

## **Training the dietitian using work integrated learning**

### **Summary:**

Training dietitians to be work ready is a challenging responsibility. Curricula are driven by governing bodies that require specific outcomes which are linked to knowledge, skills and competencies. Employers have a need for a confident and competent entry level dietitian who can communicate well, is a leader and a team member focused on patient well-being. Integrating the various fields of dietetics is also challenging as students tend to think in 'boxes' when it comes to the modules. In our teaching/learning strategy we educate students in a real-life environment and in doing so strive to make them accustomed to the expectations of the patient and the health care system in a controlled and safe environment. During this session we, from North-West University (South Africa), would like to share some of our successes and challenges that we have with work integrated learning with you.

### **Target audience**

Academics involved with training and teaching as well as potential employers

All professionals and academics interested in the training approach of dietetic students.