

Improving Health Equity Through Quality Care Measure in Malnutrition: the Global Malnutrition Composite Score Tamaire Ojeda Avila, MHSA, RDN, LD

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- 18+ vears
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 Patient Aligned Care Team Member (interdisciplinary team at the VHA)
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 Education:

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 Masters in Public Health – Healthcare Service Administration

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Disclosures

- Tamaire Ojeda Avila, MHSA, RDN, LD
 - Employer: Commission on Dietetic Registration
 - CMS986 Measure Developer and Measure Steward team member
 - No additional disclosures to report



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Learning Objectives

- 1. Explain the impact health equity has in nutrition and dietetics practice.
- 2. Describe how implementation of GMCS can help promote quality care and address health equity.
- 3. Illustrate the importance of addressing health equity during the transition of care and how the interdisciplinary team can support the patient.



What is Health Equity?

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What is Health Equity?

- State in which everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health¹
- Requires ongoing societal efforts to¹:
 - \circ Address historical and contemporary injustices;
 - \circ Overcome economic, social, and other obstacles to health and health care; and
 - o Eliminate preventable health disparities

Food and Nutritional Care as a Human Right

<u>Universal Declaration of Human Rights | United Nations</u> from 1948

o Article 25

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including **food**, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control

- Nutritional care also framed as a human right¹ has been discussed as well
 - $\circ\,$ Close relationship to two well-recognized fundamental rights: the right to food and the right to health

 Cardenas, D., Davisson Correia, M., Hardy, G., Ochoa, J., Barrocas, A., Hankard, R., . . . Barazzoni, R. (2022). Nutritional Care is a human right: translating principles to clinical practice. *Nutr Clin Pract* (37), 743-751. doi:10.1002/ncp.10864

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Social Determinants of Health

· Social determinants of health affect health, wellness, and guality of life.

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- · Social determinants of health include:
 - Access to nutritious foods
 - o Access to appropriate health care
 - Access to quality education
 - o Access to health education (improving health literacy)
 - \circ Economic stability throughout the lifecycle
 - Language barriers
 - Literacy level



Food Insecurity

Association of State Public Health Nutritionists and The Gravity Project

- Food insecurity is the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or limited or
 uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.
- Food insecurity as a SDOH is defined as a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food "that may be influenced by a number of factors, including income, employment, race/ethnicity, and disability."

Measured at two levels of severity:

- o Low food security: Reports of reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet. Little or no indication of reduced food intake.
- o Very low food security: Reports of multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake.

The Association of State Public Health Nutritionists. (2023, July 26). Food and Nutrition Security Terms and Definitions. Retrieved from ASPHN: <u>https://asphn.org/food-and-nutrition-security-primer-terms/</u> 2024 Commission on Dieteric Registration Copyright | Contact <u>quality-Restrict cons</u> for support

Health Equity Measurement

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•	The Joint Commission's National Patient
	Safety Goal:



https://www.jointcommission.org/our-priorities/health-careequity/accreditation-resource-center/assess-health-related-soci needs/#t=_StrategiesTab&sort=%40created%20descending

The National Committee for Quality Assurance
 (NCQA)

- 2023 Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) Social Need Screening and Intervention Measure
- CMS Innovation Center's Accountable Health Communities (AHC) Model included a mandatory HRSN screener, which includes items such as housing instability, food insecurity, and transportation needs
- CMS has prioritized the collection of the following SDOH variables: health literacy; social isolation; transportation barriers; food insecurity; and housing

insecurity.

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www.ncqa.org/hedis/ The Path Forward: Improving Data to Advance Health Equity Solutions (cms.gov)

National Quality Strategy

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The NQS has three aims:

- Better Care—improve quality by making health care patient centered, reliable, accessible, and safe
- Better Health—improve health by supporting proven interventions to address behavioral, social, and environmental determinants
- of health Lower Costs—reduce cost of quality health care for individuals, families, employers, and government

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A Comprehensive Systems Approach to Achieving Nutrition Security and Health Equity



Brown, P, Buelsing Sowards, D, Pithman, M, Leger, H. G, & DeSpito Manna, S. (2023). The Global Mahrutrition Composing Someos: Fundame. Exploy & deSpito Manna. 2020.
Brown, P, Buelsing Sowards, D. Pithman, M, Leger, H. G, & DeSpito Manna, S. (2023). The Global Mahrutrition Composite Score Quality Mesoure-Seleze this Opportunity to Benefit Older Adult Care and Health Equity/ OBM/Grivitrix, 72). doi:10.2192/score.prints.202237

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Making the Case for Malnutrition Care

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What is Malnutrition?

