

Abbie Hebron, MS, RD, CSP, LD, CNSC

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Dietetics
University of Rhode Island – Remote

Graduated October 2022

Dietetic Internship, Clinical Specialty
Medical University of South Carolina – Charleston, SC

Graduated June 2019

Bachelor of Science in Dietetics, Minor in Biomedical Sciences
Missouri State University – Springfield, MO

Graduated May 2018

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Registered Dietitian II | *Morrison Healthcare – Charleston, SC*

August 2020 – Present

- Manage nutrition care as a part of the interdisciplinary team for the pediatric oncology service at the Medical University of South Carolina's (MUSC) Children's Hospital, which is ranked 26th in the country overall and 14th in outcomes alone by *U.S. News & World Report* in pediatric cancer
- Participate in daily rounds, perform nutrition assessments, monitor nutrition plans during inpatient and outpatient visits, coordinate home nutrition care needs, and maintain conducive relationships with patients and families receiving treatment
- Initiate, monitor, and reassess enteral and parenteral nutrition support independently for all patients – both inpatient and outpatient – on the Hematology/Oncology service
- Provide nutrition care for one of the three General Pediatric service teams, consisting of a variety of disease states and conditions and coordinating care with other consulting services and therapies
- Support other pediatric dietitians by providing coverage, including ten weeks on-call each year, for General Medicine, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care Unit, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit departments
- Contribute to Nutrition Therapeutics Committee, alongside other dietitians, physicians, pharmacists, and nurses, by creating, reviewing, and updating nutrition-related and hospital-wide policies and projects
- Provide educational presentations for medical students, residents, dietetic interns, and Nutrition Management Center dietetic technicians on enteral formula, malnutrition, refeeding syndrome, and growth chart assessment
- Precept two pediatric-track dietetic interns (four weeks each) and three adult-track dietetic interns (two weeks each), in addition to helping with interns' research projects and case studies
- Lead quality improvement projects to update nutrition education for oncology patients, create a feeding protocol for Bone Marrow Transplant patients, and initiate interventional research study (see Research section below)

Nutrition Newsletter Author | *Hotlunch.com – Torrance, California (Remote)*

April 2023 – Present

- Write monthly newsletter content about a multitude of nutrition and/or wellness topics for the leading nationwide provider of lunch ordering software, Hotlunch.com

Pediatric Dietitian | *Brittany Jones Nutrition Group – Greenville, SC (Remote)*

November 2023 – Present

- Create pediatric nutrition counseling program within private practice by designing screening templates, writing note templates, and contacting referring providers
- Compose educational handouts, social media content, and blog posts on a variety of pediatric nutrition recommendations and topics
- Participate in media interviews for local news broadcast (Fox Carolina) to share nutrition advice on trending topics such as infant formula and gluten-free diets
- Provide nutrition counseling for pediatric clients (0-18 years old) and parents, utilizing a family-based therapy approach to help foster healthy relationships with food and optimize growth and development

Pediatric PRN Dietitian | *Nutrition Rites & Endurance Nutrition – Charleston, SC (Remote)*

August 2022 – December 2023

- Accept all pediatric nutrition consultation requests and referrals for both private practices, as needed or received
- Counsel patients (0-20 years old) and/or patients' parents for picky eating, poor growth, enteral nutrition, disordered eating behaviors, and Medical Nutrition Therapy for specific conditions or diseases

Registered Dietitian I | Sodexo – Charleston, SC

July 2019 – August 2020

- Manage nutrition care for inpatient pediatric and infant patients on two of three General Pediatric medical teams, which manage children with renal, hepatic, gastrointestinal, neurological, and pre- or peri-operative disease states
- Provide nutrition educations and meal planning services for patients with newly diagnosed Diabetes Mellitus and those on the psychiatric service
- Practice Medical Nutrition Therapy by completing nutrition assessments, performing physical exams, planning interventions, and coordinating feeding prescriptions and needs
- Participate in quality improvement projects such as updating and standardizing nutrition education tools for patients with Diabetes Mellitus, and supporting new initiatives in the nutrition management center and kitchen

Summer Foodservice Program (SFSP) Coordinator | Medical University of South Carolina – Charleston, SC

May 2019 – July 2019

- Coordinate, promote, and advocate for the operation of MUSC's participation in the USDA's SFSP as part of the *Kids Eat Free at MUSC* initiative
- Visit meal sites, analyze HealthTouch reports, and maintain records of procedures and outcomes

LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

Therapy Dog Handler | Medical University of South Carolina Hospital Dog Program

November 2022 – Present

- Lead Cher, one of the two full-time therapy dogs at Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital, to see patients each day on the inpatient floors and clinic
- Provide emotional support and feeding therapy, with Cher's help, to patients with cancer, blood disorders, eating disorders, and more
- Maintain training and competencies by Canine Assistants' standards and guidelines as their only hospital handler who is a Registered Dietitian

Marketing & Special Events Board Member | Distinguished Young Women of Charleston County

October 2019 – Present

- Network within the Charleston community to recruit participants for local chapter of a national nonprofit scholarship program for young women
- Advocate for the program by gathering support from local businesses and donors, as well as chairing an annual auction to raise >\$1,000 in scholarship funds
- Lead cooking class and provide educational presentations regarding basic nutrition principles for program participants

