Section 300.2040 Diet Orders

a) Two or more copies of a current diet manual shall be available and in use. One copy shall be located in the kitchen for use by dietary personnel. Other copies shall be located at each nurses' station for use by physicians when prescribing diets.

b) Physicians shall write a diet order, in the medical record, for each resident indicating whether the resident is to have a general or a therapeutic diet. The diet shall be served as ordered.

c) A written diet order shall be sent to the food service department when each resident is admitted and each time that the resident's diet is changed. Each change shall be ordered by the physician. The diet order shall include, at a minimum, the following information: name of resident, room and bed number, type of diet, consistency if other than regular consistency, date diet order is sent to dietary, name of physician ordering the diet, and the signature of the person transmitting the order to the food service department.

d) The resident shall be observed to determine acceptance of the diet, and these observations shall be recorded in the medical record.

e) A therapeutic diet means a diet ordered by the physician as part of a treatment for a disease or clinical condition, to eliminate or decrease certain substances in the diet (e.g., sodium) or to increase certain substances in the diet (e.g., potassium), or to provide food in a form that the resident is able to eat (e.g., mechanically altered diet).

f) All therapeutic diets shall be medically prescribed and shall be planned or approved by a dietitian.

g) The kinds and variations of prescribed therapeutic diets shall be available in the kitchen. If separate menus are not planned for each specific diet, diet information for each specific type, in a form easily understood by staff, shall be available in a convenient location in the kitchen.

h) All oral liquid diets shall be reviewed every 48 hours. Medical soft diets, sometimes known as transitional diets, shall be reviewed every three weeks. All other therapeutic and mechanically altered diets, including commercially prepared formulas that are in liquid form and blenderized liquid diets, shall be reviewed as needed, or at least every three months.

Section 300.2050 Meal Planning

Each resident shall be served food to meet the resident's needs and to meet physician's orders. The facility shall use this Section to plan menus and purchase food in accordance with the following Recommended Dietary Allowances of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences.

a) Milk and Milk Products Group: 16 ounces or more of Grade A whole or low fat pasteurized milk where milk is used for fluid consumption. Calcium equivalents for eight ounces of milk:
1) 1½ ounces natural cheese,

2) Two ounces processed cheese,

3) One cup yogurt, or one cup frozen yogurt,

4) One cup cottage cheese, or

5) 1½ cups ice cream or ice milk.

b) Meat Group: A total of 6 ounces (by weight) of good quality protein to provide 38 to 42 grams of protein daily. To ensure variety, food items repeated within the same day shall not be counted as meeting a required serving. The following are examples of one serving.

1) Three ounces (excluding bone, fat and breading) of any cooked meat such as whole or ground beef, veal, pork or lamb; poultry; organ meats such as liver, heart, or kidney; prepared luncheon meats.

2) Three ounces (excluding skin and breading) of cooked fish or shell fish or ½ cup canned fish

3) Three ounces of natural or processed cheese or ¾ cup cottage cheese.

4) Three eggs (minimum weight 21 ounces per dozen, considered a medium egg).

Note: If one egg is served at a meal, a protein food of good quality may be reduced from six to five ounces for the remaining meals. If two eggs are served at a meal, a minimum of two ounces of good quality protein shall be served at each of the remaining meals.

5) 1½ cups cooked dried peas or beans, six tablespoons of peanut butter, or one cup nuts, not more than twice a week and provided that eggs, milk or lean meat is served at the same meal.

6) Three ounces of soy protein containing not less than 21 grams of protein or in combination with other sources of quality protein to equal 21 grams of protein, provided that it is acceptable to the resident population.

7) Combinations of all above examples are acceptable, provided that the minimum standard of six ounces of a good quality protein food is served daily and provided that the combinations do not conflict with eye appeal or palatability.

8) The content of meat alternative products shall be listed on the menu.

c) Vegetable and Fruit Group: Five or more servings of fruits or vegetables.

1) A serving consists of:

A) ½ cup chopped raw, cooked, canned or frozen fruit or vegetables;

B) ¾ cup fruit or vegetable juice; or

C) One cup raw leafy vegetable.

2) The five or more servings shall consist of:
A) Sources of vitamin C

i) One serving of a good source of vitamin C (containing at least 60 mg of vitamin C); or

ii) Two servings of a fair source of vitamin C. This may be more than one food item and shall contain a total of at least 65 mg of vitamin C.

B) One serving of a good source of vitamin A at least three times a week supplying at least 1000 micrograms retinol equivalent (RE) of vitamin A.

C) Other fruits and vegetables, including potatoes, that may be served in ⅓ cup or larger portions.

3) To ensure variety, food items repeated within the same day shall not be counted as meeting a required serving.

d) Bread, Cereal, Rice and Pasta Group: Six or more servings of whole grain, enriched or restored products. One serving equals:

1) One slice of bread,

2) ½ cup of cooked cereal, rice, pasta, noodles, or grain product,

3) ¾ cup of dry, ready-to-eat cereal,

4) ½ hamburger or hotdog bun, bagel or English muffin,

5) One 4-inch diameter pancake,

6) One tortilla,

7) Three to four plain crackers (small),

8) ½ croissant (large), doughnut or Danish (medium),

9) 1/16 cake,

10) Two cookies, or

11) 1/12 pie (2-crust, 8”).

e) Butter or Margarine: To be used as a spread and in cooking

f) Other foods shall be served to round out meals, satisfy individual appetites, improve flavor, and meet the individual's nutritional and caloric needs.

g) Meals for the day shall be planned to provide a variety of foods, variety in texture and good color balance. The following meal patterns shall be used.

1) Three meals a day plan:

A) Breakfast: Fruit or juice, cereal, meat (optional, but three to four times per week preferable), bread, butter or margarine, milk, and choice of additional beverage.
B) Main Meal (may be served noon or evening): Soup or juice (optional), entree (quality protein), potato or potato substitute, vegetable or salad, dessert (preferably fruit unless fruit is served as a salad or will be served at another meal), bread, butter or margarine, and choice of beverage.

C) Lunch or Supper: Soup or juice (optional), entree (quality protein), potato or potato substitute (optional if served at main meal), vegetable or salad, dessert, bread, butter or margarine, milk, and choice of additional beverage.

2) Other meal patterns may be used if facilities are able to meet residents' needs using such plans

Section 300.2080 Menus and Food Records

a) Menus, including menus for "sack" lunches and between meal or bedtime snacks, shall be planned at least one week in advance. Food sufficient to meet the nutritional needs of all the residents shall be prepared for each meal. When changes in the menu are necessary, substitutions shall provide equal nutritive value and shall be recorded on the original menu, or in a notebook marked "Substitutions", that is kept in the kitchen. If a notebook is used to document substitutions, it shall include the date of the substitution; the meal at which the substitution was made; the menu as originally written; and the menu as actually served.

b) The menu for the current week shall be dated and available in the kitchen. Upon the request of the Department, sample menus shall be submitted for evaluation.

c) Menus shall be different for the same day of consecutive weeks and adjusted for seasonal differences.

d) All menus as actually served shall be kept on file at the facility for not less than 30 days.

e) Food label information for purchased prepared food listing food composition and, when available, nutrient content shall be kept on file in the facility for the current menu cycle.