- · Sometimes referred to as "poor nutrition"
- Inadequate intake of energy or nutrients, particularly protein, over time

 Lack of adequate nutrients to meet the body's needs
- Different possible causes
- Can occur in people who are both underweight or overweight and obese
- It can place a great burden on patients, providers, and the broader healthcare system

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Impact of Malnutrition in Health Care

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Why should acute care settings identify and address malnutrition?

Addressing Malnutrition Can Improve Patient Outcomes and Lower Costs





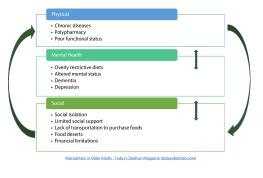
in cost savings generated by a 4hospital system that implemented a nutrition-focused quality improvement program.⁶

ted by a 4that nordoused program³ **249%**

5. Sriam K, Sulo S, VanDerBoch, G, et al. A comprehensive nutrition-focused quality improvement program reduces 10-day readmissions and length of stay in hospitalized patients. JPRN J Parenter Enteral Nat. 2017;H1031849:391, [Sciluo S, Feldison P, Parridge, J, et al. Modget impact of a comprehensive nutrition-focused quality improvement program for mainvariated hospitalized patients. Am Health Drug Benefits. 2017;H1031829: 270, [Validates M, Bjogeta P, Anrideg, J, Soi S, Kerr KM, McCaley S, How a Mainutrition Quality improvement initiative Furthers Mainutrition Measurement and Care. Results Form Alsopital Learning Collaborative. JPRN J Parenter Enteral Natr. 2021 FebrSi2:366-371.

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Risk Factors for Malnutrition



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Evaluate drug-nutrient interactions and support Registered Dictitians -

Complete the nutrition assessment and diagn and develop evidence-based interventions.

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den, KA. Quatrara, B. Parkharts, M. Malone, A. Fanjiang, G. Ziegler, T. (2013). Critical Role of Nutrition in Improving Multicontinue. J. Acad Nature and Disc. 113(6), 1318-131

Value of the Credentialed Nutrition and Dietetics Practitioner

- · Subject matter expert on identifying and addressing malnutrition
- Vital member of the interdisciplinary team to help support the patient with malnutrition
- · Leads the quality improvement process to plan and implement a malnutrition program in the acute care setting
- Advocate for the patient with malnutrition

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Clinical Guidelines for Addressing Malnutrition in Acute Care Settings

Authors (Year)	Study Type	Major Findings
Mueller C, Compher C & Druyan ME and the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (A.S.P.E.N.) Board of Directors. Nutrition Screening, Assessment, and Intervention in Adults. Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition. 2011; 35 (1): 16-24. <u>A.S.P.E.N. Clinical</u> Guidelines (wiley.com)	Clinical Guideline	 Screening for nutrition risk for hospitalized patients (Level V); Nutrition assessment is suggested for all patients who are identified to be at nutrition risk by nutrition screening (Level V); and Nutrition support intervention is recommended for patients identified by screening and assessment as at risk for malnutrition or malnourished. (Level III)

Levels of Evidence, 1-Large randomized trials with clear-cut results; low risk of false-positive and/or false-negative error; II-Small, randomized trials with uncertain results; moderate to high risk of false-positive and/or false-negative error; III-Normandomized cohart with contemporaneous controls; IV-Normandomized cohort with historical controls; VC: See services; uncontroled studies; and egereprolino;

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Malnutrition, Food Insecurity & Health Equity

- Protein-energy malnutrition (PEM) is unique compared with many other medical and nutritional problems, due to not only having a deeply complex physiological cause, but also a multifactorial environmental, economic and psychosocial origin
- To promote health equity in the malnourished patient, find the root cause of the problem
 - Understand how SDOH affect positively or negatively a person's nutrition security, and how both
 nutrition security and SDOH affect health equity
 - Understand that at times, malnutrition can have roots not related to food insecurity and those need to be addressed as well
 - Marshall, S. (2018). Why is the skeleton still in the hospital closet? A look at the complex aetiology of protein-energy malnutrition and its implications for the nutrition care team. J Nutr Health Aging. 22(1), 26-29. right Contact 2024 Com



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doi:10.1542/peds.2009-3146.

