



Dietitians Board

Te Mana Tohunga Matai Kai

Newsletter to the Profession

A. Board Appointments Process

The Minister has not yet appointed/re-appointed the Dietitians Board members. These will be confirmed to you by email.

2. Revised and Simplified CCP Audit Template

Please refer to the revised template, as well as the information below about forthcoming changes.

3. Changed Learning Categories

The three learning categories will now include Continuing Education, Practice Review and Cultural Competency. Category 3 was previously Additional Professional/Personal Development.

NB: Activities related to Additional Professional/Personal Development can now be included under Continuing Education, provided activities are related to your area of practice.

4. Activities/Credit Allocation

IMPORTANT:

Activities must now include **at least one x 3 (or higher) level activity per year** undertaken in *any* category, however **over the five years, at least one x 3 (or higher) credit activity** must be undertaken in *every* category.

5. Description of Activities Undertaken

- **For 1 and 2 credit activities:** include a brief description of the activity but not reflection.
- **Higher level (3 plus) credit activities:** include a detailed description of the activity, reflection and evidence with the number of credits noted.

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IMPORTANT

B. Changes to the Continuing Competency (CC) Programme

The Board is continuing to refine the Continuing Competency Programme (CCP). Based on the 2009 CC Programme review, we will be making significant **changes**, effective from *1 April 2010*.

The major changes are outlined below:

1. 'Learning Objectives' (previously 'learning plans')

These are now to be developed on an annual basis and are to be included with your audit documentation (please refer to example templates).

The emphasis of the 'learning objectives' are primarily now to *reflect your (nutrition related) dietetic area of practice* (previously these were based on core competencies). These should identify specific learning needs of your dietetic position and can be based on plans undertaken at work.

Mary McNab



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6. Clarification of Practice Review

Practice review is unchanged, however:

- It is a key part of the CCP and *must* be undertaken annually, gaining a *minimum* of 3 credits per year (1, 2 or 3 credits) which is 20%, i.e. 2/10 or 3/15.
- Evidence may be given for 1 and 2 credit level activities under category 2(Practice Review), but is not required for categories 1 (Continuing Education) and 3 (Cultural Competency).
- Feedback from another person, including his/her name (and signature on the peer review evaluation, where possible) must always be part of Practice Review.

7. Supervision of New Graduates

Supervision will now be *compulsory* for the 2009/2010 new graduates.

Each new graduate will require a supervision agreement, signed by their supervisor. This will be sent with the registration pack. Section 1 needs to be returned, signed by both parties, to the Board immediately the graduate starts work. A new agreement will need to be signed and sent to the Board if the graduate changes positions within the first year of working. If the supervision period is interrupted (e.g. by maternity leave), upon his/her return to practising in NZ, a further supervision agreement will be required.

Compulsory *mentoring* continues for entry level dietitians.

A supervisor and mentor may be the same person in some instances.

8. Further information about these changes will be on the website under:

http://www.dietitiansboard.org.nz/Site/Practitioners/Maintain_Competency.aspx

NB: The CCP **Manual**, which was last revised in June 2007, will be revised shortly to incorporate all the new changes. Please continue to use the 2007 CCP Manual (on the website) for suggestions on the CC Audit process, in the meantime. **Samples** of evidence are also on the website.

C. Other CC Matters

1. Cultural Competency

- a) The Board's on-line cultural competency course is accessed through this link: <http://nzdb.moodle.co.nz/> and includes an on-line test. You must first contact the Registrar for the enrolment key.
- b) The Board also recommends the one hour Mauri Ora 'Healthcare and the Treaty of Waitangi' on-line course. This is a modular course, costing \$20 + GST. Contact pauline@mauriora.co.nz for details of how to enrol.

2. Supervision

The Board's 'Supervision Guidelines and Agreement' document has been updated (and is on the home page of the website). This includes a further definition of what 'supervision' means. Supervision is intended to be a supportive process to enhance practice, and should be able to assist you in prioritising workloads.

The Board has agreed to endorse the Dietitians NZ (NZDA) 'Professional Supervision for Dietitians Guidelines' (which are available on the Board's website and on the NZDA website).

3. CC Resource People

The CC Resource People are being briefed regarding the changes to the CCP. Please check the Board's website for the contact details of a CC Resource Person near you:

http://www.dietitiansboard.org.nz/Site/Practitioners/Continuing_Competence_Resource_People.aspx

4. On-line CCP

The Board is working towards on-line CCP and hopes to have this operating after a new website has been created. Keeping your CCP up-to-date on-line will eventually become compulsory for practising dietitians.



Mary McNab
Chairperson