A New Standard of Patient Nutrition Is Here

Learn how malnutrition awareness, education and management can improve your patients’ outcomes and enhance your hospital’s level of care.

Feed patients right.
Feed patients now.

HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL BROCHURE
Malnutrition is a serious, costly, and under-identified problem in healthcare settings around the world, both developed and emerging. In fact, by the time patients are admitted, most have already lost weight. A recent hospital survey showed that more than 40% of patients experienced weight loss in the three months prior to entering the hospital, and 50% ate markedly less food than usual the week before admission.

When patients cannot meet nutrient needs with a regular food diet, nutritional intervention is needed. Hospitalization is a risk factor for malnutrition:

- Around the world, up to 50% of hospitalized adults are malnourished.
- Feeding interruptions for procedures and restricted eating orders only increase problems.
- An older person hospitalized with illness can lose up to 10% of muscle in just three days.

Why change hospital nutrition practices?

With optimal nutrition care, hospitals can improve patients’ clinical outcomes and cut healthcare costs. However, despite compelling evidence, nutrition is still not fully utilized; barriers such as inadequate time, money, and training are given as reasons. The truth is that we can no longer afford to not pay attention to the nutrition care in practice.

According to a recent report, oral nutritional supplements provided during hospitalization were associated with:

- Decreased length of stay.
- Lower episode costs.
- Decreased probability for readmission within 30 days.
feedM.E. AN INNOVATIVE, COST-EFFECTIVE PROGRAM FOR CHANGE

feedM.E. is a global malnutrition awareness, education, and call to action initiative that was developed in conjunction with a global advisory board of physicians. The program compiles scientific rationale, clinical evidence, and best practices to:

- Heighten **AWARENESS** of the high prevalence of malnutrition and its adverse consequences
- **EDUCATE** hospitals with standardized and practical feeding protocols and tools that optimize patient outcomes, have positive financial benefits, and make feeding decisions easier

HOW feedM.E. CAN BENEFIT YOUR INSTITUTION:

- **COST-SAVING**: Recognizes malnutrition or those at nutritional risk, and tailors feeding to individual patient needs in order to positively impact your financial bottom line (screen, intervene, supervene)
- **COST-EFFECTIVE**: Streamlines implementation of updated nutrition practice by using available staff and resources and a limited commitment of training time
- **PRACTICAL**: Applies easy-to-learn and -use assessment and diagnostic tools and suggests standard protocols
- **INNOVATIVE**: Facilitates best-practice nutrition management
- **IMPACTFUL**: Supports patients and their families, healthcare professionals, hospitals, communities, and the global healthcare system
- **HOLISTIC**: Considers nutrition care across the continuum from admission to hospital stay through home-care

Hospitalized patients who are poorly nourished are at distinctly higher risk for complications, prolonged hospitalizations, and costly outcomes than are adequately-nourished patients.\(^{17}\)

Compared to well-nourished surgery patients, those who were malnourished were four times more likely to develop pressure ulcers, two times more likely to have surgical site post-operative infections, and five times more likely to get catheter-associated urinary tract infections.\(^{24}\)

Impaired functional recovery is evident in patients who experience malnutrition and loss of lean body mass, even after one year following hospital discharge.\(^{25}\)

Malnutrition is a strong predictor of hospital readmission.\(^{14}\)

Severely limited food intake due to illness increases risk of dying.\(^{10}\)

Malnutrition is a strong predictor of hospital readmission.\(^{14}\)
feedM.E. IN YOUR HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION

Around the world, nutrition intervention—in the form of oral or tube fed nutrition supplements—has proven beneficial to patients who cannot meet nutrient needs with a regular food diet. In terms of costs, attention to nutrition care can shorten length of hospital stay; reduce readmissions; and lower overall costs for hospital care.1,4,6

The feedM.E. program builds a healthcare culture that values nutrition by helping you develop attainable goals and best-practice feeding protocols for use in your institution. While feedM.E. has global implications, it starts with you. Abbott Nutrition is your partner to help you make the best nutritional choices for your patients during their stay in the hospital and after discharge from the hospital. Talk more with your Abbott representative about how you can quickly and easily implement feedM.E. in your institution.

ABBOTT

As a leader in the healthcare industry, Abbott is committed to translating science into lasting contributions to health and pioneering nutrition solutions for every stage of life…because better health demands better nutrition.

REFERENCES