Addressing Malnutrition To Address Health Inequities

- Malnutrition affects 20–50% of patients who are at risk of becoming or are malnourished¹
 However, only 8% of non-neonatal and non-maternal adult hospitalizations were coded for malnutrition²
- Addressing malnutrition through the implementation of quality measures that include a nutrition care
 plan provided by an RDN can help reduce disparities in accessing healthy food and health care³
- A hospital is the one place with all the possible resources or community contacts to support a patient with the diagnosis of malnutrition
 - Barker LA, G. & (2011) Hugged multivation: Physikers, and ingoing on generative the hardbark system in *L Encircle* (34): Addres (HebBR), 344-577.
 Barrer M, S. & (2023) *Animaterian and the someodim physiker (2014) in the United Data National Multivational System (2014)*; Addres (2014) *Animaterian and Animaterian and Anim*

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Roundtable Proceedings / Advancing Health Equity Through Malnutrition Quality Measurement



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What is the Global Malnutrition Composite Score as a Quality Measure and How Does It Support Health Equity?

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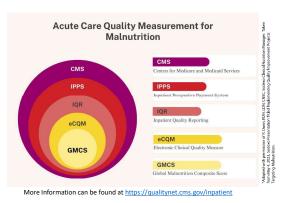
What is Quality Improvement?

- Quality: degree to which health services for individuals and populations increase the likelihood of desired health outcomes and are consistent with current professional knowledge (National Academy of Medicine)
- Quality Improvement: systematic and continuous actions that lead to measurable
 improvement
 - Standardize processes and structure to reduce variation, achieve predictable results, and improve outcomes (CMS)
- Quality measurement is used for benchmarking to identify best practices in care, identify research and practice opportunities, improve future practices, and track progress

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Why Quality Improvement?

- · Reduces costs and waste
- Improves delivery of services and outcomes
- Allows for better organizational strategic planning
- Aligns departmental goals and objectives with an organization's mission & vision
- Creates accountability for actions
- · Fosters positive interprofessional team relationships
- Recognizes excellence



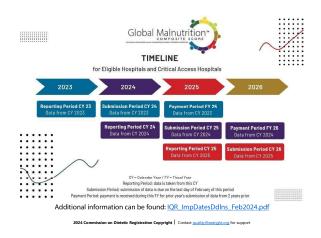
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Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals Must Report 6 eCQMs

		Optional eCQMs:
	Short Name	Measure Name
	GMCS	Global Malnutrition Composite Score
	STK-02	Discharge on Antithrombotic Therapy
Reporting Period CY24 /	STK-03	Antithrombotic Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter
Submission Period CY25 /	STK-05	Antithrombotic Therapy by the End of Hospital Day 2
Payment Year FY 26	VTE-1	Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis
urce: CMS QualityNet, IQR Measures. Available here.	VTE-2	Intensive Care Unit Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis
	HH-01	Hospital Harm—Severe Hypoglycemia
CY: Calendar Year IQR: Inpatient Quality Reporting	HH-02	Hospital Harm—Severe Hyperglycemia
CQM: Electronic Clinical Quality Measure D: Emergency Department; PC: Perinatal Care	HH-ORAE	Hospital Harm—Opioid-Related Adverse Events
	N/A	Safe Use of Opioids*
	PC-02	Cesarean Birth*
	PC-07	Severe Obstetric Complications*
		*Mandatory eCQMs

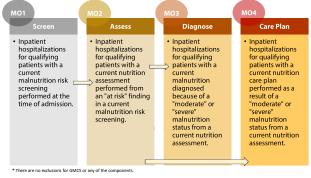
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WHAT IS THE GLOBAL MALNUTRITON COMPOSITE SCORE?



