



NURSE SURVEY

The Canadian Malnutrition Task Force (CMTF) conducted a national study from 2010 – 2013 to determine the prevalence of malnutrition in Canadian hospitals. The following survey, used to determine nurses' level of knowledge, attitudes and practices with respect to nutrition hospitalized patients, was used in this study. Minor adaptations were made to the content valid, published version (Rasmussen HH, Kondrup J, Ladefoged K, Staun M. Clinical nutrition in Danish hospitals: a questionnaire-based investigation among doctors and nurses. *Clin Nutr.* 1999; 18: 153-158). This version has been reviewed by the inter-disciplinary Education and Practice group of the CMTF for content validity.

This survey is made available by CMTF for use by hospitals in their own research or quality improvement initiatives. Permission has been provided by the author for CMTF to disseminate this questionnaire for these purposes (H.H. Rasmussen, June 24, 2014, personal communication to D. Duerksen).

This survey will provide your hospital with the necessary information required to identify training needs and evaluate training efforts.

Instructions:

Please complete the following questions, providing a single answer unless instructed otherwise. If you work on more than one hospital unit, please consider your primary unit, when answering questions.

Please return this survey to:

Information About You

1. Which type of hospital unit do you currently work on? (if you work on multiple units, select your PRIMARY unit):

2. You are a(n) (check one only):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> RN | <input type="checkbox"/> RPN/LPN/RNA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NP | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Aide/PSW |
| <input type="checkbox"/> unit manager (head nurse) | <input type="checkbox"/> charge nurse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> clinical nurse specialist/educator | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other please identify _____ | |

3. You are an employee of (check only one):

- the hospital
- a nursing agency

4. Are you:

- full time
- part time

5. How many years you have been practicing:

- < 2 years
- 2-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 10 + years

Evaluation of Patients' Nutritional Status

1. Please respond to the statements below concerning practices on your primary hospital unit. Check one column for each statement.

On the hospital unit where I currently work...	No	Yes, For selected patients less than <50% of the time	Yes, for selected patients >50% of the time	Yes, in ALMOST ALL patients	Don't know
Patients are screened for nutrition risk upon admission to the hospital					
Patients who are screened to be at risk undergo subjective global assessment (SGA) to determine their nutritional status					
Ongoing evaluation of the patient's nutritional status/intake <u>during hospitalization</u> is standard procedure					
Patients have their nutritional status evaluated on discharge.					
The patient's nutritional problems are routinely taken into account on unit rounds					
Patients are weighed on admission					
Patients are weighed at regular intervals during hospitalization					
Patients are routinely weighed upon discharge					

2. Please respond to the statements below concerning patients who are **AT NUTRITIONAL RISK** on your primary hospital unit. *Check one box for each statement.*

On the hospital unit where I currently work...	No	Yes, for selected patients less than <50% of the time	Yes, for selected patients >50% of the time	Yes, in ALMOST ALL patients	Don't know
Measurement of food intake is undertaken in admitted patients at nutritional risk					
At risk patients are continuously monitored to determine if they are meeting their food intake requirements					
A nutritional care plan is included in the patient records					

3a. Please respond to the following statements concerning what you believe **OUGHT** to be standard practice on your primary unit: *Check one box for each statement.*

All patients...	Entirely agree	Largely agree	Largely disagree	Entirely disagree	Don't know
Ought to be screened for nutrition risk upon admission					
Ought to have an evaluation of their nutritional status <u>on admission</u>					
Ought to have an evaluation of their nutritional status at least once a week <u>during hospitalization</u>					
Ought to have an evaluation of their nutritional status <u>on discharge</u>					
That have compromised nutritional status and/or a reduced food intake, will have a nutritional care plan initiated within 24 hours					

3b. Please respond to the following statements concerning what you believe **OUGHT to be standard practice on your primary unit:** *Check one box for each statement.*

	Entirely agree	Largely agree	Largely disagree	Entirely disagree	Don't know
The nutritional problems of admitted patients should routinely be taken into account on unit rounds					
All patients should be weighed on admission					
Patients should be weighed at fixed intervals during admission					
Patients should be weighed on discharge					
There should be daily checks of whether patients requiring special nutritional treatment are achieving their requirements					
All patients should have their food intake monitored at least every few days					

4. Do you feel that malnutrition is a significant problem in the patients on your primary unit?

	No	Yes, in <25% patients	Yes, in 25-50% of patients	Yes, in >50% patients	Don't know
<i>Please check the appropriate box</i>					

5. What proportion of patients on your primary unit ...?

	None	< 25%	25-50%	50-75%	75-100%
Require assistance with meals e.g. opening packages, proper positioning					
Require assistance with eating e.g. cannot hold utensils, cannot cut food, cannot feed self					
Always receive assistance when they need it					
Require pain or symptom control in order to enjoy their					

	None	< 25%	25-50%	50-75%	75-100%
food					
Always receive medical interventions for pain or symptoms so that they can enjoy their meal					
Need to have food brought in by family for them					
Receive support from staff for storage and provision of these special food items					

Allocation of Responsibility on the Unit

6. Has your primary unit instituted any of the following? *Check one box for each statement.*

	Yes	No	Don't know
Established an interdisciplinary nutrition team			
Appointed one or more resource persons with special knowledge of, and interest in clinical nutrition			
Produced or use guidelines/protocols on how patients with nutritional therapy needs can be identified			
Produced or use guidelines/protocols on tube feeding			
Produced or use guidelines/protocols on parenteral nutrition			
Defined the scope of the responsibility of dietitians			
Provided education for medical staff in nutrition care			
Provided education for nursing staff in nutrition care			

7. Please answer the following questions *(Check one box for each question/statement)*

	Yes	Yes, to some extent	No	Don't know
Do you have dietitians who are available for consultation?				
Do the dietitians regularly take part in one or more nursing, medical or interdisciplinary rounds on the unit?				
Is it your opinion that it would be helpful to use dietitians more extensively than you do at present?				

8. Check the THREE most IMPORTANT reasons why patients may get insufficient nutrition support (e.g., artificial nutrition, tube feeding) on your hospital unit

- Unaware of the importance of nutrition
- Malnourished individuals not identified
- Indifference
- Lack of documentation
- Too many complications
- No definition of responsibility
- Time-consuming
- Technically difficult
- Hard to identify the relevant malnourished patients
- Too expensive
- Other (specify): _____

9. Check the most IMPORTANT reasons why patients may not eat on your hospital unit:

	Rarely a problem	Sometimes a problem	Commonly a problem
Tray delivery is not coordinated between Food Services and Nursing			
Appearance, taste, or aroma of food is poor			
Food/fluid temperature is inappropriate			
Patients are not given enough time to eat			
Patient meals are interrupted by procedures or medical care			
Patients are not properly positioned to eat			
Patients are not able to feed self or open packages			
Patients' pain and symptoms are not well managed			
Insufficient assistance with eating			

10. How good is your knowledge of....? (Check one box on the scale from 1 to 10, where 1 = inadequate knowledge and 10 = very good knowledge)

Inadequate knowledge Very good

knowledge

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The identification of malnourished patients										

11. How interested are you in....? (Check one box on the scale from 1 to 10, where 1 =low interest and 10 = very interested)

	Low interest					Great interest				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The identification of malnourished patients										

12. To what extent do you find it relevant for you to be well informed about...? (Check one box on the scale from 1 to 10, where 1 =not relevant and 10 = very relevant)

	Not relevant					Very relevant				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
The identification of malnourished patients										

Please provide any further comments with respect to nutrition care on this unit.

Thank You!