**Evidence-Based Nutrition Practice**

Evidence-Based Practice is the approach to health care wherein health practitioners use the best evidence possible, i.e., the most appropriative information available, to make decisions for individual patients. It involves complex and conscientious decision-making based not only on the available evidence but also on client characteristics, situations, and preferences. The Academy develops Evidence-based Nutrition Practice Guidelines and Toolkits that can be found on the Evidence Analysis Library (EAL). The purpose of the guidelines and resources is to help practitioners implement evidenced-based dietetics practice. Evidenced-based dietetics practice includes applying relevant evidence in the context of the practice situation and the values of clients, customers and communities to achieve positive outcomes. *Learn about the evidence analysis process and how to use the EAL with the EAL tutorial orientation tutorial. Plus earn 1 free CPEU.* [*http://www.andeal.org/tutorials*](http://www.andeal.org/tutorials)

**Evidence Analysis Library** is a synthesis of the best, most relevant nutritional research on important dietetic practice questions housed within an accessible, online, user-friendly website. An objective and transparent methodology is used to assess food and nutrition-related science. The EAL is a series of systematic reviews developed by Academy members for Academy members based on a predefined approach and criteria. For more information visit the EAL: [www.andeal.org](http://www.andeal.org)

**Evidence-based Nutrition Practice Guidelines** are a series of guiding recommendations which are developed using the Evidence Analysis Process for identifying, analyzing and synthesizing scientific evidence. They are designed to assist practitioners in making decisions about appropriate nutrition care for specific disease states or conditions in typical settings. The Evidence-based Nutrition Practice Guidelines are a free member benefit on the EAL.  They can be accessed at www.andeal.org or from the Research tab in [www.eatrightpro.org](http://www.eatrightpro.org)

**Evidence-based Nutrition Practice Toolkits** are a set of companion documents for application of Evidence-based Nutrition Practice Guidelines utilizing the Nutrition Care Process. Each toolkit provides Registered Dietitian Nutritionists with hands-on materials for medical nutrition therapy (MNT) in individuals with specific disease states or conditions. These materials include MNT Flowcharts, Documentation Forms, Case Studies, Outcomes Data Collection, as well as practitioner resources and patient education. Toolkits can be ordered online from [www.eatrightstore.org](http://www.eatrightstore.org)

**Dietetics Practice-Based Research Network (DPBRN)**

The network conducts, supports, promotes and advocates for research by bringing together practitioners and researchers to identify research that is needed in practice-based settings; designs high quality research; obtains funding; and carries out that research in multiple practice settings.

DPBRN membership is open and free to all Academy members. The network is guided by an Oversight Committee made up of dietetics practitioners and researchers from a variety of practice settings while Academy staff Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) manage the day to day operations and projects. The DPBRN is a very active entity of the Academy with over 1600 members and over 25 publications and presentations since 2008. To join DPBRN, simply email [dpbrn@eatright.org](file:///C:\Users\rcrinnigan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\D8FO72UP\dpbrn@eatright.org) with "join" and your member number in the subject line.

DPBRN members work to answer questions of importance to dietetic practice that promote the nutritional health of all peoples.

* + DPBRN members advocate for policies, strategies and funding that promote evidence-based practice research projects.
  + DPBRN members share a common goal of developing research evidence to enhance the nutrition care provided in practice.
  + DPBRN members connect to engage in research projects and share research outcomes with dietetic practitioners.
* The collection of DPBRN papers published in the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is available here: <http://www.andjrnl.org/content/dpbresearchnetwork>

DPBRN advances the practice of dietetics as a profession and enhances the research skills of individuals.

* + The DPBRN provides opportunities for members to enhance their research skills through participation in network activities.
  + DPBRN collaborates with other practice based research networks, research funders, the Evidence Analysis Library and Nutrition Care Process teams and committees to support research endeavors.
  + DPBRN actively seeks input from Affiliates, DPGs, the Academy DC Office, and other stakeholders regarding gaps in research that would promote the field of dietetics and nutrition care of patients.
* DPBRN offers tips for participating in research on its website

DPBRN promotes the importance and value of practice based research.

* + The DPBRN infrastructure is designed to provide ongoing support for current and proposed practice-based research projects, as well as promoting the dissemination of network research. The DPBRN links practicing clinicians with investigators experienced in clinical and health services research.
* DPBRN allows the practitioner to ask the question and an experienced research team to help design and manage the study.
* DPBRN offers a listing of resources to design or carry out research on its website

Current DPBRN Work

* The network provides assistance for researchers of all levels including mentorship and research resources, and continuing education credits.
* The network can assist with projects focused on all areas of dietetic practice including community/ public health, inpatient/ outpatient, and food service management, if approved by the Oversight Committee.
* Current studies include data collection on RDNs role in food and nutrition security, an examination of subjective diet assessment, an analysis of pre-diabetes guideline usage and training, and planning for a RDN staffing study addressing patient outcomes.
* Learn more about ways to be involved in DPBRN here: [http://www.eatrightpro.org/resources/research/evidence-based-resources/dpbrn](http://www.eatrightpro.org/resources/research/evidence-based-resources/dpbrn%20)

If your affiliate is interested in learning more, please contact [dpbrn@eatright.org](file:///C:\Users\rcrinnigan\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\D8FO72UP\dpbrn@eatright.org).

**Scope of Practice**

**Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance**

The Scope/Standards of Practicefor theRegistered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN)and for the Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered (NDTR) are an all-inclusive set of documents that answer what the RDN and NDTR need to acquire for the purpose of providing quality nutrition and dietetics care. The resources describe the tasks and services RDNs and NDTRs perform to meet employer, government, customer/client/patient and other stakeholder requirements and opportunities and include five articles and two tools:

* Scope of Practice for the Profession of Nutrition and Dietetics;
* Scope of Practice for the RD;
* Standards of Practice in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance for RDs;
* Scope of Practice for the DTR;
* Standards of Practice in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance for DTRs;
* Academy Definition of Terms; and
* Scope of Practice Decision Tool.

The Revised 2012 Standards of Practice in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance for RDs and Revised 2012 Standards of Practice in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance for DTRsare minimum competent levels of nutrition and dietetics practice and professional and technical performance that guide RDNs and NDTRs in all practice settings. The standards apply to all credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners, and are used for professional development and self-evaluation for education, skills and applied judgment to determine competence, advance individual level of practice, and enhance scope of practice.

The RDN Standards in Nutrition Care serve as blueprints for focus area Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance. Focus area standards identify the competent, proficient and expert levels of practice and professional performance and are developed and written by professional consensus using competent, proficient and expert RDNs.

For More Information: Scope of Practice, Standards of Practice in Nutrition Care and Standards of Professional Performance for RDNs and DTRs are located at [www.eatrightpro.org/scope](http://www.eatrightpro.org/scope)

which directs you to <http://www.andjrnl.org> – Select drop down Supplements-Supplement 2 Comprehensive Scope of Practice Resources for RDs and DTRs (June 2013 Supplement 2, Vol. 113 No. 6).

To view the 17 focus area Standards of Practice and Standards of Professional Performance for RDNs, learn more at [www.eatrightpro.org/scope](http://www.eatrightpro.org/scope) which directs you to <http://www.andjrnl.org/content/sop> – Select Collections. For the Academy Definition of Terms list, see [www.eatrightpro.org/scope](http://www.eatrightpro.org/scope); and to review the Scope of Practice Decision Tool, visit the Academy Store at <http://www.eatrightstore.org/product/051ECA8D-389E-478D-BD29-D259DB3AB295> or locate from [www.eatrightpro.org/scope](http://www.eatrightpro.org/scope) .