

Fact Sheet - Nutrition Counseling

Nutrition counseling is a service that is part of the Administration for Community Living (ACL) Congregate and Home Delivered meal programs.

Options for the service payment:

- If covering the cost for a session of nutrition counseling from your OAA funds/voluntary contributions you may refer directly to your contracted RD with no need for information related to insurance or Medicare. Your RD would bill you directly for the cost of service. In some cases, it may be beneficial to negotiate a standard rate for services with your RD. This will allow you to remain within a budget for this service category throughout the year.
- If your participant has insurance and your consultant RD accepts insurance, a physician's order will be needed. Check with your consultant RD to see what they are set up to do for billing.
- In order to bill Medicare your RD would need to be a Medicare approved provider. This has its own set of criteria, please check with your RD.
- Private Pay- out of pocket. Count as program income

What documentation is needed for nutrition counseling?

- ✓ A Completed Nutrition Risk Screening form
- ✓ Contract with a WY licensed RD
- ✓ Billing process established with your RD
- ✓ Potentially a physician's order and insurance/Medicare billing information
- ✓ Entry of counseling unit(s) into Division approved Data system
- ✓ Additional documentation may be kept in the participant file. However, protected health information rules must be followed. Protected health information should not be entered into the DATA systems.

Policy Development

The potential service for nutrition counseling is first determined based on the nutrition risk screening on the AGNES form. If the participant scores high risk and is accepting of nutrition counseling, your organization's contracted RD should be notified in order to set up the session.

Organizations should develop their own policies and procedures to determine how counseling will be prioritized. You may wish to address how participant interest or acceptance will be determined if they are high risk. You may also address the need for a waitlist based on your organization's ability to accommodate participants presenting with a high nutrition risk score.

Please reach out with any questions:

WDH- Aging Division, CLS
307-777-5048

Loralee.ruess@wyo.gov