**Dieticians**

**Description of role/core responsibilities**

• Indicative Agenda for Change band 7

Dieticians are healthcare professionals that diagnose and treat diet and nutritional problems, both at an individual patient and wider public health level. Working in a variety of settings with patients of all ages, dieticians support changes to food intake to address diabetes, food allergies, coeliac disease and metabolic diseases. Dietitians also translate public health and scientific research on food, health and disease into practical guidance to enable people to make appropriate lifestyle and food choices.

**Key role requirements**

a. Provide specialist nutrition and diet advice to patients, their carers and healthcare professionals through treatment and education plans and prescriptions.

b. Educate patients with diet-related disorders on how they can improve their health and prevent disease by adopting healthier eating and drinking habits.

c. Make recommendations to PCN staff regarding changes to medications for the nutritional management of patients, based on interpretation of biochemical, physiological, and dietary requirements.

d. Provide dietary support to patients of all ages (from early-life to end-of-life care) in a variety of settings including nurseries, patient homes, and care homes.

e. Work as part of a multidisciplinary team to gain patients’ cooperation and understanding in following recommended dietary treatments.

f. Develop, implement and evaluate a seamless nutrition support service that is aimed at continuously improving standards of patient care and wider MDT working.

g. Work with clinicians, MDT colleagues, and external agencies to ensure the smooth transition of patients discharged from hospital back into primary care, so that they can continue their diet plan.

h. Ensure best practice in clinical practice, caseload management, education, research and audit, to achieve corporate PCN and local population objectives.

i. Undertake a range of administrative tasks such as ensuring stock levels are maintained and securely stored, and equipment is kept in good working order.

**Key role requirements**

• BSc pre-reg MSc in Dietetics under an approved training programme

• Registered member of Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/update-to-the-gp-contract-agreement-2021-2324-v2.pdf>