

Issues in Enteral Feeding: Malnutrition



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Presented by:
Kathleen Stoessel, RN, BSN, MS
Clinical Education Specialist

Disclosures

- The presenter serves as a clinical education consultant for ΔVΔNOS through Kelly Outsourcing and Consulting Group.
- This program may contain the mention of drugs or brands presented in a case study or comparative format using evidence-based research. Such examples are intended for educational and informational purposes and should not be perceived as an endorsement of any particular supplier, brand or drug.



Issues in Enteral Feeding: Malnutrition

Objectives

- Explain why malnutrition is a significant clinical problem in acute health care settings in the United States
- Describe how to recognize when a patient is malnourished and would benefit from nutritional support
- Discuss use of enteral & parenteral feeding in malnourished patients
- Summarize the importance of establishing a multidisciplinary care team to improve nutrition intervention.



Malnutrition

Malnutrition is a dietary deficiency when intake of nutrients is too high, too low or poorly balanced





Malnutrition

The prevalence of malnutrition in older adults (aged ≥ 65 y) in Europe and North America is:

- 1-15% in noninstitutionalized older adults
- 25-60% in geriatric care facilities
- 35-65% in hospitals



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In the year 2050, it is predicted that the percentage of people in developed countries over the age of 80 will grow from 9% to 19%
RESULT: An increase of older adults at risk of malnourishment



Malnutrition

The prevalence of illness-related malnutrition in hospitalized children: 6-51%

Malnutrition is probably under recognized



Malnutrition

- 1/3rd of patients have some degree of malnutrition when admitted to hospital
- 2/3^{rds} of those patients will have further decline in nutrition during inpatient stay if left untreated





Polling Question 1

In your estimation, what percentage of adult patients are malnourished when admitted to your hospital/healthcare facility?

- A. 5%**
- B. 10%**
- C. 20%**
- D. 30%**
- E. >30%**



Causes of Malnutrition

- Inadequate food intake
- Mental health conditions
- Eating disorder
- Digestive disorders/stomach conditions
- Alcoholism
- Difficulty obtaining/preparing healthy food
- Increased/changed metabolic demands



Causes of Malnutrition

Additional risk factors:

- Older age
- Hospitalization
- Residence in a long-term care facility

Older patients are at high risk, with malnutrition impacting up to 60% of hospitalized older adults



Signs and Symptoms of Malnutrition

- Lack of appetite
- Fatigue/irritability
- Inability to concentrate
- Feeling cold
- Loss of fat/muscle/body tissue



Signs and Symptoms of Malnutrition

- Lack of appetite
- Fatigue/irritability
- Inability to concentrate
- Feeling cold
- Loss of fat/muscle/body tissue
- Frequent illness/delayed recovery
- Delayed wound healing
- Complications after surgery
- Depression
- Reduced sex drive
- Problems with fertility