Dietetic Intern Preceptor | Medical University of South Carolina

July 2019 – Present

- Precept dietetic interns associated with MUSC and Sodexo internships for 12-15 weeks each year
- Teach interns about general pediatric and oncology nutrition therapy, including extensive enteral and parenteral nutrition support management
- Conduct applicant interviews and collaborate as a member of the Interview and Selection Committee for the MUSC Dietetic Internship

President, Education Chair, & Intern Liaison | Charleston-Trident Dietetic Association (CTDA)

August 2018 – Present

- Lead local dietetic organization, a branch of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND), that encompasses seven counties for one year as Intern Liaison (2018-2019), Education Chair-Elect (2019-2020), Education Chair (2020-2021), President-Elect (2022-2023), and President (2023-2024)
- Serve as a member of the Membership Committee of the South Carolina Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (SCAND)
- Support ten additional board members in the planning of board meetings, education events, award and scholarship nominations, state-wide networking opportunities, and community service programs
- Schedule, organize, and promote continuing education opportunities, networking events, and community service projects for local district members

Member & Public Policy Partner | Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

August 2017 – Present

- Utilize resources and professional network as a part of the Pediatric and Oncology Nutrition Dietetic Practice Groups
- Advocate for nutrition legislation by participating in annual state-wide Policy Day and educating legislators about the dietitian's role in patient and community healthcare, as well as about current nutrition efforts

Food Pantry Team Member | MUSC Ensuring Access to Sustenance (e.a.t.s.) Program

August 2021 – August 2022

- Contribute to interdisciplinary board of newly opened, grant-funded, hospital-wide food pantry in partnership with Lowcountry Food Bank
- Create food security screening tool to implement in the Emergency Department to help direct food to those most in need

Dietetic Internship Mentor | Medical University of South Carolina Dietetic Internship Program

June 2020 – May 2022

- Serve as professional and personal mentor for four dietetic interns in the MUSC program by providing intellectual and emotional support

RESEARCH & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Pediatric BMT Feeding Protocol | *Oncology Department, Medical University of South Carolina* December 2021 – Present

- Perform extensive literature review and interview RDs from other pediatric oncology programs to determine current practices, whether supported by evidence or experience, for feeding pediatric patients following Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT)
- Earn funding from Functional Formularies to provide plant-based formula to children post-BMT
- Collect IRB-approved data regarding the tolerance to enteral feeds and the correlating outcomes of life-threatening complications or conditions and mortality

PICU Nutrition Screen Study | *Critical Care Department, Medical University of South Carolina* June 2021 – Present

- Assist with multi-site study regarding the accuracy and usefulness of nutrition screening tools in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
- Perform about 2-3 nutrition screenings and assessments on PICU patients each week and input data into REDCap research software

BMT Nutrition Education Binder | *Oncology Department, Medical University of South Carolina* January 2021 – December 2021

- Developed 28-page “Nutrition” section to be added to new BMT binder, including evidence-based recommendations for symptom control (nausea, taste changes, mucositis, etc), weight gain, microbiome reestablishment, and food safety, including recipes that meet these patients’ nutrient needs

Metabolic Nutrition Project | *Nutrition Department, Medical University of South Carolina* May 2021 – October 2021

- Reviewed and participated in six modules regarding different Inborn Errors of Metabolism, completing two case studies from the *Nutrition Management of Inherited Metabolic Diseases* manual
- Created a Metabolic Nutrition cheat sheet for inpatient dietitians to use when newly admitted patients are seen over the weekend

C. diff Probiotics Protocol | *Gastrointestinal Department, Medical University of South Carolina* August 2018 – December 2019

- Work with an interdisciplinary team at MUSC, using Lean Six Sigma tools, to create and implement a probiotic protocol to help prevent and treat *Clostridium difficile* infections in adult GI patients
- Present research at 2019 Performance Improvement Conference in Charleston, SC

LICENSURE & CERTIFICATIONS

Registered Dietitian | *Commission on Dietetic Registration* June 2019 – May 2025
#86118988

Licensed Dietitian | *State of South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation* July 2019 – May 2024
#1970

Certified Nutrition Support Clinician | *American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition* October 2022 – December 2027
#8293072

Certified Specialist in Pediatric Nutrition | *Commission on Dietetic Registration* July 2021 – July 2026
#86118988

ServSafe Certification | *National Restaurant Association* March 2017 – December 2025
#20073633

SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

South Carolina’s Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year, *South Carolina Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics* March 2022

- Chosen as the dietitian that has demonstrated concern for the promotion of optimal health and nutritional status of the population and must have demonstrated leadership through legislation, research, education, management, or employment
- Received this award within the Charleston-Trident district, as well as the whole state of South Carolina for 2022

COVID-19 Heroes Scholarship, *Miss America’s Outstanding Teen Organization* May 2020

- Received one of five student loan scholarships given nationally to previous Miss America’s Outstanding Teen program participants that are now health care workers and had provided care to patients during the COVID-19 pandemic

Intern Scholarship, *Charleston-Trident Dietetic Association* May 2019

- Received the scholarship awarded to one intern in the Charleston-Trident district of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics that showed leadership within their intern class, involved in serving the community, and shared a passion for nutrition and wellness