





Good practices for effective nutritional screening and early malnutrition diagnosis

Harriët Jager-Wittenaar, PhD, RD - The Netherlands Lead European Specialist Dietetic Network Older Adults













EFAD The Voice of European Dietitians









EFAD development and European dietetic representation



- The European Federation of the Associations of Dietitians (EFAD) was established in 1978 in Copenhagen, Denmark with 10 member associations
- In 2018, EFAD has 28 full members and 5 affiliate members representing over 33,000 dietitians in 28 countries
- EFAD has over 38 Higher Education Institutions (HEI) associate members
- EFAD is a not-for-profit organisation that does not pursue any political or religious ends











10 European Specialist Dietetic Networks (ESDNs)



#nutritionalcare

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Specialists Networks

EFAD has ten European Specialist Dietetic Networks (ESDNs).

Each ESDN is managed by a committee of dietitians who are experts in their field.





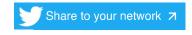








ESDN Older Adults



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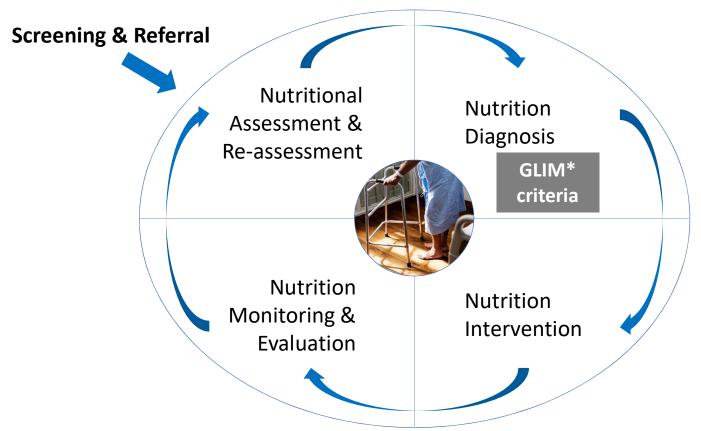






Nutrition Care Process





*GLIM =
Global Leadership Initiative
on Malnutrition















Portuguese ANUMEDI Study:







- N=729
- 24 hospitals
- Age 78 (18-101) yrs
- 90% low education level (≤12th grade)
- At admission at Internal Medicine ward:
 - NRS 2002
 - Portuguese PG-SGA

		Subjective evaluation		
		Not at risk n (%)	At risk n (%)	Total
NRS 2002	Not at risk (<3)	241 (67)	117 (33)	358 (49)
	At risk (≥3)	96 (26)	275 (74)	371 (51)
	Total	337	392	729

Table 2 – Comparison between subjective evaluation of nutritional risk and NRS 2002.

k=0.415, p<0.001













Portuguese ANUMEDI Study:

Poor agreement of malnutrition diagnosis between physician's subjective evaluation and validated nutritional assessment tool





- N=729
- 24 hospitals
- Age 78 (18-101) yrs
- 90% low education level (≤12th grade)
- At admission at Internal Medicine ward:
 - NRS 2002
 - Portuguese PG-SGA

		Subjective evaluation			
		Not at risk n (%)	At risk n (%)	Total	
PG-SGA Categories	Well nourished	169 (85)	29 (15)	198 (27)	
	Moderate/ suspected malnutrition	159 (40)	248 (60)	407 (56)	
	Severely malnourished	9 (7)	115 (92)	124 (17)	
	Total	337	392	729	

Table 3 – Comparison between subjective evaluation of nutritional risk and malnutrition according to PG-SGA Categories.

PG-SGA: k=0.440, p<0.001









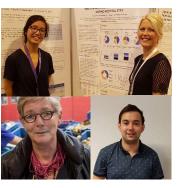




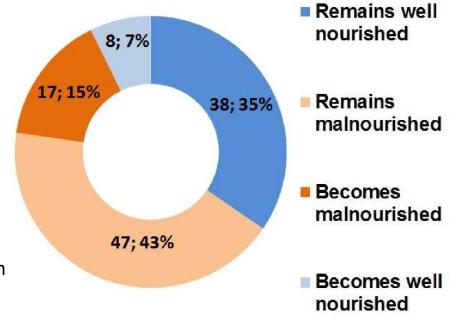
Dutch Study - Groningen:Overall nutritional status remains quite stable







- N=652 → repeated measurements: N=110
- Age 58.3 ± 16.8 years
- 4 wards
- Dutch PG-SGA
- At admission, day 4, day 10, and before discharge (if length of stay >14 days)
- PG-SGA Categories:
 - Stage A = Well nourished
 - Stage B = Moderate/suspected malnutrition
 - Stage C = Severely malnourished











Van Vliet I et al. ESPEN 2018





But:

Share to your network 7

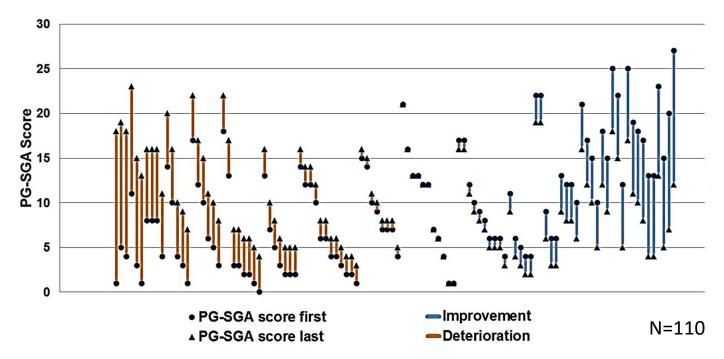
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... half of the patients had an increase in need for nutritonal interventions during hospital stay









