

MACMHB

State Training Guidelines Workgroup

Training/Curriculum Recommendations

The intent of this Training Guideline is for the development and presentation of training content. Curricula based on this guideline will contribute to statewide uniformity, reciprocity, and portability.

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Topic: *Assisting People with Eating and/or Swallowing Difficulties*

Defining Paragraph (Vision, Boundaries, Overall Outcome Statement):

Some individuals have special needs related to eating and swallowing. Staff providing services to these individuals must be aware of each person's specific needs and know how to safely provide assistance with each person's meals. Along with safety and nutritional needs, the staff should be mindful of the social, cultural, and celebratory aspects of food when providing assistance for even the most challenging feeding program.

Definitions:

Content – These are a listing of the areas covered in the subject

Outcomes/Competencies – These are statements about what participants will be able to do as a result of having participated in the course. Please indicate expectations and minimum competency criteria.

Content:

1. Dysphagia
2. Five stages of swallowing- pre-oral, oral preparatory, oral, pharyngeal and esophageal
3. Food textures and consistencies that pose potential swallowing challenges
4. Adaptive equipment that increases eating independence
5. Special diets including ground, pureed, soft and any liquid consistencies and restrictions
6. Unsafe eating practices
7. Safe positioning techniques for persons with dysphagia.

Specific training for individuals with feeding tubes:

1. Set up and monitor an individual on a tube fed diet, following the therapist's and/or dietician's plan of service and the nursing plan of care.

2. Complications regarding tube feeding such as tube insertion site, rate of flow, etc.

Outcomes/Competencies:

1. Identify at least three examples of diagnoses or reasons for a swallowing disorder
2. Distinguish among the five stages of swallowing- pre-oral, oral preparatory, oral, pharyngeal and esophageal
3. Identify food textures and consistencies that pose potential swallowing challenges
4. Identify and demonstrate the correct usage of adaptive equipment for persons with eating and/or swallowing difficulties such as limited range of motion, hand tremors, decreased hand strength, swallowing challenges, sensitive teeth, etc.
5. Identify several types of adaptive equipment that increases eating independence
6. Demonstrate techniques to use adaptive utensils
7. Identify types of special diets including ground, pureed, soft and any liquid consistencies and restrictions
8. Learn safe positioning techniques for persons with dysphagia.
9. Demonstrate safe positioning of a person who has eating or swallowing difficulties
10. List methods to use when: assisting someone with cognitive and/or physical challenges, monitoring the risk of choking such as rapid eating, pocketing food in mouth, etc. and cueing an independent but slow eater
11. Document all food related issues and response to issue in appropriate location(s) (record, Incident Report, etc.)

Specific training for individuals with feeding tubes:

1. Demonstrate how to start and stop a tube feeding meal
2. Demonstrate the ability to problem solve and maintain a correct flow rate as indicated in the nursing plan of care
3. Identify and report the signs of an irritated or infected tube site

Outline/Recommendations:

Lecture covering basic objectives

Video showing the fluoroscopy of normal swallowing and contrasting swallowing difficulties

Demonstration of adaptive equipment and opportunities for hands on trials

Trainer Qualifications:

Check all that apply, be specific (years, degree, skills, etc):

- College Degree: Speech/Language Pathologist, OT, or Dietary Sciences preferred
- License: RN, LPN for specific training preferred
- Years Experience (please specify below):
- Documented Skill Set:
- Training Experience: Prefer one year experience or guidance from Professionals listed above
- Trainer in Adult Learning Styles/Methods:
- Other:

Specified experience:

One year direct experience in assessment and treatment of individuals with eating and swallowing difficulties. Also, while the qualifications listed are preferred, an experienced trainer with guidance from one of the professionals listed may be possible.

Length of Training:

2.0 hours for initial training
1.5 to 2 hours additional for specialized training in tube feeding

Format:

The acceptable format(s) for the class:

- Traditional "live" class.
- Online Class
- Self-study Unit
- Video Class
- Other (specify):

Teaching Methods:

These are the best teaching methods for teaching course content. Additional methods may also enhance learning.

- Individual
- Classroom/Group
- Lecture
- Discussion
- Skills Practice

- Return demonstrations
- Activities
- Videos
- Online Activities
- Individual Assignments
- Homework assignments
- Other (specify):
- Other (specify):

Method of Assessment:

How to measure entry level competency in this course.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Written Test | Performance Indicator: 80 % |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Return Demonstration | Performance Indicator: P/F |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Online Test | Performance Indicator: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Skill Sheet | Performance Indicator: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Homework Assignment(s) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Observation with sign-off sheet. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other: | |

Scope of Implementation:

Training recommended for:

- Specialized Residential direct care staff/home managers
- Specialized Residential Administrators
- Supported Living staff
- Adult Foster Care staff
- Respite Service staff
- Self-Determination staff
- Home-based services staff
- Foster Family Group Home staff
- Child-caring Institutions (Children’s Group Home) staff
- Other employee group (specify): as per Person Centered Plan
- Other employee group (specify):

Frequency:

It is recommended the content be reviewed/retaken:

- Initial
- Annual
- Every two years
- As needed:
- Other:

Additional Comments:

Can be taught in conjunction with Nutrition and/or Health

Suggested video available from Therapy Skill Builders

References/Legal Authority:

- 1) MCL 400.710(3)
- 2) R330.1801 et.seq
- 3) Prevailing State Guidelines and Practice Protocols

Note: If training is for an adult foster care facility/home adult foster care staff must also comply with the adult foster care administrative rules. In addition, in those situations where the contents of the training conflict with an administrative rule, the rule prevails.