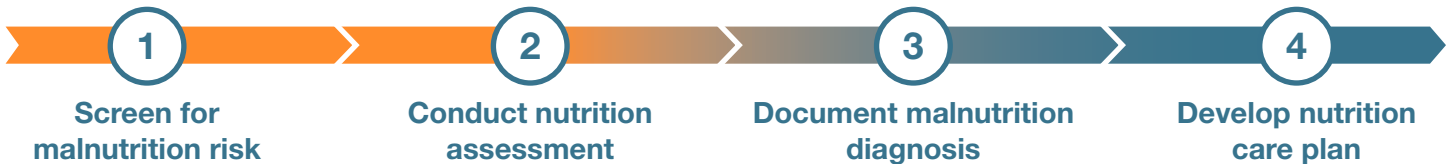


CMS approves expanded Global Malnutrition Composite Score (GMCS) age range 65+ (2024) to 18+ for 2026 Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting

In 2022, the GMCS was the 1st nutrition-focused quality measure endorsed by the National Quality Forum and included in any Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) payment program. CMS included an expanded GMCS for all adults (age 18+) in its FY 2025 Final Rule, for hospital reporting starting in 2026.

GMCS Measure



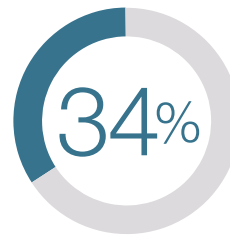
Malnutrition Is a Critical Public Health and Health Equity Issue



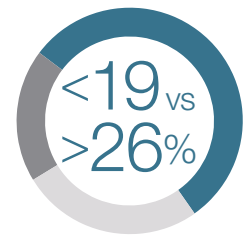
Malnutrition and its risk affect **20–50%** of hospitalized patients¹



Malnutrition is typically diagnosed in **<9%** of hospitalized patients, leaving many potentially undiagnosed and untreated²



Costs are **34%** higher for inpatient hospital stays among malnourished patients than for non-malnourished patients³



Non-Hispanic Black patients with malnutrition have **>26%** readmission rates compared to **<19%** for non-Hispanic White patients with malnutrition⁴



Social risk factors and existing chronic conditions increase malnutrition risk, disproportionately burdening vulnerable populations⁵

Implementation of the GMCS clinical quality components is associated with improved patient/hospital outcomes and supports the RDN's critical role in hospital care through:



Reducing hospital length of stay and infection rates⁶ and 30-day hospital readmission⁷

Lowering healthcare costs⁸ and advancing health equity⁹

Identifying at-risk patients and facilitates RDN engagement to ensure appropriate assessment and intervention/nutrition care plan

Documenting relevant nutrition diagnosis and discharge plans to **ensure continuity** through care transitions



Get started now! ▶

Visit <https://malnutritionquality.org/starting-qi/quick-start-guide/> and <https://www.cdrnet.org/GMCS> for further information and resources

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