

Standard 6. Communication

Standard

Registered Dietitians communicate effectively, respectfully, and in compliance with applicable legislative and regulatory requirements when providing **professional services**.

Indicators

To demonstrate this standard, Registered Dietitians will:

- a) Be clear and respectful in all verbal, nonverbal, and written **communication**.
- b) Maintain **clients'** privacy and confidentiality in all forms of communication.
- c) Use strategies to promote effective communication (e.g., active listening, empathy).
- d) Adapt communication to the needs of clients and minimize barriers by incorporating relevant supports as available (e.g., interpreters, visual aids, technology, appropriate language, culturally appropriate resources).
- e) Use strategies to facilitate client comprehension and learning (e.g., opportunity for questions, teach back, appropriate literacy levels).
- f) Communicate with professional integrity and maintain appropriate boundaries in all communication formats at all times.
- g) Document professional communications accurately and in a timely manner as required.

Practice Outcome

Clients can expect Registered Dietitians to communicate respectfully and effectively.

Related Standards

- Assessment and Interventions
- Client-Centred Services
- Collaborative Practice
- Privacy/Confidentiality
- Professional Practice Obligations
- Record Keeping

Resources

- Integrated Competencies for Dietetic Education and Practice v.3 Available at: <https://www.saskdietitians.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Integrated-Competencies-For-Dietetic-Education-And-Practice-ICDEPV-3-August-4-2020.pdf>
- Practice-Based Evidence in Nutrition. (2017). *Health Literacy Web Resources*. Available at: <http://www.pennutrition.com/searchresult.aspx?terms=health%20literacy>

Saskatchewan Resources

- Saskatchewan College of Dietitians (2018). *Guideline on Documentation*. Available at: <https://www.saskdietitians.org/scd-standards-for-safe-competent-ethical-conduct/>
- Saskatchewan College of Dietitians (2018). *Guideline on Social Media*. Available at: <https://www.saskdietitians.org/scd-standards-for-safe-competent-ethical-conduct/>
- College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan. (2015). *Guideline on Patient and Physician Communication using Electronic Communication*. Available at: <http://www.cps.sk.ca/imis/Documents/Legislation/Policies/GUIDELINE%20-%20Patient%20Physician%20Communication%20Guidelines%20using%20Electronic%20Communication.pdf>