

Current Status of Dietitian Order Writing Privileges in Georgia

Order Writing Privilege Policy



It is essential that all hospitals in Georgia have a written policy describing the order writing privileges of the dietitians working in the facility.

72.7%
Have policy

24.2%
No policy

3%
Do not know

Submitting Nutrition Orders



In 2014, CMS expanded the scope of practice for dietitians and recommended independent order writing privileges. However, many Georgia hospitals have not updated their privileging.

62.5%

of Dietitians still require a physician co-signature to submit nutrition related orders

Ordering Oral Nutrition Supplements

54.5%

of dietitians can submit orders for oral nutrition supplements without a co-signature.

Of note, these are typically sold over the counter.

Order Writing Privileges Denied



LEGAL/LIABILITY



MORE DATA NEEDED



POSSIBLY IN THE FUTURE

Parenteral Nutrition

45.4%

No privileges

27.2%

Can initiate with co-signature

27.2%

Can initiate independently

Enteral Nutrition

24.2%

No privileges

39%

Can initiate with co-signature

36.3%

Can initiate independently

FINAL VERDICT



There is inconsistency across the state regarding clinical privileging. Many dietitians are frustrated by their limited privileging.



The task force plans to develop tools which help dietitians work with hospital leaders to expand their clinical privileging.

A survey developed by the Georgia Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Public Policy Task Force was sent to 112 hospitals across the state. With a 65% response rate, the above data represents a sample of a variety of acute care hospitals and the current status of ordering writing privileges among dietitians in Georgia.

Want to learn more or get more details?
Great! A full survey report is available.

Email: delegate@eatrightgeorgia.org