Mater Misericordiae University Hospital Dublin

Job Description & Person Specification

Senior Dietitian working in Inherited Metabolic Disorders

Job Title / Grade:	**SENIOR DIETITIAN – Inherited Metabolic Disorders** **Fulltime Permanent Part Time 0.6WTE**
Post Number :	**H220046**
Department / Division:	**CLINICAL NUTRITION AND DIETETICS**
Directorate:	**HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PROFESSIONS**

Location: **MATER MISERICORDIAE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**

National Centre for Inherited Metabolic Disorders- Adult Service and Department of Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics.

Responsible to:	**Dietitian Manager or his/her nominee**
Professional Reporting Relationship:	**Dietitian Manager**
Clinical Reporting Relationship:	**Consultants in the IMD Service**

Our Department Vision, Mission and Values are

Vision: Leading the way in providing excellent nutrition care

Mission: To provide high quality, compassionate care to our patients to improve their lives by

- using evidence-based nutrition,
- embracing collaborative teamwork, and
- continuously progressing our dietetic skills

Values:

- Focused on the patient as a person
- Trustworthy experts in our field
- Kind, fair and adaptable
- Respectfully supporting each other, our patients and our colleagues
- Working together to find practical solutions

JOB DESCRIPTION

Scope of Service:

The Mater Hospital is the National Centre for Inherited Metabolic Disorders (IMD) for Adults. This centre manages

- Adults with IMD conditions across the lifespan including pregnancy
- those transitioning from the paediatric unit in Children's Health Ireland at Temple Street
- those newly diagnosed adults with an IMD condition and
- those who wish to re engage with the IMD service.

The dietitian supports those living with IMD conditions treated with specialised diets to optimise their metabolic control, to maximise their nutritional status, and overall health and wellbeing. The work includes in-patient, out-patient, day patient work, phone and telehealth consultations, and remote support for IMD inpatients in other hospitals. The majority of work relates to supporting patients as outpatients, and admission avoidance.

Job purpose

- To deliver and develop an adult metabolic clinical nutrition service at the Mater Hospital that is patient focused, and is efficient.
- To work with the Metabolic dietitian team and the IMD MDT and the Dietitian Manager(s) in the planning and provision of a clinical service at the Mater.
- To provide patients with current evidence based practice, service delivery and dietary intervention most appropriate to their needs.
- To communicate effectively with the patient, families and all colleagues to perform your duties as a dietitian. This includes oral, written and patient resources.
- To work as an integral member of the IMD service including attendance at MDT meetings
- Deliver a comprehensive clinical nutrition service that includes work on quality improvement initiatives, and assigned non-clinical duties.
- To undertake clinical and non-clinical work in order to ensure overall service delivery and development in line with dept and hospital priorities and department protocols, KPIs, policies and procedures.
- To set learning goals with the Clinical Specialist Dietitian in IMD and/or dietitian managers and undertake continuous professional development including development of clinical and nonclinical competence.

- To undertake roles appropriate to a senior dietitian within the department and IMD dietitian team as outlined in the job description.
- To comply with the professional code of conduct as per CORU Dietitian registration board.
- To perform the duties as a Dietitian competently and in a professional manner in line with the dept vision, mission and values.
- To provide cover as required for dietitians in the IMD Team and the Department of Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics.
- The Senior Dietitian will be responsible for effective service delivery and the management of operational standards.
- To report to the Dietitian Manager(s), Mater Hospital.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Managing the Service

- To work with the IMD dietitian team, and the department to set standards, and deliver a quality service that supports the development and delivery of an adult metabolic service at the Mater.
- To interpret nutrition research, and provide a clinical service that is evidence based including one to one consultations and group work.
- To develop nutritional care pathways.
- To effectively manage a clinical caseload and provide a comprehensive service to the assigned patient group.
- To work towards and deliver on the post related Key Performance Indicators.
- Contribute to planning, prioritisation and provision of the metabolic and dietetic dept service.
- Contribute to quality improvements through an innovative approach, research evaluation, audit, project work, service development and evaluation of resources allocation.
- Follow and adhere to the professional CORU and hospital standards, policies and procedures.
- Work with Dietitian colleagues to develop patient resources, educational material and CPD opportunities.
- Represent the dept, as required by the Dietitian Manager.
- Display self and service management skills.

Managing People

- To communicate effectively within the dietetic team, the wider Multi-Disciplinary Team, patients and carers.
- Build a strong working relationship with patients, team members and other stakeholders including Temple Street, the catering department, and pharmacy as well as the IMD and Dietetic department.
- Build relationships and learning opportunities with other adult IMD centres internationally.
- Aim to build a relationship of trust and respect within the team.
- Assist others with queries and provide solutions to problems as required.
- Address any conflict or interpersonal disputes which may arise and report back appropriately
- Advocate for the patient.

Supporting personal and professional development

- Plan and progress personal and professional development of self and other team members.
- Participate in all allocated training.
- Contribute to the training of dietitian staff, MDT colleagues and students.
- Participate in the departmental supervision and mentoring process.
- Undertake the role of team lead, supervision to junior staff, supervision of the dietitian assistant as required.

- Access all developmental opportunities available to improve clinical knowledge, expertise and competencies.
- Support research and audit.
- Keep abreast with any developments in nutrition research within the area.
- Comply with CORU CPD requirements.

