

Baycrest provides practicum placements supervised by Registered Dietitians (RDs) for students enrolled in accredited nutrition and dietetic education programs at Canadian universities.



About Baycrest

Baycrest Health Sciences is a global leader in geriatric healthcare, residential living, research, innovation, and education, with a special focus on brain health and aging. As an academic health sciences centre fully affiliated with the University of Toronto, Baycrest provides an exemplary care experience for aging clients combined with an extensive clinical training program for students and one of the world's top research institutes in cognitive neuroscience.

Baycrest is located at 3560 Bathurst Street in Toronto near Bathurst and Wilson streets. It is easily accessible by public transit.

Care. Baycrest serves approximately 1200 seniors per day. It is home to a globally recognized and innovative continuum of healthcare, wellness, and prevention programs and services. Services include outpatient clinics, a hospital, long-term care home, and residential and community-based programs designed especially for people in their 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s and beyond.

Research & Innovation. Baycrest is a leader in cognitive neuroscience and memory research, with the goal of transforming the journey of aging. The stellar reputation of the Rotman Research Institute reflects its ability to raise and answer fundamental questions about memory, aging, and the neuroscience of cognition. The Kunin-Lunenfeld Applied & Evaluative Research Unit provides resources and expertise to support clinical, evaluative, and translational research at Baycrest. The Canadian Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation is a solution accelerator focused on driving innovation in the aging and brain health sector.

Education. Through its local and globally focused educational efforts, Baycrest's Centre for Education & Knowledge Exchange in Aging is striving to be the world's pre-eminent distributor of knowledge regarding best and leading-edge practices in senior care and aging solutions. Baycrest has an extensive clinical training program in geriatric care. Annually, nearly 900 students, trainees, and other practitioners from 24 universities and colleges have a unique opportunity to experience the delivery of high quality care alongside leading experts on one of the world's most comprehensive campuses of care focused on aging and care of older adults.

About Dietetics at Baycrest

RDs at Baycrest provide monitoring, assessment, and follow up for our geriatric population, according to the medical status and nutritional needs of each client or resident, with the goal of optimizing nutritional status and quality of life.

Nutrition care is provided to a 300 bed complex continuing care hospital and a 472 bed long-term care (LTC) facility. The hospital has three complex continuing care units, a palliative care unit, high intensity and slow stream rehabilitation units, a behavioural neurology unit, a psychiatric care unit, and an alternate level of care unit. The LTC home has units dedicated to dementia, stroke, physical support, mental health, and behavioural support. Some of the common nutrition issues that are managed include malnutrition of frail elderly, weight loss, poor appetite, age-related sensory changes, gastrointestinal issues, pressure injury, and tube feeding.

RDs work as part of an interprofessional team that includes physicians, nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, social workers, pharmacists, psychologists, speech-language pathologists, therapeutic recreationists, and chaplains. The interprofessional team works collaboratively with clients, residents, families, and caregivers to provide the highest quality of comprehensive nutrition care.

There are six RDs who, along with casual RDs, provide clinical nutrition services at Baycrest. Each RD works either in the hospital or the LTC home. All of our RDs are registered with the College of Dietitians of Ontario.

- **Cheli Barokas-Agate** graduated from Ryerson University and interned at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. At Baycrest, Cheli provides services to residents in the LTC home.
- **Laurie McCaul** graduated from Ryerson University and interned at North York General Hospital. At Baycrest, Laurie works with residents in the LTC home.
- **Stephanie Consky** graduated from Brescia University College at Western University and completed her dietetic internship through Brescia. She currently works with residents in Baycrest's LTC home.
- **Iris Weinberg** graduated from Ryerson University and interned at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. She currently provides care to hospital inpatients at Baycrest.
- **Gwen Humfries** graduated from the University of Guelph and interned at Victoria Hospital in London, Ontario. At Baycrest, she provides services to inpatients in the hospital.
- **Michelle Freilich** graduated from Ryerson University and interned at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. Michelle provides care to Baycrest hospital inpatients.



Practicum Placements

Baycrest offers practicum placements in clinical dietetics supervised by RD preceptors for students currently enrolled in accredited dietetics training programs. Preference is given to students who have at least one clinical placement prior to their placement at Baycrest.

We typically offer 3-6 practicum placements in clinical dietetics per year, depending on the availability of preceptors and the length of placements requested.

Students may choose from one of two placement settings:

- **Long-term care.** Students in this placement will gain experience managing the nutritional needs of residents and working within the framework of the Long Term Care Homes Act.
- **Geriatric hospital.** Students in this placement will gain experience in one or more of the following areas, depending on the work assignment of the preceptor: management of patients who require rehabilitation in order to successfully return home, comfort care for palliation, mental health care, and complex continuing care.

Application Process

Students interested in a practicum placement in clinical dietetics at Baycrest should notify their Practicum Coordinator. The following information should be sent by e-mail from the Coordinator to the Professional Practice Chief of Dietetics at dieteticsPPC@baycrest.org:

- Student's name, contact information, training program, and previous clinical placements
- The student's resume, if available
- An indication of the training placement preference, if any: long-term care or geriatric hospital
- An indication of the number of training hours and the dates requested

Applications are reviewed three times per year. Application deadlines are as follows:

- January 10 for placements starting in the spring
- May 10 for placements starting in the summer or fall
- September 10 for placements starting in the new year

All materials must be submitted by the application deadline. Practicum Coordinators will be notified of the results within two weeks of the application deadline.

Please note that there is a separate application process for practicum training in food services management. Coordinators interested in arranging this type of training should contact the Program Director of Food and Nutrition Services at Baycrest, Elaine Ryoji RD, at eryoji@baycrest.org.

For More Information

Phone: 416-785-2500 x2445 | Email: dieteticsPPC@baycrest.org | Web: www.baycrest.org

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