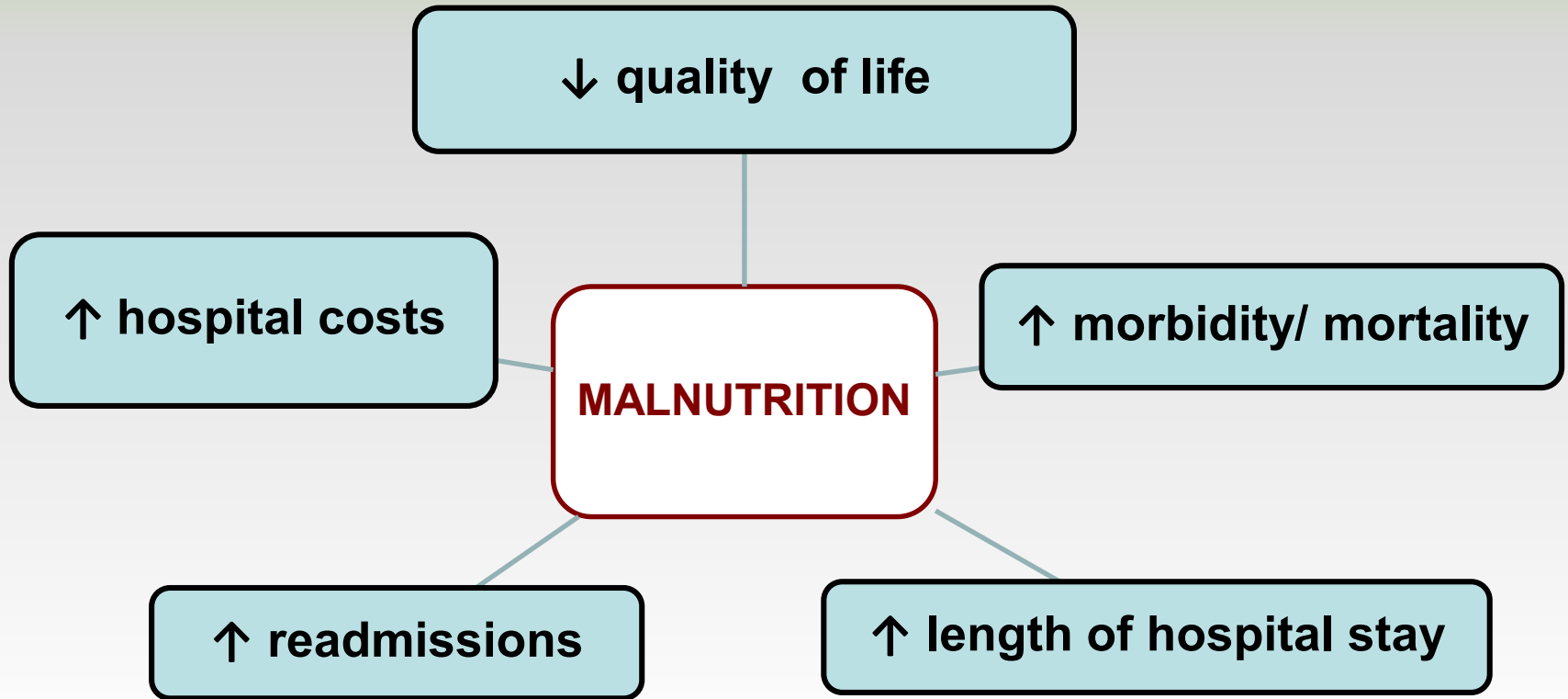
Signs and Symptoms of Malnutrition

In more severe cases:

- Dyspnea
- Skin that is thin, dry, inelastic, pale, cold
- Hollow cheeks
- Sunken eyes
- Hair that is dry and sparse
- Respiratory failure
- Heart failure
- Unresponsiveness



Consequences of Malnutrition





Diagnosis & Treatment of Malnutrition



Diagnosis of Malnutrition

- Two or more characteristics needed for malnutrition diagnosis
 - Insufficient energy intake
 - Weight loss
 - Loss of muscle mass
 - Loss of subcutaneous fat
 - Localized/generalized fluid accumulation
 - Diminished functional status



Nutrition Screening

Nutrition Screening is a process to:

- identify an individual who is malnourished or who is at risk for malnutrition
- determine if a detailed nutrition assessment is indicated

A.S.P.E.N.: American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition



Polling Question 2

Nutrition screening should be done:

- A. on patients who appear malnourished**
- B. on all hospitalized patients**
- C. at the discretion of the admitting physician**
- D. none of the above**



Response Question 2

Nutrition screening should be done:

- A. on patients who appear malnourished
- B. **on all hospitalized patients**
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- D. none of the above



Nutrition Screening

Nutrition Screening is a process to:

- identify an individual who is malnourished or who is at risk for malnutrition
- determine if a detailed nutrition assessment is indicated

Nutrition Screening is recommended for all hospitalized patients



Nutrition Screening Tools

- Malnutrition Screening Tool (MST)
- Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool (MUST)
- Mini Nutritional Assessment – Short Form (MNA-SF)
- Nutritional Risk



Nutrition Screenings

MST Screening Tool

The MST Screening Tool asks questions on:

- Weight Change
- Appetite

1. Have you lost weight recently without trying?	
No	0
Unsure	2
If Yes, how much weight (kg) have you lost?	
1 – 5	1
6 – 10	2
11 – 15	3
> 15	4
Unsure	2
Weight Loss Score: <input type="text"/>	
2. Have you been eating poorly because of a decreased appetite?	
No	0
Yes	1
Appetite Score: <input type="text"/>	
Total MST Score (weight loss + appetite scores) <input type="text"/>	



Nutrition Screenings

MST Screening Tool

1. Have you lost weight recently without trying?

WEIGHT LOSS SCORE:

Response	Point Value
NO	0
Unsure	2
If YES, how much weight (kg) have you lost?	
1-5	1
6-10	2
11-15	3
>15	4
Unsure	2



Nutrition Screenings

MST Screening Tool

2. Have you been eating poorly because of a decreased appetite?

Response	Point Value
NO	0
YES	1

APPETITE SCORE:



