

**Chapter 182-555 WAC
MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY**

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WAC 182-555-0100 General. The medical nutrition therapy program ensures that clients have access to medically necessary outpatient medical nutrition therapy and associated follow-ups.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 18-22-060, § 182-555-0100, filed 10/31/18, effective 1/1/19.]

WAC 182-555-0200 Definitions. The following definitions and those found in chapter 182-500 WAC apply to this chapter:

"Enteral nutrition" - See WAC 182-554-200.

"Medical nutrition therapy" - Means an interaction between the registered dietitian (RD) and the client or client's guardian for the purpose of evaluating and making recommendations regarding the client's nutritional status.

"Nutrition assessment" - Means the collection and documentation of information such as food or nutrition-related history; biochemical data, medical tests and procedures; anthropometric measurements, nutrition-focused physical findings and client history.

"Nutrition care process" - Means a systematic approach to providing high-quality nutrition care. Provides a framework for the registered dietitian to individualize care, taking into account the client's needs and values and evidence available to make decisions.

"Nutrition-related diagnosis" - Means a diagnosis within the scope of practice for an RD to diagnose and treat as defined by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

"Registered dietitian" - Means a dietitian who is registered with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and who is certified by the Washington state department of health (DOH).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 18-22-060, § 182-555-0200, filed 10/31/18, effective 1/1/19.]

WAC 182-555-0300 Eligibility. The medicaid agency covers medical nutrition therapy for clients who are referred to a registered dietitian for medical nutrition therapy by a physician, physician assistant (PA), or an advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-07-132, § 182-555-0300, filed 3/22/23, effective 4/22/23; WSR 18-22-060, § 182-555-0300, filed 10/31/18, effective 1/1/19.]

WAC 182-555-0400 Provider requirements. Medical nutrition therapy services must be delivered by a registered dietitian (RD) who:

- (1) Has a current core provider agreement with the medicaid agency; and
- (2) Has a national provider identifier (NPI).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 18-22-060, § 182-555-0400, filed 10/31/18, effective 1/1/19.]

WAC 182-555-0500 Covered services. (1) The medicaid agency covers medically necessary medical nutrition therapy when related to a nutrition-related diagnosis for eligible clients, as described under WAC 182-555-0300.

(2) The agency covers medical nutrition therapy, nutrition assessment, and counseling for conditions that are within the scope of practice for a registered dietitian (RD) to evaluate and treat.

(3) Medical nutrition therapy services may require prior authorization or expedited prior authorization, as described in WAC 182-501-0163.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 23-07-132, § 182-555-0500, filed 3/22/23, effective 4/22/23; WSR 18-22-060, § 182-555-0500, filed 10/31/18, effective 1/1/19.]

WAC 182-555-0600 Documentation requirements. In addition to the health care record requirements found in WAC 182-502-0020, the medical nutrition therapy provider must maintain the following documentation in the client's file:

(1) Referral from the provider, as described under WAC 182-555-0300;

(2) The medical nutrition therapy provider assessment following the nutrition care process:

(a) Nutrition assessment;

(b) Nutrition diagnosis, including the problem, etiology, signs, and symptoms (PES) statement;

(c) Nutrition intervention;

(d) Nutrition monitoring and evaluation.

(3) Any correspondence with the referring provider;

(4) Information on associated medical conditions; and

(5) Information concerning the medical need.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 18-22-060, § 182-555-0600, filed 10/31/18, effective 1/1/19.]