

Patients to Parliament - A quality improvement strategy for optimising nutritional care

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The Initiative

Building on the work of its 'Malnutrition Matters' campaign, BAPEN has developed and delivered a national quality improvement strategy and implementation programme to ensure safe nutritional care is delivered for patients in England. It is an ambitious nutrition improvement programme that, when completed, will place England as a global leader in nutritional care, delivering outcomes that are unparalleled and beyond our current expectations.

Rationale/background to the Initiative

Following the delivery of a very successful 'Malnutrition Matters' campaign to raise awareness of malnutrition BAPEN, at one of its 'Think Tank' meetings, identified barriers to achieving good nutritional care in England, including gaps in available resources, a lack of baseline data, poor understanding amongst executive level NHS managers and commissioners and a lack of nutritional outcome measures. BAPEN therefore turned its focus to driving quality improvements in the NHS to ensure the delivery of safe nutritional care at a national level.

Results: Key achievements

BAPEN's innovative initiative has brought together Improvement Scientists with Nutrition Experts to drive quality improvements in nutritional care across England.

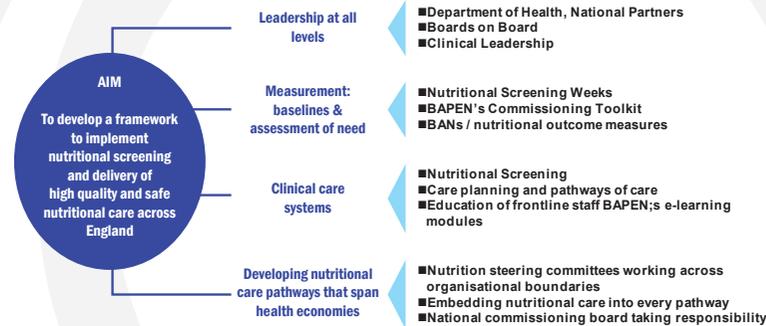
100 organisations have taken part in the national pilot, working across organisational boundaries.

Key outcomes:

- Use of the BAPEN toolkit to meet quality standards in nutritional care: a set of practical tools for commissioners and providers to assess local need and commission appropriate nutritional care, promoted by the Department of Health, hosted on NHS Evidence and widely utilised
- BAPEN's OFNOSH and 'Digesting OFNOSH' (Organisation of Food and Nutrition Support in Hospitals) promoted in the national improvement programme to support teams to organise for good nutritional care
- BAPEN 'MUST' e-learning modules for hospitals and community: provided to participating organisations in the national pilot
- BAPEN Nutrition Screening Week 2010 and 2011: establishing the risk of malnutrition on admission to hospital & care settings and indicating prevalence in the community.
- Implementation of BAPEN's four tenets of good nutritional care
- Quality improvement methodology with local tests of change
- Working across organisational boundaries to develop nutritional care pathways
- Delivery of exemplar practice: one Strategic Health Authority is bringing together all of the organisations within the region with public health colleagues and commissioners to develop a regional nutritional pathway of care



Programme of Work: BAPEN understands what will drive change



Implementation: a programme of BAPEN activities

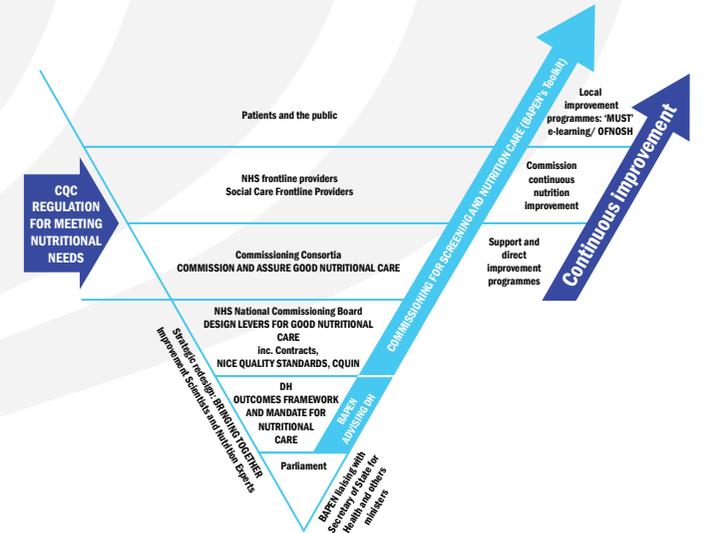


Conclusion

BAPEN's innovative & strategic focus on quality improvement in the delivery of safe nutritional care in England has delivered:

1. A sound base upon which to build the evidence for improvement science and nutritional care,
2. A long term strategic commitment to developing nutrition policy at a national level
3. Alignment of policy, standards, guidelines and regulations leading to the delivery of improved nutritional care
4. Commissioners, senior NHS Executive leaders, clinicians and patients working together to deliver unparalleled nutritional care
5. An implementation framework and a Call to Action to colleagues in other PEN Societies: No NHS or social care organisation can claim it is delivering safe, effective, quality care without appropriate nutritional care policies in place.

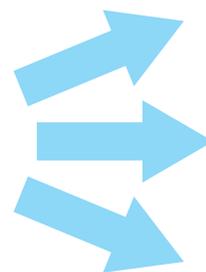
A framework for embedding good nutritional care at a national level



Building capability and capacity in the system



Influencing leaders



Political leaders and Department of Health

Clinical Leaders

Trust Executive Leaders



Training



Improved nutritional Care by front line teams

Improved commissioning and monitoring of nutritional care