

BAPEN Principles of Good Nutritional Practice

Decision Trees



BAPEN

*Putting patients at the centre
of good nutritional care*

Registered Charity No.1023927

Foreword

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Malnutrition remains all too common in a wide range of care settings including hospital and community, thus becoming the responsibility of a wide range of health care professionals. While a wealth of evidence exists for nutritional practice, there are also a number of areas where research is unable to provide conclusive results to govern pathways of care, due to the complexities of investigating the influence of nutrition and the ethics surrounding clinical intervention versus none. Not all health professionals are able to be up-to-date and hold expertise in the care of complex malnutrition.

While many guidelines exist, the sources are varied, and often too thorough for ease of use immediately in the care setting. **The BAPEN Principles of Good Nutritional Practice** have been devised to draw together existing guidelines and evidence base, together with best practice where no research is possible, to produce decision trees to help guide all levels of health care professionals through the pathway of care of those with malnutrition. The decision trees are designed by experts in their field and peer-reviewed by members of BAPEN council to produce a pragmatic and effective tool to assist in the care of those at risk of malnutrition and its consequences.

Thanks must go to the members of BAPEN Education and Training committee and the Core Groups and associate organisations in the production of the decision trees now and in the future: PENG, NNGG, BPNG, BAPEN Medical, PINNT, Nutrition Society and BSPGHAN.



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ISBN: 978-1-899467-52-1

BAPEN (British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition) is a charitable Association that raises awareness of malnutrition and works to advance the nutritional care of patients and those at risk from malnutrition in the wider community.

Bringing together the strengths of its Core Groups (nurses, doctors, dietitians, pharmacists and scientists) and all interested in nutritional care, we are dedicated to working with patients and their carers, healthcare professionals (HCPs) across all disciplines, purchasers and providers of social care and governing health bodies throughout the UK to improve standards of nutritional care.

Membership is open to all with full details at www.bapen.org.uk

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