

Workshop 14: Delivering aged care services in a remote capacity – thinking outside the box

Presenters

- Julie Dundon, Nutrition Professionals Australia (Primary Presenter)
- Vanessa Schuldt, Dietitians Australia

Overview

Disruptions in access to Residential Aged Care homes has been a common and ongoing issue for APDs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. There is no better time than now for our profession to embrace and implement innovative modes of remote service delivery when required. This workshop is for APDs who have limited experience working in aged care, or who wish to commence work in this field. You will develop knowledge, skills and confidence to deliver dietetic services remotely to aged care providers, in times when physical access is not an option.

Learning outcomes

- To have clarity on the role and scope of an APD in aged care.
- To develop knowledge, skills and confidence to deliver dietetic services remotely to aged care providers, in times when physical access is not an option.
- To be aware of and know how to remotely use/apply important aged care resources/tools/assessments available from Dietitians Australia. • To be armed with the skills and confidence to advocate for innovative modes of remote service delivery when required. Target audience
- Emerging APDs (0-5 years out) with limited aged care experience and/or interest in working in the aged care sector.
- Also suited to more experienced APDs who are considering work in aged care, but are currently limited due to location.

Workshop abstract

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, many aged care homes nation-wide imposed very tight restrictions on face-to-face visits as a measure to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infections. This significantly disrupted APD services in residential aged care homes, including access to medical nutrition therapy for residents and assessments of the menu and mealtime experience. This workshop will equip participants with the knowledge, skills and

confidence to advocate for and deliver dietetic services remotely, for instances where traditional face-to-face consultations and on-site menu assessments are not an option. The session will commence with a series of short presentations on the role and scope of an aged care dietitian, useful tools/resources for APDs in aged care and the delivery of dietetic services remotely to aged care providers and their clients. This will be followed by work in small groups to review case studies and workshop solutions to address issues put forward by the presenters. Each small group will present their solutions to the wider group, allowing participants to learn from others