Malnutrition Care Process Workflow

HOWARD UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

MALNUTRITION QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE

Patient Admitted to HUH

Perform malnutrition screening

Team member: **Nurse**
Timing: **Within 2 hours of admission**
Tool: **Malnutrition Screening Tool**

Is the patient at risk for malnutrition?

No

Monitor the patient and rescreen every five days to verify no change in nutritional status. The patient should receive a nutritional assessment if found to be at risk

Yes

Check automated dietitian consult and request malnutrition risk diet order

Team member: **Nurse**
Timing: **Immediately**
Intervention: Can begin immediately for at-risk patients by offering food and/or supplements to the patient unless contraindicated.

Conduct nutrition assessment

Team member: **Dietitian**
Timing: **Within 24-48 hrs of screen**
Tools: **ADIME (Includes NFPE)**

Patient malnourished?

No

Is the patient at risk for malnutrition?

No

Implement care plan to maintain nutrition status

Team member: **Dietitian and other team members**
Timing: **Immediately after assessment**

Any active malnutrition diet order should be re-evaluated

Yes

Yes

Malnutrition diagnosis recorded

Team member: **Dietitian AND Physician**
Timing: **Immediately after assessment**
Recorded in EHR with 2x ASPEN criteria

Care and intervention preference patient consultation

Team member: **Dietitian**
Timing: **Immediately after diagnosis**
Document preferences

Patient care plan established

Team member: **All care team members**
Timing: **Immediately**
Any active diet order should be re-evaluated

Implement care plan
Initiate nutrition intervention (diet modification, education, counseling)

Team member: **All care team members**
Timing: **Within 24 hours of diagnosis**
Dietitians have order-writing privileges

Monitoring, evaluation, and care plan updates as needed

Team member: **All care team members**
Timing: **Duration of hospital stay**

Establish malnutrition care plan for post-discharge

Team member: **All care team members**
Timing: **24 hours prior to discharge**

Discharge patient nutrition counseling and education

Team member: **Dietitian**
Timing: **24 hours prior to discharge**

Support care transition as needed

Team member: **Nurse, Case Manager, Social Worker, and Dietitian**
Timing: **At discharge**

KEY

- Care Team Activity
- Patient/Family/Team Joint Activity
- Decision Point

1. Adapted from MQii recommended malnutrition care process workflow