



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
2050 WORTH ROAD
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MCHO-CL-R (40-2p)

2 December 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEFS, MEDCOM NUTRITION CARE DIVISIONS

SUBJECT: Privileging of Army Dietitians and Occupational Therapists

1. References:

a. Memorandum, HQ, U.S. Army Medical Command, 12 May 1997, subject as above (Enclosure 1).

b. Memorandum, HQ, U.S. Army Medical Command, 2 July 1997, subject: Privileging of Dietitians (Enclosure 2).

c. AR 40-48, (Nonphysician Health Care Providers), 1 August 1995.

2. The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify issues relating to the privileging of dietitians within the U.S. Army medical treatment facilities (MTFs). The memorandum referenced in paragraph 1a, above, was signed by the Director, Clinical Operations, Headquarters, U.S. Army Medical Command, and mailed to all MTF Credential Coordinators. The intent of the memorandum referenced in paragraph 1a, above, is to ensure that dietitians are granted privileges in accordance with their current scope of practice.

3. The memorandum referenced in paragraph 1b above, provided guidance to each MEDCOM Nutrition Care Division Chief, and provided procedures for initiating requests for privileges, scope of practice guidelines, and supervisory requirements. As with the new privileging language, these guidelines were to be implemented based on the needs of each MTF.

4. The process for granting clinical privileges to dietitians referenced in paragraph 1c, above, has been changed; however, the revised regulation has not been published. One important change affecting dietitian privileging will be that a military Registered Dietitian may be named supervisor of other privileged dietitians in lieu of a physician. The supervising dietitian may be at the same facility or at a Regional Medical Command, and must be granted privileges in at least the same category or greater than the dietitian who is requesting clinical privileges.



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2 July 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR All US Army Dietitians

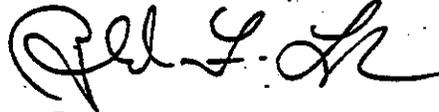
SUBJECT: Privileging of Dietitians

1. In this rapidly changing field of healthcare, it has become apparent that dietitians working in U.S. Army Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs) must become privileged. There are several reasons for this.
 - a. We are working in an increasingly joint environment and must have parity among the services. Air Force and Navy dietitians are currently privileged. Data from the Ambulatory Data System (ADS) and other automated systems will be compared across all services and must be standardized to be meaningful.
 - b. Health Affairs has determined that only privileged health care providers can use the full range of ADS codes. Non-privileged providers may only use 99211 which reflects technician level work. We must become privileged and use the full range of codes for the ADS system to accurately reflect the work we do.
2. All dietitians should request privileges in accordance with AR 40-48 (Nonphysician Health Care Providers) and AR 40-68 (Quality Assurance Administration).
 - a. Privileges may be requested by visiting your MTF credentials office and completing Delineation of Privileges-Dietetics overprint, DA FORM 5440-19-R, JUL 89 (Enclosure 1) and Delineation of Privileges overprint, DA FORM 5440-22-R, JUL 89 (Enclosure 2). A revised privileging form is currently being staffed through the Medical Command Clinical Standards Division and the Triservice Privileging Working Group.
 - b. The Evaluation and Management Services Guidelines booklet (Enclosure 3) contains Dr. Schoomaker's letter regarding privileging of dietitians and occupational therapists as well as ADS coding guidelines for Nutrition Care and ADS implementation support.

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SUBJECT: Privileging of Army Dietitians

8. Our point of contact is MAJ Karen L. Geisler, Brooke Army Medical Center, Nutrition Care Division, DSN 429-3372 or Commercial (210)916-3372.



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