Global Malnutrition Composite Score* eCQM Overview



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GMCS: Clinical Workflow to Address Malnutrition* GMC Elemo Hospital Admission/ Nutrition Assessment Dietitian on Risk Screening Nutri 8 Q N RDN Attr Patien Measure Obse tion #2 **Nutrition Care Plan** +Data elemer Medical Diagnosis eCQMs {Linked data Å Physician/Eligible Clinician easure Observation #4 Discharge Planning Discharge plan includes ontinuity of nutrition care *CY24 Reporting Period / CY25 Submission Period / FY26 Payment Period *CY24 Reporti Submission Payme & ref Patient abel C

		GMCS Data Element & Attributes	Screen	Assess	Diagnose	Care Plan
		Encounter Type+	√	1	√	√
S Data		Inpatient Admission Time+	√	1	√	√
nts and		Inpatient Discharge Time+	√	1	√	1
butes		Date of Birth+	√	√	√	√
Dutes	0	Completed Malnutrition Risk Screening	√	1		
	a	Completed Malnutrition Risk Screening Time Stamp	V	V		
	U	Completed Malnutrition Risk Screening Result	√	√		
s used in other		Hospital Dietitian Referral		√		
o used in other	0	Completed Nutrition Assessment		√	√	√
lements	M	Completed Nutrition Assessment Time Stamp		√	√	√
	1	Completed Nutrition Assessment Result		√	√	√
	0	Documented Malnutrition Diagnosis			√	
	g	Completed Malnutrition Diagnosis Time Stamp			V	
Period / CY25	R	Documented Nutrition Care Plan				√
riod / FY26 Period	B	Completed Nutrition Care Plan Time Stamp				√

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Why do you need to understand the score?

- Ensures the ability to interpret GMCS scores
- Yields insight into specific component gaps
- Leads to actionable objectives for quality improvement projects
- · Drives improvement in the quality of care provided
- · Sheds light on the partners needed to improve care
- Makes the case for stratification of data that require further investigation

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How is the Score Calculated?

Calculations #1-4: Component Scores

Respective component scores: 1= documented/completed, 0 = not documented/completed

Calculation #5: Total Malnutrition Components Score Component 1 (0 or 1) + Component 2 (0 or 1) + Component 3 (0 or 1) + Component 4 (0 or 1)

Calculation #6: Total Malnutrition Composite Score as Percentage (Calculation #5 + Total Malnutrition Components Score Eligible Occurrence) x 100

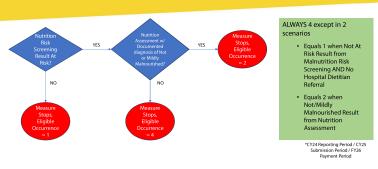
 Finally: Aggregate Total Malnutrition Composite Score as Percentage

 Σ Total Malnutrition Composite Score as Percentage (Calculation #6)

 Eligible Hospitalizations in the Measure Population

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GMCS Eligible Occurrences



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GMCS Calculation Examples

								*Y=1,	N=0	
Scenario Description	MO #1 Screening Doc.?*	At Risk Result?	Hospital Dietitian Referral?	MO #2 Assessment Doc.?*	Moderate or Severe Malnutrition Identified?	MO #3 MD/Eligible Provider Dx Doc.? *	MO #4 Nutrition Care Plan Doc.?*	Total Components Score	Eligible Denom.	Composite Score
Screened, Not at Risk, No Referral, With or Without Assessment, Diagnosis, and/or Nutrition Care Plan	1	N	N	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	1	100%
Screened, Not at Risk, Referral, Not Assessed, No Diagnosis, No Nutrition Care Plan	1	N	Y	0	N/A	0	0	1	4	25%
Screened, At Risk, With or Without Referral, Not Assessed, With or Without Diagnosis and/or Nutrition Care Plan	1	Y	Y/N	0	N/A	0	0	1	4	25%
Screened, Not at Risk, Referral, Assessed, Moderately/Severely Malnourished, No Diagnosis, Nutrition Care Plan	1	N	Y	1	Y	0	1	3	4	75%
Screened, At Risk, With or Without Referral, Not assessed, With or Without Diagnosis and/or Nutrition Care Plan	1	Y	Y/N	0	N/A	0	0	1	4	25%
Screened, At Risk, With or Without Referral, Assessed, Moderately/Severely Malnourished, With or Without Diagnosis and/or Nutrition Care Plan	1	Y	Y./N	1	Y	0	0	2	4	50%
Screened, At Risk, With or Without Referral, No Assessment or Nutrition Care Plan, With Diagnosis	1	Y	Y/N	0	N/A	1	0	1	4	25%

