

# ADVANTAGE NUTRITION

ABN 18 113 599 554 / ACN 113 599 554

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## *Specialist Disability Nutrition Management*



**CARMEL CURLEWIS**

B App Sc Grad Dip Nutr&Diet Grad Cert BA AN APD



*Advantage Nutrition offers quality one-on-one and organisational dietetic and nutrition services to clients with a disability in public, private and not for profit settings. Clinical expertise is combined with high level case management and liaison skills to deliver health outcomes in a practical, personalized and private way. Ethics and advocacy for basic human rights, in relation to food and nutrition, underpin all client treatments.*

### **Advantage Nutrition has extensive experience working with:**

- Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome and Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Spinal Cord Injury and Acquired Brain Injury
- Profoundly and intellectually disabled clients of all ages
- Enteral nutrition e.g. Naso-gastric / PEG / PEJ
- Dysphagia (difficulty swallowing) e.g. Cerebral Palsy, MS, post stroke
- Specialist dietary management of intellectually disabled clients with untreated Phenylketonuria
- Mental health issues and able to accommodate dual diagnosis
- Forensic disability clients and forensic psychiatric clients
- Conservative and palliative care clients - restorative, maintenance and end stages
- Clients living in disability accommodation - government and non-government organizations: Institutional, group homes, respite, community support and supported accommodation.

### **Advantage Nutrition delivers:**

- Clinical health outcomes to improve client wellbeing
- Team motivation to achieve holistic client problem solving
- Thorough information gathering to allow informed decision making
- Skills in mediation and ethical problem solving (especially with family members)
- Advocacy for the nutrition and dietetic needs of people with disabilities
- Specialist systems to help ensure that safe eating and drinking for clients with chewing and swallowing difficulties (dysphagia)

## **To achieve optimal nutrition management for clients a range of services are offered:**

- Individual Client Assessments and review to identify nutritional / dietetic risks
- Anthropometric (height / weight) measurement for difficult to assess clients
- Wheelchair scales available (portable)
- Individual nutrition and dietetic Clinic Reports with outcomes and recommendations
- Development of education and behavior change tools e.g. Suggested Meal Plans, Food and Lifestyle Goals, Bowel Charts and accompanying protocols
- Individual Eating and Drinking Plans detailing dietary needs, food texture, fluid consistency, food and fluid equipment, drug preparation, likes/dislikes, allergies and special considerations
- Menu development, recipes and menu assessment reports (especially texture modified)
- Clinical nutrition and dietetic reports for allied health, medical staff and specialists e.g. respiratory, gastro-enterologist, psychiatrists etc.
- Review of drug / nutrient interactions
- Open and convenient communication with next-of-kin and care staff via email or mobile phone
- Management tools to aid care staff in group home settings e.g. Weight Audit Reports
- Guardianship tribunal reports – legal documents
- Policy and protocol development for clinical / special diets and food service

## **WORK ETHIC and STRENGTHS**

- Strong existing provider of innovative, reliable and responsive services
- Diverse skill base and knowledge
- Commitment to achieving and advocating for health and wellbeing outcomes
- Integrity, professionalism, ethics and resilience
- Independent and flexible work practices – ability to travel to clients and work out of normal hours
- Cooperatively empower a variety of different workforce teams
- Continuous member of the Dietitian's Association of Australia for almost 30 years
- Commitment to Continuing Professional Development
- Accredited Practising Dietitian (APD) status and Accredited Nutritionist (AN) status
- Fully insured (copies available on request)
- Working with Children and Vulnerable People Checks (current copies available on request)
- Information management, security, confidentiality and privacy of information
- Highly developed management skills including:
  - Post graduate qualifications in Strategic Planning and Human Resource Management
  - Systems / process management and conflict resolution skills
  - Proven ability to assist clients embrace new policy directions and enhance organizational change