### PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for clinicians in the provision of appropriate nutrition care.

### POLICY

Patient with identified nutrition care needs will be referred to an appropriate, qualified registered dietician, when indicated.

### PROCEDURE

1. During the initial assessment, the admitting clinician will assess the patient’s nutritional status.
2. The admitting clinician will arrange for a nutritional consultation when:
   1. Nutrition care planning is complex or
   2. There is need for a further nutrition assessment by a specially trained and educated clinician.
3. Potential problems for patient’s nutritional status will be reported to the clinician's immediate Clinical Supervisor and, when appropriate, the patient’s physician.
4. When a patient has been prescribed a special diet, the clinician will provide the patient and family/caregiver with written and verbal information regarding the diet.
5. The effectiveness and appropriateness of nutrition therapies will be monitored on an ongoing basis through documented evaluation of goals, outcomes of therapies, and during case conferences