Rationale/background to the Initiative

Following the delivery of a very successful ‘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.

Programme of Work: BAPEN understands what will drive change

Leadership at all levels
- Department of Health, National Partners
- Boards on Board
- Clinical Leadership

Measurement: baselines & assessment of need
- Nutritional Screening
- Care planning and pathways of care
- Education of frontline staff BAPEN: e-learning modules
- National commissioning board taking responsibility

Clinical care systems
- ‘MUST’ online calculator
- Seasonal nutritional screening weeks
- ‘OFNOSH’ - a practical guide to ensure good organisation of food and nutritional support in hospitals

Developing nutritional care pathways that span health economies
- ‘OFNOSH’
- Commissioning toolkit: Meeting Quality Standards in Nutritional Care
- Reports e.g. Combating malnutrition
- Embedding nutrition in the Quality Outcome Framework
- ‘MUST’ measuring nutritional needs
- Observation tool for the nutrition standard
- National improvement programme to support teams
- An All Party Parliamentary Group to lobby for good nutritional care
- BAPEN leading the development of Malnutrition Resources
- BAPEN leading the delivery of a national nutrition improvement programme
- BAPEN influencing the political agenda
- Key stakeholders in a proposed malnutrition commission
- Advising the Secretary of State for Health re;
- Calling for the appointment of a national lead for malnutrition

Implementation: a programme of BAPEN activities

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BAPEN leading the delivery of a national nutrition improvement programme
- Embedding nutrition and hydration into a Department of Health National Improvement Programme
- Increased use of ‘MUST’ screening tool
- Training modules for frontline staff
- Implementation of ‘OFNOSH’

BAPEN measuring nutritional outcomes
- Advising the regulator (Care Quality Commission) development of the observation tool for the nutrition standard
- Advising the Department of Health development of Nutrition Nurse sensitive indicators for nutrition
- Development of a national exemplar CQUIN for nutritional outcomes

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

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

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

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.

Dr Mike Stroud, Dr Ailsa Brotherton and Dr Tim Bowling & on behalf of BAPEN