

UPDATE on House Bill 1157

Synopsis:

- Qualified dietitians. Defines "qualified dietitian" in the State of Indiana.
- Allows qualified dietitians to order medically prescribed diets.
- Requires the state department of health to adopt rules to comply with federal law concerning food and dietetic services.

Effective: July 1, 2015

NEXT STEPS if a hospital wants to authorize qualified dietitians to order medically prescribed diets:

1. Visit the Academy website and read these helpful articles:
PRACTICE TIPS: Hospital Regulation-Ordering Privileges for the RDN
PRACTICE TIPS: Implementation Steps – Ordering Privileges for the RDN
REVIEW: The Academy's Definitions of Terms
2. LEARN about HB1157 and the May 2014 CMS ruling.
3. START educating your hospital leadership so that you may take advantage of HB1157.
4. WORK with your hospital leadership to determine the hospital role for the RDN.
Most likely this is already defined by job descriptions but this is a good time to review and update if necessary. May need hospital legal counsel to review plans.
IMPORTANT NOTE: ONLY CERTIFIED DIETITIANS will be able to practice independently in Indiana.
5. IDENTIFY the best option for granting ordering privileges in your hospital.
CMS requires medical staff oversight
Can occur in one of two ways; a hospital:
 - a) Has the regulatory flexibility to appoint an RDN(s) to the medical staff and grant the RDN(s) specific nutrition ordering privileges, OR
 - b) Can authorize the ordering privileges without appointment to the medical staff.
 - c) Each hospital and medical staff must make specific determinations about HOW the RDN will practice.
6. WORK with your hospital leadership to determine the hospital role for the RDN.
Most likely this is already defined by job descriptions but this is a good time to review and update if necessary.
IMPORTANT NOTE: ONLY CERTIFIED DIETITIANS will be able to practice independently in Indiana. ONLY MUST have ordering privileges to independently order therapeutic diets or nutrition-related actions.
7. DISCUSS liability insurance with hospital and reassess personal liability insurance.
8. MONITOR CMS's Conditions of Participation (CoP) and Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) rules for adoption of HB 1157.