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I am a physician working in a Complex Care program in Ontario. My time on the unit is limited as I also have a family practice outside the hospital. Currently an order is written for all new admissions allowing the Registered Dietitian to assess and implement a diet and/or enteral feed that is specific to the patient and alter it any time during the patient's length of stay. This allows the Registered Dietitian to change therapeutic diets and enteral feeds as needed. The Registered Dietitian has the expertise to assess and manage the nutritional needs of the Complex Care patients. This order facilitates and expedites the changing of therapeutic diets and enteral feeds even when I am not on the unit. For these reasons I would support the proposal allowing Registered Dietitians to prescribe and manage enteral nutrition and therapeutic diets.

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