative Council, sets out the following Code of Ethics:

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PREAMBLE

1. The Cyprus Dietetic Association enacts the present Code of Ethics to guide its members through their professional relations.

The Code of Ethics reflects the values and moral principles of the profession and numbers members' obligations towards the patient/client, society, himself, the profession and his colleagues.

The Code of Ethics must be respected and faithfully adopted by all members of the Cyprus Dietetic Association. A member violating the Code of Ethics commits a disciplinary offence and is answerable to the Disciplinary Committee.

PRINCIPLES

2. General Duties and Obligations of Members

Members must:

- Not exhibit a dishonorable or disgraceful conduct or a conduct not conforming to the scientific morale of the profession.
- Keep and always safeguard the honour and dignity of the profession and exhibit professional conduct with honesty, integrity and fairness.
- Not subordinate the principles of the science and their professional class to their personal interest or the interests of third parties.
- Comply with the legislation in force at the time concerning their profession.
- Not cover up with their signature persons not qualified to practice the profession and/or by nature and position incompetent and/or not qualified to practice a specific aspect of the profession.
- Practice dietetics based on scientific principles and current information from valid sources. Valid sources are academic books on dietetics/nutrition or journals by recognized legal/professional bodies on dietetics/nutrition or articles and other material published in valid and scientifically recognized journals referring to issues on dietetics



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and other related issues. To pursue responsibly and constantly improvement of their personal ability in practicing the profession by being constantly informed (both at academic and practical levels) in order to enrich their knowledge and competence and apply these to the profession.

- Be careful/reserved in situations, which may cause conflict of interests or appear to be conflicting or controversial and provide full disclosure when a real or potential conflict of interest arises.

3. Duties towards other members/colleagues

Further to their general duties, members must:

- Exhibit an impeccable and exemplary behavior towards other members.
- Recognize and offer professional/critical opinion within the framework of their own qualifications and cooperate with others.
- Ask and give advice where and when needed and make referrals to other colleagues or specializations, in their own judgment, when advisable.
- Seek cooperation when imposed or deemed necessary with other colleagues or specializations, in their own judgment, without overestimating the limits of their abilities and after informing their client about the purpose of this cooperation and its benefits.
- Not belittle the abilities or professional value of other members/colleagues with actions or words in the presence of their client/patient, present substantiated information and interpret controversial or uncertified information without personal bias, recognizing that legitimate differences of opinion exist.
- Provide objective evaluations of performance for colleagues or candidates for employment in dietetics posts, students in dietetics for professional association memberships, for professional prizes and awards or scholarships.
- Avoid as far as possible any kind of bias as to the professional evaluation of others.
- Not allow sexual harassment or improper conduct towards themselves and strictly refrain from such behavior in relation to members/colleagues.

4. Duties towards the client/patient

Further to the duties mentioned above, members must:

- Offer satisfactory and detailed information in a simple and understandable manner to enable the client/patient to make his own informed decision.



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- Present the client with substantiated information and interpret controversial information without any bias recognizing that opinions vary.
- Protect confidential information regarding their clients and guarantee, as far as possible, full confidentiality without any limitation.
- Offer professional services with objectivity and with respect to the unique needs and values of their client.
- Offer professional services in a manner sensitive to the educational and social level of the client without discriminating against others on the basis of sex, nationality, religion, economic and social classes or a person's disability.
- Not allow sexual harassment towards themselves and strictly refrain from such behavior in relation to their clients/patients.
- Although they can set their fee freely with their client, not claim an exorbitant fee to a degree of profiteering.

Standards of Professional Practice for Dietetics Professionals

Standard 1: Provision of Services

A dietetics professional provides quality service based on client expectations and needs.

Rationale

Dietetics professionals provide, facilitate and promote quality services based on client needs and expectations, current knowledge and professional experience.

Indicators

Each dietetics professional:

- 1.1. Collaborates with client to assess needs, background and resources and to establish mutual goals,
- 1.2. Collaborates with other professionals as appropriate,
- 1.3. Implements knowledge and skills to determine the most appropriate action plan,
- 1.4. Implements quality practice by following policies, procedures, legislation, licensure, practice guidelines, and the Standards of Professional Practice,
- 1.5. Fosters excellence and exhibits professionalism in practice,
- 1.6. Continuously evaluates processes and outcomes,



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- 1.7. Advocates for the provision of food and nutrition services as part of public policy.

Examples of Outcomes

- Clients actively participate in establishing goals and objectives
- Clients' needs are met
- Clients are satisfied with service and products provided
- Evaluation reflects expected outcomes
- Public had access to food and nutrition services

Standard 2: Application of Research

The dietetics professional effectively applies, participates in or generates research to enhance practice.

Rationale

Effective application, support and generation of dietetics research in practice, encourages continuous quality improvement and provides documented support for the benefit of the client.

