Our nutrition and dietary management functionality is embedded throughout MEDITECH Expanse. Your dietary staff can easily manage a patient’s diet orders and meal delivery, receive alerts for nutritional calculations and risks, access a complete patient record, document nutritional assessments, and print meal labels. Within the hospital setting, proper diet and nutritional care are critical to a patient’s recovery – often reducing lengths of stay, readmission rates, and the cost of care. Additionally, as disease prevention and complication processes are crucial in the acute care setting, the role of dietitians and dietary staff is increasingly important to improve clinical outcomes and the overall quality of care provided to patients within your organization.

Submit and Edit Diet Orders

Through our ordering functionality, dietitians can place and edit dietary orders, supplements, and dietary consultations. MEDITECH Expanse delivers a variety of regular and special diet orders and dietary consultations with standard content. Additional specialty orders and dietary supplements can be built during the implementation process to meet your organizational needs.
Prior to placing any conflicting diet orders, embedded rules-based logic warns dietitians of relevant patient allergies or adverse reactions to prevent potential errors. All members of the clinical nutrition team have access to view a complete patient record, including a patient’s dietary history, within the Electronic Health Record, our enterprise patient record. Members will need to have access within the Order Management component of Physician Care Manager to make any changes to diet orders. MEDITECH Expanse also features intuitive ordering functionality that can allow for all previous diet orders on a patient to auto-complete when a new diet order is placed.

**Efficiently Manage Dietary Orders**

Your organization can design status boards which provide dietary staff with a central location for viewing and managing patient diets per an assigned patient list or specific location. When a new diet order is placed or edited, dietary staff receive visual alerts on their status boards. These alerts are interactive so that dietary staff can acknowledge or reject the orders as necessary. You can also apply our predictive surveillance capabilities to create dietary-specific surveillance boards. For example, your dietary staff may want one centralized status board to show all new diets placed throughout your organization, regardless of a selected location or assigned patient list. Your organization can build custom surveillance rules and boards to meet the workflow needs of your dietary staff.

Status boards have tailorable displays for dieticians to enter, modify, and view any real-time patient information they need, including a patient’s height, weight, BSA, allergies, active diet orders, diets completed fewer than 24 hours ago, snacks, food preferences, intolerances, laboratory results, and medications. To efficiently manage your patient population’s dietary concerns and meal deliveries, your staff will have access to view instantaneous updates to patient information, including demographics, expirations, room changes, and discharges. The Status board also provides dietary staff with quick launch tools to our ordering functionality without the need to navigate multiple screens to submit diet orders.
**Document Nutritional Assessments**

Your organization receives standard content that can be customized to meet the unique dietary documentation needs of specific patients and their medical conditions. For example, our standard content includes initial nutritional assessments as well as enteral and parenteral nutrition administration interventions. You can further customize this standard content to ensure clinicians gather all the appropriate nutritional and patient data through drop-down boxes, query lookups, recall data, and free text comments.

Dietary staff can use assessments with embedded rule logic to require or suppress questions based on previous responses. Based upon responses, dietary assessments can include queries that trigger suggested diet orders, diagnoses (problems), nutritional interventions, and dietary consults to guide the patient's nutritional care. Documentation can also incorporate protocols for hospital policies and evidence-based reference links for real-time decision support and education. Your organization can determine whether values for documented dietary assessments (e.g., the amount of fat consumed) appear in the enterprise patient record.

**Perform Dietary Calculations**

PCS also uses rules-based logic to perform calculations within documentation. Dietary calculations can include basic calculations, such as BMI and BSA, as well as organization-defined calculation rules. Numeric, intrinsic, recall, and elapsed time calculations can all be performed with dietary documentation. MEDITECH Expanse can also be interfaced to a third-party dietary vendor to perform complex calculations.

**Report and Track Diet Orders**

Dietary staff can generate reports that contain dietary information for dietary management analysis. For example, your organization may want to track which patients are on a certain diet should significant changes be required for that diet. In addition to standard dietary reports, additional user-defined dietary
reports or dashboards can be created using our Report Designer, system-wide report writer tool, or Visual Insight, a self-service analytics tool in our business intelligence solution, Business and Clinical Analytics (BCA), which can be used to access the Data Repository or other SQL databases.

**Experience Integration Benefits**

As an integrated component of MEDITECH Expanse, Order Management seamlessly integrates with other MEDITECH applications to improve dietary communication and ensure patient safety. Clinicians can access a patient’s diet orders directly from their desktops or status boards, such as Emergency Department Management, Patient Care and Patient Safety, and Pharmacy. Diet orders flow directly to the patient’s chart in real time, where they are accessible to dietary staff and other clinicians. For example, pharmacists verifying medication orders can view a patient’s NPO order and substitute medication routes while nurses can view the same NPO order and not administer any oral medications.

For more information about us, contact a MEDITECH Marketing Consultant.