PG-SGA score ≥9 indicates critical need for interdisciplinary interventions







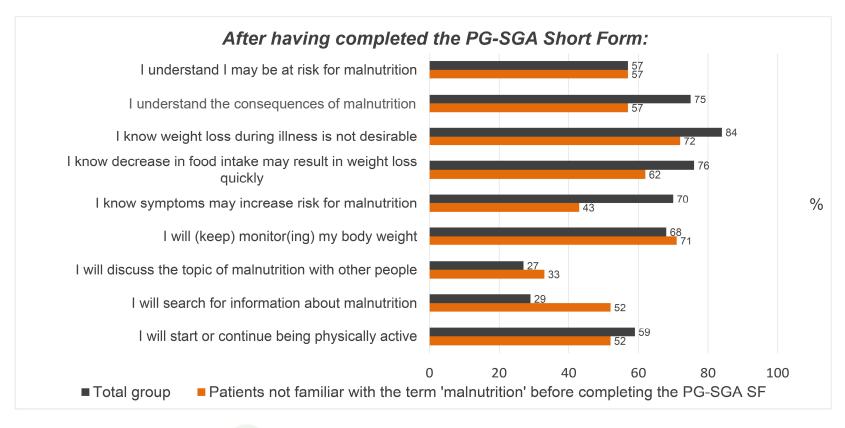






Self-screening by PG-SGA Short Form may increase patient awareness Head and neck cancer patients (n=59)









Jager-Wittenaar et al. ESPEN 2016



Implementation of screening: what regional / local challenges do we face?



- Resistance to changing practice
- Not knowing where to start
- Lack of leadership by healthcare professional
- How to make the shift from project to routine practice?

• ...













Implementation study:

Knowledge-to-Action

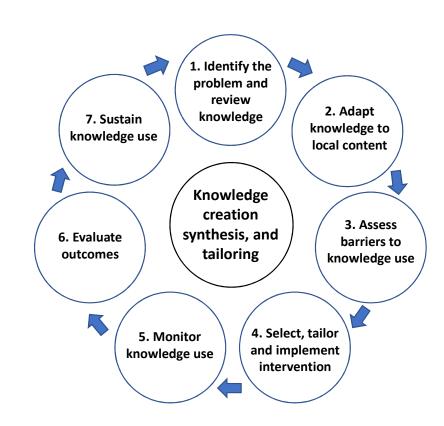
















Laur C & Keller HH. J Multidisc Healthcare 2015 Graham ID et al. J Contin Edu Health Prof 2006







Implementation study:

Community Readiness Model

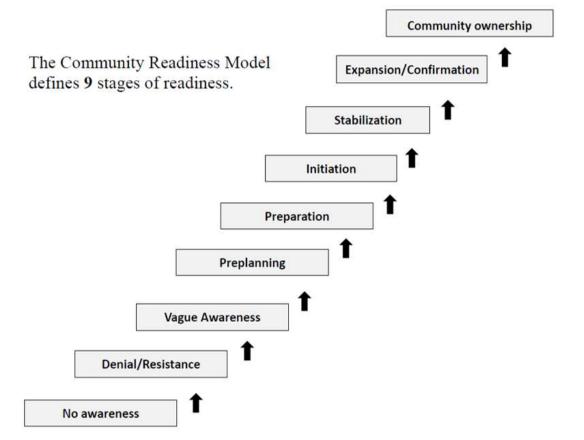


















Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research 2014



Compose an interdisciplinary "Screening Implementation Team" and make disciplines & persons responsible

Set realistic goals – don't be overambitious. E.g., start with 1 or 2 wards

Analyze pilot results and create a feedback loop

But think long-term from the beginning

Anticipate on "What's in it for me" questions

Study the implementation process!



Key points





- Prevention and treatment of malnutrition requires multi- or interdisciplinary & patient-centric approach
- Screening is just the first step in the nutrition care process
- Malnutrition screening and assessment require validated, translated & cross-culturally adapted instruments
- Window of opportunity: outpatient setting - before and after hospital admission!



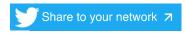




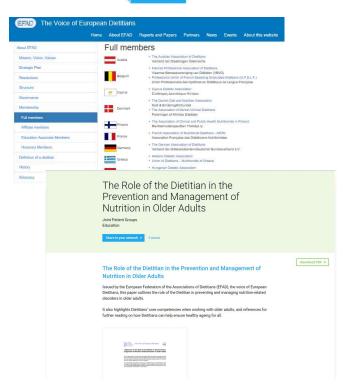


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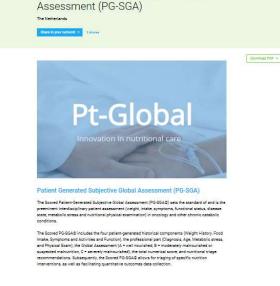
Helpful materials: selected examples



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Patient Generated Subjective Global

www.efad.org



www.pt-global.org











Thank you!