Change Management

- Participate in any projects and change initiatives which may be introduced.
- Assist the Dietitian Manager(s) to develop the change agenda.

Maintaining Composure

- Present the post in the most professional manner.
- Represent the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital in a professional manner.
- Display a high level of flexibility in relation to tasks and duties performed.
- Possess the ability to make difficult decisions.
- Be able to think logically.
- Make rational decisions that will support the team.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills.
- Demonstrate good analytical skills.
- Be able to maintain composure during busy periods.

Other Information Related to the Post:

- Follow and adhere to all risk related guidelines as stipulated by Risk Management.
- Ensure highest level of confidentiality pertaining to all organisational stake holders.
- Adhere to and educate team members on all hospital policies and procedures.
- Display effective time management.
- The roles/ responsibilities and competencies are not exhaustive and may be reviewed at any time as required by the Dietitian Manager.
- The Dietitian Manager(s) have the right to request cover from the incumbent in other areas within the Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics Department.
- The post holder contract includes 5/7 working.

General Responsibilities and Accountabilities

1. Confidentiality

You will be aware of the confidential nature of Hospital work and in particular, the right of patients to confidentiality.

2. Policies & Procedures

You are required to familiarise yourself with and adhere to all policy and procedural documents relevant to your position.

3. Hygiene Standards

The highest standard of hygiene must be maintained in the Hospital at all times and all staff members are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Hospitals requirements and standards with regard to hygiene. It is the responsibility of all staff to have a fundamental understanding of their individual responsibility in maintaining departmental & site hygiene standards.

4. Health and Safety

Ensure that effective safety procedures are in place to comply not only with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 but also within the spirit of the Hospital's mission, vision and values, and they are known and followed by staff. You are required to familiarise yourself with the requirements of employees under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 and to promote a work

environment that is compliant with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005. Each staff member is individually responsible for ensuring that the Hospital remains a safe place to work.

5. Information Technology

Ensure the most effective and efficient use of developments in information technology for administrative support in a manner, which integrates well with systems throughout the organisation.

6. Business Continuity Management

Business Continuity Management (BCM) is a holistic management process that identifies potential impacts that threaten an organisation and provides a framework for building resilience and the capability for an effective response that safeguards the interests of its key stakeholders and reputation" (BS 25999) All Staff employed in the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital are obliged to:

make themselves familiar with the Organisational BCM Policy attend BCM education sessions provided for them

make themselves familiar with their individual roles as set out in their departmental business continuity plan if applicable and or the Organisational business continuity plan

Note:

These duties and responsibilities are reflection of the present service requirements and may be subject to review and amendment to meet the changing needs of the Hospital. The Senior Dietitian will be required to maintain, enhance and develop their professional knowledge, skills and aptitudes necessary to respond to a changing climate. The job description must be regarded as an outline of the major areas of accountability at the present time, which will be reviewed and assessed on an on-going basis.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title/Grade	Senior Dietitian 0.6 WTE
Department	Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics
Location	Dept Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics and National Centre for Inherited Metabolic disorders
Date	October 2026

Candidates for application and appointment must be suitably qualified:	
Be registered as a Dietitian by the Dietitians Registration Board at CORU, and Have 3 years full time (or equivalent) years post qualification dietetic experience **AND** At least 9 months continuous experience delivering the clinical service to a medical specialty where therapeutic diet/dietary counselling is part of the medical treatment- inherited metabolic disorders, renal disease, diabetes, or ketogenic diets.	
Professional Development and Practice:	
Candidates must demonstrate evidence of continuing professional development relevant to therapeutic diets or/and Inherited Metabolic Disorders. Behavioural change training level 1 and level 2 or equivalent. **And** Candidates must have the requisite knowledge and ability (including a high standard of suitability, management, leadership and professional ability) for the proper discharge of the duties of the office.	
Professional Regulation:	
Practitioners must maintain annual registration on Dietitians Register maintained by the Dietitians Registration Board at CORU. **And** Confirm annual registration with CORU to the HSE by way of the annual Patient Safety Assurance Certificate (PSAC)	
Essential Skills:	
Clinical expertise in the use of evidence based nutrition interventions to this specialty, or a minimum of 9 months fulltime in a clinical area dedicated to those on therapeutic diets. Excellent knowledge of nutritional content of foods, food exchanges in IMD, and foods for special medical purposes Proficiency in a range of computer packages and systems such as Nutritics, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Emed, ICIP.	
Core Competencies	**Desirable**
Teamwork ,including excellent communication skills Use of standards, protocols, and quality improvement in the assigned area of work Excellent knowledge of the nutrition content of foods and relevant food for special medical purposes Project management and audit skills Strong time management and prioritisation skills Evidence based practice Ability to educate and supervise others using a range of educational materials, and resources Ability to embed new work practices. Patient advocacy.	Some clinical experience in disability services. INDI membership Membership of British inherited metabolic disease group Knowledge of the Irish Health Service including the HSE National Rare Disease Strategy 2025-2030 and Model Of Care for Transition from Paediatrics to Adult Healthcare providers in Rare Disease Proficient in NCP assessment and diagnosis steps Experience in case presentations, abstract and poster development.

Barbara Gillman Dietitian Manager In Charge III October 2026