



Policy: PA.5051
Title: **Quality of Food**
Department: CalOptima Health PACE
Section: Not Applicable

CEO Approval: /s/ Michael Hunn 03/07/2024

Effective Date: 10/01/2013
Revised Date: 03/01/2024

Applicable to:
☐ Medi-Cal
☐ OneCare
☒ PACE
☐ Administrative

I. PURPOSE

This policy outlines the standards for the quality of food served at the CalOptima Health Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Center.

II. POLICY

- A. CalOptima Health PACE Centers shall provide meal services that meet the individual nutritional needs of the Participants and are of high quality.
- B. CalOptima Health PACE Centers shall serve nourishing, palatable and well-balanced meals in a safe manner.

III. PROCEDURE

- A. CalOptima Health PACE Center standards for quality of food are as follows:
 - 1. All food shall be of good quality.
 - 2. Foods (including nutritional supplements and nutrition support items) are procured from sources approved, or considered satisfactory, by Federal, State, Tribal, or local authorities with jurisdiction over the service area of the organization.
 - 3. Food in unlabeled, rusty, leaking, broken containers or cans with side seam dents, rim dents or swells shall not be accepted, retained or used.
 - 4. Home-canned foods shall not be used.
 - 5. All food shall be prepared and served at the proper temperature.
 - 6. Milk, milk products, and products resembling milk shall be processed or manufactured in milk product plants, meeting the requirements of Division 15 of the California Food and Agriculture Code.
 - a. When milk is served as a beverage it shall be pasteurized, Grade 'A' milk or certified milk unless otherwise prescribed by a provider;

- b. Powdered milk shall not be used as a beverage but may be used in cooking;
 - c. Instant liquid substitutes may be used only when dispensed from their original containers;
 - d. When milk is served in individual containers, the cap or seal shall not be removed except in the presence of the Participant; and
 - e. Milk may be served from an approved dispensing device and shall be dispensed directly into the glass or other container from which the Participant drinks.
7. Meat, poultry, and meat products shall not be used unless they have met inspection standards of state or federal authorities.
- B. The CalOptima Health PACE Dietician, or designee, shall conduct periodic food safety and sanitation audits to ensure compliance and report any issues for follow-up action to the CalOptima Health PACE Quality Improvement Department.
1. If a contracted vendor provides the food service, the CalOptima Health PACE Dietary Supervisor, or designee, shall ensure that such vendor has conducted periodic food safety and sanitation audits and may request the results of such audits.

IV. ATTACHMENT(S)

Not Applicable

V. REFERENCE(S)

- A. California Food and Agriculture Code, Division 15. Milk and Milk Products Act
- B. CalOptima Health PACE Program Agreement
- C. Federal Register Volume 64, No. 226
- D. Title 22, California Code of Regulations (C.C.R.), §78323
- E. Title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), §460.78

VI. REGULATORY AGENCY APPROVAL(S)

None to Date

VII. BOARD ACTION(S)

None to Date

VIII. REVISION HISTORY

Action	Date	Policy	Policy Title	Program(s)
Effective	12/01/2014	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE
Reviewed	01/01/2015	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE
Revised	05/01/2016	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE
Revised	04/01/2017	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE
Revised	09/01/2018	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE
Revised	05/01/2019	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE
Revised	10/01/2020	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE
Revised	08/01/2021	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE
Revised	05/01/2022	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE

Action	Date	Policy	Policy Title	Program(s)
Revised	08/01/2023	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE
Revised	03/01/2024	PA.5051	Quality of Food	PACE

IX. GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
PACE Center	The location designated by CalOptima Health PACE at which Participants shall receive PCP services.
Participant	An individual enrolled in the CalOptima Health PACE program.
Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)	PACE is a long-term comprehensive health care program that helps older adults to remain as independent as possible. PACE coordinates and provides all needed preventive, primary, acute and long-term care services so seniors can continue living in their community.