

4.7 Oncology Nutrition Services

Definition and Requirements

Oncology nutrition services are provided, on-site or by referral, by Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDN) with knowledge and skills to address nutrition and hydration requirements and recommendations throughout the continuum of cancer care, including prevention, diagnosis, treatment, survivorship, and palliative care.

Multi-modality cancer treatments can impair a cancer patient's ability to consume, digest, and absorb essential nutrition and hydration. RDNs—also known as Registered Dietitians (RDs)—are uniquely trained to address treatment-related symptom management, nutrition support, and quality-of-life concerns through medical nutrition therapy and education. In addition, RDNs are qualified to discuss diet, nutrition, and lifestyle recommendations for survivorship, health promotion, and disease prevention.

The cancer program defines and identifies the nutrition services provided on-site and by referral. Components of oncology nutrition services include, but are not limited to:

- Screening and nutrition assessment for risk and diagnosis of malnutrition, nutrition-related problems, and overweight and obesity
- Medical nutrition therapy
- Nutrition counseling
- Nutrition education
- Management and coordination of enteral and parenteral nutrition

Nutrition services not available at the facility must be provided through a referral relationship to other facilities and/or agencies.

Evaluating Oncology Nutrition Services

Each calendar year, the cancer committee must monitor, evaluate, and make recommendations for improvements to on-site oncology nutrition and hydration services and/or referral services. The content of the review and any recommendations for improvement are documented in the cancer committee minutes.

If available, it is recommended that a RDN attend the cancer committee meeting to lead the discussion and provide the report.

Documentation

Submitted with Pre-Review Questionnaire

- Policies and procedures for providing oncology nutrition services, on-site or by referral, by a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist
- Cancer committee minutes that document the required yearly evaluations of the oncology nutrition services

Measure of Compliance

Each calendar year, the cancer program fulfills all of the compliance criteria:

1. Oncology nutrition services are provided, on-site or by referral, by a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.
2. The process for referring or providing oncology nutrition services to cancer patients is monitored and reviewed by the cancer committee and documented in the cancer minutes.

Bibliography

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Evidence Analysis Library. Oncology Nutrition Evidence-based Nutrition Practice Guidelines (2007 and 2013). Available at: www.andeal.org. Accessed August 21, 2018.

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Baldwin C, Spiro A, Ahern R, et al. Oral nutritional interventions in malnourished patients with cancer: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. 2012;104(5):371-385.

Bozzetti F, Mariani L, Lo Vullo S, et al. The nutritional risk in oncology: A study of 1,453 cancer outpatients. *Support Care Cancer*. 2012;20(8):1919-1928.

Standard 4.7 Oncology Nutrition Services

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| Program Name | | |
| Year | | |
| Annual Policy and Procedure Review | | |
| Committee Meeting Date | | |
| Oncology Nutrition Services | | |
| Reason for Referral | Services Offered On Site | Services Offered by Referral |
| Screening and Nutrition Assessment tfor risk and diagnosis of malnuriton, nutrition-related problems, and overweight and obesity | | |
| Medical Nutrition Therapy | | |
| Nutritonal Counseling | | |
| Nutriton Education | | |
| Mnagmet and Coordination of enteral and parenteral nutrition | | |
| Oncology Nutrition Services | | |
| Date Cancer Committee reviewed Policy & Procedure | | |
| <i>Criteria for consideration of Oncology Nutritional referral:</i> | | |
| | | |
| <i>Results, referrals and follow up must be documented in the patient's medical record.</i> | | |
| Oncology Nutrition Services Referrals are made by | | |
| December 2022 to November 2023 | | |
| Number of primary cancer diagnosis seen by team | | |
| Number of primary cancer diagnosis seen by outpatient team | | |
| Oncology Nutrition Services Referrals are made by | | |
| MD/PA Referral #: | IDT Member Referral #: | Patient Request #: |
| Nursing Referral #: | Nutrition Screening #: | RD Identified Patient Need #: |
| <i>Overall Service Findings</i> | | |
| Barriers Identified | Ideas to Address Barriers | |
| | | |
| <i>Follow-up to Barrier Identified</i> | | |
| | | |
| <i>Department Initiatives</i> | | <i>Department Publicator</i> |
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| <i>Areas of Improvement</i> | | |
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| <i>Updates</i> | | |
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If you have any graphs or tables please insert on this side:

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