Nutrition Screenings

MST Screening Tool

Total MST Score =

**WEIGHT LOSS
SCORE:**



**APPETITE
SCORE:**



Determination of Nutrition Support

- Type of nutritional support utilized
 - Severity of malnutrition
 - Presence of underlying conditions/complications
 - Ability to feed oneself
 - Ability to eat/digest food normally
 - Age
 - Mental state
 - Setting



Types of Nutrition Support

- Oral Nutrition Supplements
- Enteral Nutrition Supplements
- Parenteral Nutrition Supplements



Oral Nutrition Supplements

- Nutritionally complete supplements
- Nutritionally incomplete supplements
- Modular supplements
- Disease-specific supplements



Enteral Nutrition

Definition of Enteral Nutrition (EN):

The delivery (via a tube) of a nutritionally complete liquid food mixture consisting of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, mineral, vitamins and water into the stomach, duodenum or jejunum of patients with normally functioning GI tracts.



Enteral Nutrition

Types of Feeding Tubes

- Nasogastric
- Nasoduodenal
- Nasojejunal
- Orogastric
- Orojejunal
- Transesophageal
- Gastrostomy (G-tube)
- Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG)
- Jejunostomy (J-tube)
- Percutaneous endoscopic jejunostomy (PEJ)
- Gastrojejunostomy



Enteral Feeding Formulas

- Standard polymeric
- High-calorie polymeric
- High-protein polymeric
- Polymeric with fiber
- Oligomeric
- Diabetic
- Immunomodulating
- Modular
- Pulmonary
- Renal



Potential Complications of Enteral Feeding

- Obstruction
- Lesions
- Sinusitis
- Aspiration
- Pulmonary complications



Potential Complications of Enteral Feeding

- Obstruction
- Lesions
- Sinusitis
- Aspiration
- Pulmonary complications
- Diarrhea
- Intestinal ischemia
- Epistaxis
- Metabolic disturbances



Parenteral Nutrition

Definition of Parenteral Nutrition (PN):

The intravenous administration of nutrients.

- Central PN: delivered into a large-diameter vein, usually the superior vena cava adjacent to the right atrium.
- Peripheral PN: delivered into a small-diameter peripheral vein, usually of the hand or forearm.

Parenteral nutrition should only be used when enteral nutrition is not possible



Examples of Conditions that may require Parenteral Nutrition

- May be required for those suffering from
 - Short-bowel syndrome
 - Gastrointestinal fistula
 - Bowel obstruction
 - Severe acute pancreatitis



Parenteral Feeding Formulas

Typical Concentrations:

- Central venous access
 - 25-35% dextrose, 2.75-6% amino acids
- Peripheral infusion
 - 5-10% dextrose, 2.75-4.25% amino acids



Potential Complications of Parenteral Feeding

- Associated with higher risk of:
 - Biliary diseases
 - Osteoporosis, osteomalacia
 - Catheter-related infections
 - Central venous access complications
 - Electrolyte imbalances
 - Hyperglycemia, Hyperlipidemia
 - Liver diseases, Thrombosis



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Infectious complications are frequently related to inadequate catheter care and patient education



Benefits of Nutritional Recovery

- Lower mortality rates
- Decreased complication rates
- Fewer wound infections
- Improved respiratory function
- Lower infective complications
- Earlier return to GI function
- Improved liver function
- Improved physical, emotional function
- Shorter rehabilitation



Considerations for Pediatric Patients

www.nutritioncare.org



Considerations for Pediatric Patients

- Study of tertiary care children's hospitals
 - 24% of children were malnourished
 - Can be related to
 - Illness (Secondary)
 - Non-illness (Environmental/behavioral)



Consequences

- Malnourished children are at risk of
 - Compromised immune systems
 - Increased susceptibility to infectious diseases
 - Negatively affected growth and development
 - Limited total bone growth long term
 - Hindered brain development
 - Delays in motor, cognitive development



Diagnosis of Malnutrition in Children

Factors

- Breastfeeding
- Contact with TB
- Cough lasting over 2 weeks
- Watery/bloody diarrhea
- Persistent/frequent diarrhea, vomiting



Diagnosis of Malnutrition in Children

Factors

- Breastfeeding
- Contact with TB
- Cough lasting over 2 weeks
- Watery/bloody diarrhea
- Persistent/frequent diarrhea, vomiting
- Known/suspected HIV infection/exposure
- Loss of appetite
- Recent contact with measles
- Decreased intake of food, fluids



Diagnosis of Malnutrition in Children

Symptoms

- Shock
- Dehydration
- Severe palmar pallor
- Bilateral pitting edema
- Ocular signs of vitamin A deficiency
- Localized signs of infection