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GMCS Aggregate Performance for a Measurement Period Example

(100% + 25% + 25% + 75% + 25% + 50% + 25%) ÷ 7 hospitalization = 325

GMCS Aggregate Hospital Performance = Episode GMCS Performance + # of Eligible Episodes

Global Malnutrition Composite Score Tools

<u>www.cdrnet.org/GMCS</u> > Resources

÷7=46.4%

Importe						Score as Perce		r the destruct		
Normalic Description	Hangan Charanten Si Januning Datasatatat (1-1, kal)	er min Benalt 195	1000 A	Hanne Observice (1) Rosenwice (1) Conservice) (1-1, 1-4)	University Journ University Simulari Th	Minute Branselon II M2/Eighte Around Eigeneith Counselouf F12, 941	Monure Observation H Scotton Scotton Connected Private	Manuel Observation Particular Parts Malenation Components X000	<u>nen</u> . 	NYS Klabusticae Gerupside Scott or N
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Interpretation: 46.4% of all clinically eligible components (measure observations) were documented for the measure population (hospitalizations \geq 24 hours for patients \geq 65 years)

The Goal is to be closer to 100%.

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Key Reasons to Report on the GMCS

- Providing care measured through the GMCS aligns with hospitals' strategic plans to address social determinants of health and equity
- · Addresses several clinical areas or quality indicators simultaneously
 - o Nutrition Screening The Joint Commission
 - o Social Determinants of Health and Food Insecurity The Joint Commission, CMS, 2023 HEDIS* Social Need Screening and Intervention Measure
 - Health Equity Advancement identified by CMS as a priority eCQM
 - $_{\odot}\,$ Rural Health Improvement– identified by NQF as a key measure**

The Nutrition Care

Process At the Center

of it All

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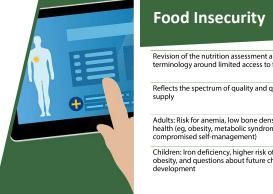
 Combines several quality measures into one single composite score, giving a more comprehensive picture of clinical care than a single measure

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Additional Support for GMCS

- · Addressing malnutrition potentially reduces disease incidence, acuity, and duration; improves quality of life and clinical outcomes; and reduces costs of care
- · May help improve hospital performance on mandatory quality measures, mortality, readmission, total cost of care
- Malnutrition diagnosis can help increase the weight of the Diagnosis Related Group when billing
- Reporting on the GMCS promotes interoperability across all departments within the hospital and aligns with nation-wide interoperability standards

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Revision of the nutrition assessment and nutrition diagnosis terminology around limited access to food

Reflects the spectrum of quality and quantity of household food

Adults: Risk for anemia, low bone density, and general poor health (eg, obesity, metabolic syndrome, hypertension, compromised self-management)

Children: Iron deficiency, higher risk of child hospitalization, obesity, and questions about future chronic disease development



Nutrition Assessment of Health Equity

Communicating concepts around food insecurity

- Availability of shopping facilities
- · Ability to procure safe food
- Access to food preparation equipment

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- Availability of food refrigeration
- · Ability to store food safely
- Ability to identify safe food

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Community Care PES Practice

- A. Unintended weight loss (P) related to inadequate oral intake (E) as evidenced by consumption of only one meal per day and hunger (S)
- B. Unintended weight loss (P) related to food insecurity (E) as evidenced by consumption of only one meal per day and hunger (S)



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Pediatric Community Care PES Practice



- A. Growth rate below expected (P) **related to limited access to culturally appropriate food** (E) as evidenced by dislike of food selections in food program (S)
- B. Growth rate below expected (P) related to food insecurity (E) as evidenced by falling all below anticipated growth trajectory (S)

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PES Population Example

- A. Unbalanced diet (P) related to hurricane Maria impact (E) as evidenced by inconsistent intake of nutritious foods to meet estimated food and nutrient needs and lack of refrigeration (S).
- B. Unbalanced diet (P) related to inconsistent electricity for refrigeration (E) as evidenced by inconsistent intake of nutritious foods to meet estimated food and nutrient needs (S).



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NCP Utilization to Address Health Equity

- A. Overweight (P) related to **excess consumption of fast food** (E) as evidenced by regular intake of fast food (S).
- B. Overweight (P) related to living in food desert (E) as evidenced by as evidenced by regular intake of fast food (S).