Indicators

Each dietetics professional:

- 2.1. Locates and reviews research findings for their application to dietetics practice,
- 2.2. Bases practice on sound scientific principles, research and theory,
- 2.3. Promotes research through alliances and collaboration with dietetics and other professionals and organizations,
- 2.4. Contributes to the development of new knowledge and research in dietetics,
- 2.5. Collects measurable data and documents outcomes within the practice setting,
- 2.6. Shares research data and activities through various media.

Examples of outcomes

- Client receives appropriate services based on the effective application of research
- A foundation for performance measurement and improvement is provided



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- Outcomes data supports reimbursement for the services of dietetics professionals
- Research findings are used for the development and revision of policies, procedures, practice guidelines, protocols and clinical pathways,
- Professionals use benchmarking and knowledge of 'best practices' to improve performance.

Standard 3: Communication and Application of Knowledge

The dietetics professional effectively applies and communicates with others.

Rationale

Dietetics professionals work with and through others while using their unique knowledge of food, human nutrition and management as well as skills in providing services.

Indicators

Each dietetics professional :

- 3.1. Has knowledge related to a specific areas of professional service,
- 3.2. Communicates sound scientific principles, research and theory,
- 3.3. Integrates knowledge of food and human nutrition with knowledge of health, social sciences, communication and management theory,
- 3.4. Shares knowledge and information with clients,
- 3.5. Helps students and clients apply knowledge and skills,
- 3.6. Documents interpretation of relevant information and results of communication with professionals, personnel, students, or clients,
- 3.7. Contributes to the development of new knowledge,
- 3.8. Seeks out information to provide effective services.

Example of outcomes

- Dietetics professional provides expertise in food, nutrition, and management information
- Client understands the information received
- Client receives current and appropriate information and knowledge
- Client knows how to obtain additional guidance



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Standard 4: Utilization and management of resources

The dietetics professional uses resources effectively and efficiently in practice.

Rationale

The appropriate use of time, money, facilities and human resources facilitates delivery of quality services.

Indicators

Each dietetics professional :

- 4.1. Uses a systematic approach to maintain and manage professional resources successfully,
- 4.2. Uses measurable resources such as personnel, monies, equipment, guidelines, protocols, reference materials, and time in the provision of dietetics services,
- 4.3. Examines and analyzes safety, effectiveness, and cost in planning and delivering services and products,
- 4.4. Justifies use of resources by documenting consistency with plan, continuous quality improvement and desired outcomes,
- 4.5. Educates and helps clients and others to identify and secure appropriate and available resources and services.

Examples of outcomes

- The dietetics professional documents use of resources according to plan and budget
- Resources and services are measured and data are used to promote and validate the effectiveness of services
- Desired outcomes are achieved and documented
- Resources are managed and used cost-effectively

Standard 5: Quality in Practice

The dietetics professional systematically evaluates the quality and effectiveness of practice and revises practice as needed to incorporate the results of evaluation.

Rationale

Quality service requires regular performance evaluation and continuous improvement of services.

Indicators

Each dietetics professional :



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- 5.1. Identifies performance improvement criteria to monitor effectiveness of services,
- 5.2. Identifies expected outcomes,
- 5.3. Documents outcomes of services provided,
- 5.4. Compares actual performance to expected outcomes,
- 5.5. Documents action taken when discrepancies exist between actual performance and expected outcomes,
- 5.6. Continuously evaluates and refines services based on measured outcomes.

Examples of outcomes

- Performance improvement criteria are measured
- Actual performance is evaluated
- Clients' outcomes meet established criteria (objectives/goals)
- Results of quality improvement activities direct refinement of practice.

Standard 6: Continued competence and professional accountability

The dietetics professional engages in lifelong self-development to improve knowledge and enhance professional competence.

Rationale

Professional practice requires continuous acquisition of knowledge and skill development to maintain accountability to the public.

Indicators

Each dietetics professional :

- 6.1. Conducts self-assessment at regular intervals to identify professional strengths and weaknesses,
- 6.2. Identifies needs for professional development and mentors others,
- 6.3. Develops and implements a plan for professional growth,
- 6.4. Documents professional development activities,
- 6.5. Adheres to the Code of Ethics for the profession of dietetics and is accountable and responsible for actions and behavior,



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6.6 Supports the application of research findings to professional practice,

6.7. Takes active leadership roles.

Examples of outcomes

- The dietetics professional uses self-reflection and feedback from a variety of sources to evaluate and implement professional change
- Dietetics professional development needs are identified and directed learning takes place
- The dietetics professional accepts accountability to the public
- The dietetics professional obtains appropriate certifications
- The dietetics professional supports legislation which promotes positive food and nutrition outcomes
- The dietetics professional uses 'best practices' to demonstrate competency
- The dietetics professional meets Commission on Dietetic Registration recertification requirement