

# **Documentation of Potentially Harmful Nutrition Information and/or Products**

## *Instruction Sheet*

This form is for documenting harm and/or potential harm from unqualified individuals dispensing nutrition advice and/or products. If there are questions regarding whether harm is secondary to the questionable advice and/or product versus the natural progression of the disease state, please cite studies indicating how this information or product can be potentially harmful. With regard to supplements, specifics regarding type of supplement, frequency of usage, approximate cost, ingredients, and dosages are helpful. In clinical settings, laboratory data (trends), weight history and diet history before and after R.D. intervention are helpful too.

This information will help us make a stronger case to our legislators regarding why we need to have State Legal Recognition of the “Registered Dietitian.” These cases will also help to show why the Registered Dietitian is a necessary member of the healthcare team as the most qualified provider of medical nutrition therapy and nutrition services. Please see the suggestions listed below when completing the form.

**I. Background Information** - Please see form

**II. Diagnosis History** - Please see form

**III. Suspected Nutritional Misinformation/Harm** - Please see form

**IV. Type of Advice or Product**

- Be as specific as possible about the advice the patient received:

how much of a supplement was advised, dose, frequency, length of time taken, compliance.

- Collect as much information about changes as possible – weight histories, lab values before and after advice (include dates).

- Dietetics is based on the science of nutrition and food. Please cite references to support why the advice, information or product may have caused harm or could be potentially harmful. Photocopy and include the full article of reference with the pertinent sentences, paragraphs underlined.

**V. Type of Harm Incurred**

**Physical Side Effects/Harm Incurred:**

- Include supporting evidence as available (i.e. weight histories, lab values before and after advice- include dates).

**Financial Harm Incurred:**

(i.e. Consumer spent \$25/week on vitamin/mineral supplements for three months and ended up in the hospital. The estimated cost of the hospitalization was \$6,000)

**VI. Quality of Treatment**

- What was the R.D.s intervention and how did it affect the outcome? Please include supporting evidence such as weight changes, lab values, changes in eating patterns (i.e. diet history) if available. If a R.D. did not intervene, how could a Registered Dietitian have made a difference in this case.