

PUBLIC HEALTH CODE (EXCERPT)
Act 368 of 1978

333.18351 Definitions.

Sec. 18351. (1) As used in this part:

(a) "Dietitian nutritionist" means an individual who is licensed or otherwise authorized to engage in the practice of medical nutrition therapy under this article.

(b) "General nonmedical nutrition information" means information on any of the following:

(i) Principles of human nutrition and food preparation.

(ii) Principles of self-care and a healthy relationship with food.

(iii) The essential nutrients needed by the human body.

(iv) The recommended amounts of essential nutrients in the human body.

(v) The actions of nutrients in the human body.

(vi) The effects of deficiencies or excesses of nutrients in the human body.

(vii) Foods, herbs, and dietary supplements that are good sources of essential nutrients in the human body.

(c) "Medical weight control" means the practice of medical nutrition therapy for the purpose of reducing, maintaining, or gaining weight.

(d) "Nutrition assessment" means the ongoing, dynamic, and systematic process of obtaining, verifying, and interpreting biochemical, anthropometric, physical, nutrigenomic, and dietary data to make decisions about the nature and cause of nutrition-related problems and making recommendations, including recommendations on enteral and parenteral nutrition. The collection of data does not, by itself, constitute nutrition assessment.

(e) "Nutrition care services" means any part or all of the following services within a systematic process:

(i) Assessing and evaluating the nutritional needs of individuals and groups and determining resources and constraints in the practice setting, including ordering laboratory tests to check and track nutrition status, creating dietary plans and orders, and monitoring the effectiveness thereof.

(ii) Interpreting anthropometric, biochemical, clinical, and dietary data in acute and chronic disease states and recommending or ordering nutrient needs based on dietary data, including enteral and parenteral nutrition.

(iii) Establishing priorities, goals, and objectives that meet nutritional needs and that are consistent with available resources and constraints.

(iv) Providing nutrition counseling in health and disease, including food and nutrient counseling and counseling on food and prescription drug interactions.

(v) Developing, implementing, and managing nutrition care systems.

(vi) Evaluating, making changes in, and maintaining appropriate standards of quality in food and nutrition services.

(vii) Ordering therapeutic diets.

(f) "Nutrition counseling" means a supportive process, characterized by a collaborative counselor-patient or counselor-client relationship with individuals or groups, to establish food and nutrition priorities, goals, and individualized action plans and general physical activity guidance that acknowledge and foster responsibility for self-care to treat or manage an existing disease or medical condition or to promote health and wellness.

(g) "Nutrition diagnosis" means identifying and labeling nutritional problems managed and treated by a dietitian nutritionist. Nutrition diagnosis does not include the medical differential diagnosis of the health status of an individual.

(h) "Nutrition intervention" means purposefully planned actions and nutrition counseling intended to positively change a nutrition-related behavior, risk factor, environmental condition, or aspect of the health status for an individual.

(i) "Nutrition monitoring and evaluation" means identifying patient outcomes relevant to a nutrition diagnosis and comparing the outcomes with the patient's previous health status, intervention goals, or reference standards to determine the progress made in achieving desired outcomes of nutrition care and whether nutrition intervention should be continued or revised.

(j) "Patient" means an individual recipient of the practice of medical nutrition therapy, whether in the outpatient, inpatient, or nonclinical setting.

(k) "Practice of dietetics and nutrition" means the integration and application of scientific principles derived from the study of food, nutrition, biochemistry, metabolism, nutrigenomics, physiology, food systems and management, and from behavioral and social sciences in achieving and maintaining health throughout the lifespan and in providing nutrition care services, including the practice of medical nutrition therapy, for the prevention, management, and treatment of diseases or medical conditions. Practice of dietetics and nutrition does not include the medical differential diagnosis of the health status of an individual but does include each

of the following:

- (i) Nutrition assessment.
- (ii) Nutrition diagnosis.
- (iii) Nutrition support.
- (iv) Dietary and nutrition counseling and education.
- (v) Nutrition intervention.
- (vi) Nutrition monitoring and evaluation.
- (vii) Development and administration of nutrition care standards and systems.

(l) "Practice of medical nutrition therapy" means the provision of nutrition care services for the treatment or management of diseases or medical conditions.

(m) "Qualified supervisor" means an individual meeting the requirements described in section 18360.

(n) "Registered dietitian nutritionist" means an individual who is credentialed by the Commission on Dietetic Registration or its successor organization as a registered dietitian or registered dietitian nutritionist.

(o) "Therapeutic diet" means a diet intervention prescribed by a physician, or another health professional licensed under this article, that provides food or nutrients via oral, enteral, and parenteral routes as part of treatment of a disease or clinical condition to modify, eliminate, decrease, or increase identified micronutrients and macronutrients in the diet, or to provide mechanically altered food when indicated.

(p) "Unrestricted practice of medical nutrition therapy" means the application of dietetics and nutrition knowledge and skills by an individual who regulates and is responsible for the individual's own practice or treatment procedures.

(2) In addition to the definitions in this part, article 1 contains general definitions and principles of construction applicable to all articles in this code and part 161 contains definitions applicable to this part.

History: Add. 2024, Act 39, Eff. Apr. 2, 2025.

Compiler's note: Former MCL 333.18351, which pertained to licensure of dietitians and nutritionists, was repealed by Act 267 of 2014, Imd. Eff. July 1, 2014.

Popular name: Act 368