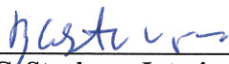
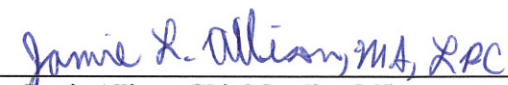




**COBB COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

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Policy # 8060	Nutritional Needs and Education for Clients and their Families
Origination Date: February 1998	
Revision Date: June 2004; March 21, 2006; July 20, 2007; February 24, 2009, October 3, 2012	
Reviewed Date: February 2005, August 23, 2010, May 1, 2013	
Approved:	
 Bryan G. Stephens Interim Executive Director	 Jamie Allison, Chief Quality Officer

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Cobb County Community Services Board and the Douglas County Community Services Board to screen admitted clients' nutritional status and needs, the results of which determines the need for further nutritional assessment. Clients and their family member(s) are educated about nutrition interventions, modified diets, and oral health while in treatment, when applicable.

PROCEDURE:

A. Needs

1. During the course of treatment, clients may be asked about nutritional habits. This screening includes recent weight and appetite changes, unusual eating patterns/preferences or any other nutritional concerns, any of which identified would prompt a Nursing Assessment. Special considerations for nutritional needs are given to higher risk populations including clients with newly/recently diagnosed medical conditions with dietary indications, child and adolescent clients and clients with developmental disabilities or substance abuse.
2. An initial Nursing Assessment will be completed within the specified time frame dependent upon the level of care. A Nursing Assessment can be completed at any time based upon the client's needs/condition/referral. This includes clients on special diets, those with history or signs/symptoms of an eating disorder, those with rapid or significant weight changes over short periods of time, and those with idiosyncratic diets resulting in limited food choices. Subsequent to the Nursing Assessment, the RN will assess the need for immediate consultation with the program physician for any potentially significant findings and/or may note findings for the program physician to review before recommending additional follow-up as indicated. The client and treatment team determines the scope and intensity of referrals for further assessment after consideration of the client's clinical need and desire for further assessment or care.
3. When a physician orders a Nutritional Assessment, it must be completed by a Registered Dietician.
4. Ongoing assessment of a client's nutritional status is conducted under the supervision of the program nurses and attending physician. Re-consultation with a Registered Dietician may be requested at any time based upon the client's clinical status.
5. During the stay in the BHCC, the RN will assess the need for a nutrition referral to a registered dietician during the nursing assessment, with approval of the client. If indicated, the MD/APRN/PA may write an order for a special diet from our food service.

6. In lieu of a Nutritional Assessment, staff will collaborate with Primary Care Physician and incorporate data into plan of care when necessary.

B. Education:

1. The agency uses several manuals and/or books to teach clients and/or their family member(s) about nutrition and oral health. These manuals can be used in psychiatric residential settings, outpatient day treatment programs, and with the developmentally disabled.
- 2.. Staff has the capability to access the Internet for educational information.
- 3.. Local universities and colleges provide nursing students who teach wellness classes.
4. Available resources can be provided upon request for clients and their families.