Section 6. Physical Environment.

Dietary Facilities. Food shall be stored, prepared, distributed, and served under proper sanitary conditions.

(i) Non-dietary personnel shall be excluded from the dietary area and the traffic pattern strictly controlled;

(ii) Employees shall not eat or use tobacco products in any food preparation area;

(iii) A written policy shall be developed and adhered to for the cleaning and sanitizing of all ice machines; and

(iv) Equipment and work areas shall be clean and orderly. Effective procedures for cleaning all equipment and work areas shall be followed consistently to safeguard residents’ health.

Section 11. Dietetic Services.

The facility shall provide dietetic services that meet the nutritional needs of residents according to the science of nutrition. The dietetic service shall operate with safe food handling practices from receipt through service in accordance with the most current edition of the FOOD CODE from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration.

(a) Dietary Supervision.

Overall supervisory responsibility for the dietetic service shall be assigned to a full-time qualified dietetic supervisor.

(i) If the qualified supervisor is not a Registered Dietitian, she/he shall be a graduate of a dietetic technician program approved by the American Dietetic Association or a dietary managers’ educational program approved by the Certifying Board for Dietary Managers. Training and experience in food service supervision and nutrition equivalent in content to the approved educational programs are acceptable.

(ii) Visits of the consultant dietitian shall be scheduled to assure that the professional dietetic service needs of the facility are met. These visits shall be:

(A) For at least eight (8) hours every other week, so that adequate time is allowed for observation of more than one (1) meal per visit; or,
(B) For at least four (4) hours every week so that adequate time is allowed to observe the preparation and serving of food at meal time. The weekly visits shall be scheduled to allow for observation of different meals.

(C) Visits shall not be limited to evenings and weekends only.

(iii) Reports of the consultant dietitian shall be made verbally and in writing to the Administrator or his/her designee. The reports shall be kept on file with notations made of actions taken by the facility. The report shall include dates, length of time on-site, functions performed and recommendations.

(iv) The consultant or staff dietitian shall develop written plans and conduct or supervise in service programs for dietary personnel on a monthly basis.

(v) The consultant or staff dietitian shall participate in the development of policies and procedures, as well as the development or approval of all menus.

(vi) The consultant dietitian is to provide assistance and advice, as needed, regarding the dietary department budget.

(vii) The consultant or staff dietitian shall maintain interdisciplinary communication and act as the dietetic service’s chief liaison to the medical and nursing staffs.

(viii) The dietetic supervisor shall be responsible for department orientation, training, scheduling, and work assignments for all dietetic service personnel.

(ix) The dietetic supervisor shall be responsible for menu planning, ordering or recommending the purchase of supplies, monitoring the department budget, controlling costs, maintaining associated records, etc.

(x) The dietetic supervisor shall be responsible for the development of policies and procedures. These polices shall be maintained in a manual and reviewed at least annually. Reviews and revisions shall be dated and signed by the supervisor and the consultant or staff dietitian.

(xi) If the dietetic supervisor also has responsibility for cooking, adequate time shall be allowed for supervisory management.

(b) Hygiene of Dietary Department. Food service personnel shall be in good health and shall practice safe food handling techniques in accordance with the current edition of FOOD CODE published by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Services, Food and Drug Administration.

(i) Personnel having a communicable disease that can be expected to be transmitted through food shall not be permitted to work until the disease is no longer communicable or medical clearance is received from a physician or an advanced practitioner.