Diagnosis of Malnutrition in Children

Symptoms

- Shock
- Dehydration
- Severe palmar pallor
- Bilateral pitting edema
- Ocular signs of vitamin A deficiency
- Localized signs of infection
- HIV infection
- Fever
- Mouth ulcers
- Skin changes
- Reduced appetite



A.S.P.E.N. Guidelines for Nutrition Support of Critically Ill Child

1. Provide screening & assessment; develop care plan
2. Assess energy expenditure
3. Determine individual's macronutrient requirements
4. Prefer enteral nutrition over parenteral nutrition
5. Recommendation against immune-enhancing diets/nutrients
6. Establish specialized nutrition support team in PICU

A.S.P.E.N.: American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition



Clinical and economic benefits of treating malnutrition





Economic Implications of Malnutrition

- Study of data from NHANES, NHIS
 - Estimated burden of disease-associated malnutrition (DAM) for 8 diseases studied was > \$15.5 Billion
 - Dementia accounted for > \$8.7 Billion
 - Depression accounted for \$2.46 Billion

NHANES: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey

NHIS: National Health Interview Survey

DAM: Disease-associated malnutrition



Economic Implications of Malnutrition

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 - Estimated burden of disease-associated malnutrition (DAM) for 8 diseases studied was > \$15.5 Billion
 - Dementia accounted for > \$8.7 Billion
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- Canadian study of moderately malnourished patients
 - Length of hospital stay increased 23-34%
 - Total costs were 38% higher



Challenges and Opportunities in the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

Challenge:

- Reimbursement for costs associated with preventable events WILL be reduced
- ACA penalizes hospitals for higher than expected 30-day readmission rates



Challenges and Opportunities in the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

Opportunity:

- Prevention and treatment of malnutrition can:
 - Reduce readmissions
 - Optimize the quality of patient care
 - Improve clinical outcomes
 - Reduce costs



[Am Health Drug Benefits](#). 2017 Jul;10(5):262-270.

Budget Impact of a Comprehensive Nutrition-Focused Quality Improvement Program for Malnourished Hospitalized Patients.

[Sulo S¹](#), [Feldstein J²](#), [Partridge J³](#), [Schwander B⁴](#), [Sriram K⁵](#), [Summerfelt WT⁶](#).

Study focused on:

- malnutrition risk screening at admission
- prompt initiation of oral nutritional supplementation for at-risk patients
- nutrition support
- education for patients during the hospital stay and after discharge

Results:

- shortened length of stay from 7.2 days to 5.4 days
- 27% reduction in patients returning to hospitals within 30 days
- ~ cost savings of >\$3800 per patient treated for malnutrition



[JPEN J Parenter Enteral Nutr.](#) 2013 Jul;37(4):482-97. doi: 10.1177/0148607113484066. Epub 2013 Jun 4.

Critical role of nutrition in improving quality of care: an interdisciplinary call to action to address adult hospital malnutrition.

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At the Johns Hopkins Hospital, a team approach to the assessment and early intervention of malnutrition resulted in:

- reduced LOS by an average of 3.2 days in severely malnourished
- cost savings of \$1,514 per patient



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Six principles used to drive improvement





Multidisciplinary Care Model to Improve Nutrition Intervention

1. Create a culture where all stakeholders value nutrition
2. Redefine clinicians' roles to include nutrition care
3. Recognize and diagnose all malnourished and at risk patients



Multidisciplinary Care Model to Improve Nutrition Intervention

1. Create a culture where all stakeholders value nutrition
2. Redefine clinicians' roles to include nutrition care
3. Recognize and diagnose all malnourished and at risk patients
4. Implement comprehensive nutrition interventions and continued monitoring
5. Communicate nutrition care plans
6. Develop a discharge nutrition care and education plan



Issues in Enteral Feeding: Malnutrition

Resource

- American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN)
 - Website: www.nutritioncare.org/
 - Malnutrition Toolkit:
[www.nutritioncare.org/Guidelines and Clinical Resources/Toolkits/Malnutrition Toolkit/](http://www.nutritioncare.org/Guidelines_and_Clinical_Resources/Toolkits/Malnutrition_Toolkit/)



Issues in Enteral Feeding: Malnutrition

Summary

- Malnutrition is a significant clinical problem in acute and alternative health care settings in the United States
- Early recognition and treatment of malnourished patients has both clinical and economic benefits
- Establishing a multidisciplinary care model to improve nutrition intervention can drive meaningful improvement in the care of patients with or at risk for malnutrition



Issues in Enteral Feeding: Malnutrition

Thank you!

Kathleen Stoessel, RN, BSN, MS
kathleen.stoessel@gmail.com