

GUIDELINES OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT FOR NUTRITIONISTS

Allied Health Professions Act Working Committee For Nutritionist

Outline of Presentation

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Justifications on The Needs To Regulate The Practice

- ❑ Regulating nutrition practice in the country is essential to ensure that nutrition is practised only by qualified nutritionists in compliance with the profession standards.
- ❑ The Act serves to ensure that Registered Nutritionists undertake their roles and functions within the scope of practice, and in full adherence to the standards of the Act.
- ❑ The Council will take appropriate actions against those who contravene the regulations of the Act.

Definition of Nutritionist

Nutritionist is an individual who is trained and registered as a Nutritionist to promote nutritional well-being of the individual and population as well as to prevent and control nutrition-related diseases of various target groups at different settings and levels through policies and regulations, education, training, assessment and monitoring of nutritional status, carrying out nutrition interventions, consultancy, research and development.

Scope of Practice for Nutritionists (1)

1. Promote nutritional well-being of communities and population groups.
2. Prevent and control nutrition-related diseases of various groups at different settings and levels.
3. Assess, monitor and evaluate nutritional status of communities and population groups.

Scope of Practice for Nutritionists (2)

4. Provide input for the development and implementation of nutrition and related policies and action plans.
5. Undertake and support research and communicate findings at various levels.
6. Develop, implement and evaluate nutrition intervention programmes.

Scope of Practice for Nutritionists (3)

7. Undertake capacity building in nutrition through education and training.
8. Coordinate and carry out multi-sectoral nutrition activities/programmes.
9. Provide guidance on nutritional aspects for the formulation and development of products and services..

Scope of Practice for Nutritionists (4)

10. Provide technical advice for the development and implementation on nutritional aspects of food regulations.
11. Provide technical advice and consultations in nutrition and nutrition-related matters.
12. Provide input for nutrition quality and safety of products.
13. Provide communication materials complying with the prevailing regulations and guidelines.

Practising Certificate (ACT 774, Section 22)

- A registered practitioner who intends to practise shall apply to the AHP Council for a practising certificate.
- A practising certificate shall be valid for two years
- Where a registered practitioner whose practising certificate has lapsed for four years or more, applies for renewal, shall be subject to an assessment of competency as determined by the Council.

Registration Requirements To Practise (Malaysians)

Registration Requirements to Practise (Malaysians)

- Malaysian
- Meet the terms and conditions, and eligibility criteria as stated in the AHP Act.
- Graduated in nutrition from recognised university for registration and practice under the AHP Act.

Note : List of recognised universities will be in Schedule in the Regulation

Registration Requirements to Practise (Malaysians)

- Apply for registration within stipulated time [6 months] after graduation from recognised university.
- Graduates from non-recognised university must seek approval from the AHP Council.

Note: SOP to be developed for graduates from non-recognised universities

- Not registered for other professions under the AHP Act (774).

INSTITUTIONS IN MALAYSIA GRANTING QUALIFICATION IN NUTRITION

Currently six institutions granting qualification in nutrition accredited by Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA).

Institution granting the Qualification	Description of Qualification
Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	Bachelor of Nutritional Sciences with Honours
Universiti Putra Malaysia	Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Community Health with Honours
Universiti Sains Malaysia	Bachelor of Health Science (Nutrition)
MSU University	Bachelor in Nutrition (Hons)
International Medical University	Bachelor of Science (Hons) Nutrition
UCSI University	Bachelor of Science (Hons) Nutrition with Wellness

Registration Requirements To Practise (Non-Malaysians)

Temporary Practising Certificate (Act 774, Section 24)

- (1) A non-Malaysian citizen who has been practising an Allied Health Profession outside Malaysia may apply to the Council to practise in Malaysia if he fulfils the following qualifications:
- (a) he is in Malaysia for the exclusive purpose of teaching, to conduct research or to undergo postgraduate study in such field of allied health in such institution approved by the Council;
 - (b) he possesses expertise in such field of allied health which the Council considers necessary for the advancement of healthcare in Malaysia; or
 - (c) he has a contract of employment with the public service

Additional Requirements to Register For Temporary Practising Certificate

Temporary Practising Certificate may be granted to Non-Malaysians upon compliance with conditions established by Malaysian Allied Health Professions Council. This includes:

- Registered with nutrition professional body/ council recognised by Malaysian Allied Health Professions Council; and
- Practice in nutrition for at least 10 years; (except for post-graduate study).

Renewal of Practising Certificate

- ❑ A minimum of 20 CPD points per year is required upon renewal. Refer to: <http://www.mycpd2.moh.gov.my>
- ❑ **CPD Category:**
 - A1-A11: Core practice as in the annual work target
 - B1-B3: Non-core practice

CPD POINTS BY CATEGORY

CPD Category	CPD Activity Description	Maximum Points for Annual Consideration
A1	Attended Seminar/ Congress /Conference in nutrition/ related field/core business (Local/ international)	20
A2	Attended Technical / Scientific Meetings of Professional Societies/ Universities/ Colleges/Associations/ Institutions/ Ministry of Health & other related agencies (local/ international)	20
A3	Attended Workshops/ Courses/ Fellowships/ attachment etc. (include hands-on & skills courses)	30

CPD POINTS BY CATEGORY

CPD Category	CPD Activity Description	Maximum Points for Annual Consideration
A4	Attended CME sessions/other professional activities	20
A5	Presentation at official meetings/functions:	20
A6	Publication of articles in journal/ chapters in book /reports	30
A7	Self-study/ Group study/ case study / Distance learning e.g.	20
A8	CME Online	20

CPD POINTS BY CATEGORY

CPD Category	CPD Activity Description	Maximum Points for Annual Consideration
A9	Attended Post-basic courses / further training	30
A10	Basic Degree / Masters Degree / Postgraduate Diploma / PhD / DrPH / Sub speciality training	50
A11	Involvement as committee or project member:	20
B1	Editor	10
	Member of Editorial Board	
	Referee/ reviewer (per article)	
B2	Other supporting activities related to personal development and self-improvement:	10
B3	Attended Annual General Meeting of Societies / Association/ NGO registered with Registrar Of Society (ROS)	5

Requirements For 'Grandfather Clause' Section 46

- This section applies to practitioners with following conditions:
- Holding the position of Nutritionist (as defined in the Act) before **XX** year with evidence of staff confirmation letter from employer.

THANK YOU