*Food desert= an area that has limited access to affordable and nutritious food

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The GMCS and Improving Health Equity Connection



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Roundtable Proceedings / Advancing Health Equity Through Malnutrition Quality Measurement



MQii-Roundtable-2022.pdf (avalere.com)

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GMCS and Its Impact on Improving Health Equity

- GMCS addresses food as a human right, with a focus on nutrition care, by screening, diagnosing, and addressing malnutrition and its causes
 - Identifying malnutrition helps flag those [at] food insecure and, conversely, identifying food insecurity may suggest the presence of risk of malnutrition¹
- Identification and [treatment] of malnutrition is a key step towards health equity $^{2} \label{eq:equation}$
- GMCS includes an individualized nutrition care plan tailored to address any social determinants of health
- GMCS is an interdisciplinary measure that includes all available professional resources in acute care settings
 - Building Sowerk, D., McCuley, S., & Munoz, N. (2022). Impacting Mainztition, Food Inscuring, and Health Equity. An Devriver of Academy of Maintion and Detection Provides and Future Opportunities. J Acad Matr Diet, 12210, S. St. 64:610.1016/j.jmac.2018.00161
 Torperolet, S., Buildone, R., Ferberg, M., Buildone, R., Faging, G., & Ziegler, T. 2018. Clifical Relie of Natrition in Improving Quality of Care. An Interdisciplinary Call to Action to Address Adult Hospital Mainztition. J Acad Nutr Diet 12210, S. St. 64:100.1016/j.jmac.2019.0016
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Malnutrition identification, diagnosis, and treatment is at the intersection of health equity and poor health care quality

NCP Utilization to Address Health Equity

NCP is a quality improvement model

Entry into the NCP comes about through screening or referral

Nutrition Assessment: Cite health equity concerns

Nutrition Diagnoses: Uncover problems and their etiologies

Nutrition Intervention: Develop plan of care collaboratively with the client

Nutrition Monitoring and Evaluation: Determine what is or is not working

Referral to, or collaboration with, other healthcare providers, and/or community programs

Collaboration by nutrition professional with other providers

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Resources:
Commission on Dietetic Registration - Global Malnutrition Composite Score webpage- <u>www.cdrnet.org/GMC</u>
GMCS FAQs and Measure Specifications Manual, implementation tools, past presentations and additional information
Commission on Dietetic Registration – Quality Improvement – <u>www.cdrnet.org/quality</u>
 45 Practice Tips-Getting Started with Quality Improvement_Revised Dec 2022.pdf (cdrnet.org)
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
 Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Oct 2023 Supplement - Measuring malnutrition and food insecurity to facilitate quality care and health equity
CMS
Global Malnutrition Composite Score measure information and specifications
 Composite quality measures information from <u>AHRO</u> and <u>CMS</u>
MQii - GMCS for IQR webpage- https://malnutritionquality.org/gmcs-for-iqr/
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Resources To Get Started with Quality Improvement

- <u>Careers in Quality</u>
- Quality Resource Collection
- Quality-Focused Practice Tips
- <u>Quickinars</u>
- Quality Improvement (QI) 101 Education Package

www.cdrnet.org/quality

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Questions?



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Business Case for Implementation of the GMCS

FREE 4.5 CPEU program to support credentialed nutrition and dietetics practitioners in developing an actionable implementation plan

Program options: Live or Self-Study

More information at <u>www.cdrnet.org/cpeu-offerings-and-resources</u>

Email <u>quality@eatright.org</u> to sign up as an individual or as a group 2024 Commission on Dietetic Registration Copyright | Contact <u>quality@eatright.com</u> for support

Centers of Excellence Recognition and Standards of Excellence

- Standards of Excellence
- Leadership
- Outcomes
- Organization
- Practice
- Across the care spectrum
- Benefits
- Competitive edge in recruiting and retaining
 Generate valuable metrics
- Information at <u>www.cdrnet.org/Excellence</u>

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Coming in Fall 2024: Mentorship Program by the Quality Management Committee

An opportunity to network and obtain a mentor to support you in the implementation of Quality Improvement Processes

Email quality@eatright.org for more information

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Thank You!

Questions or Comments can be sent to: <u>Quality@eatright.org</u>

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