

Community Health Service to Boost Nutritional Management

CSPEN - Chinese Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition

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Description of the initiative

Background / context

Community health service for malnutrition management is very important to make the government, residents (especially the aged), patients and carers to understand the benefit of nutrition intervention, to correct their wrong awareness that nutrition intervention wastes medical expenses, to understand that nutrition intervention is to save medical expenses and reduce economic burden effectively. The incidence of malnutrition in patients is as high as 67% in China and increase the burden to hospitals which leads to inadequate capability for the well nutritional management of the large population.

Rationale for the initiative

CSPEN initiated a project to reinforce the duty of community health service organizations for mild and moderate malnutrition management.

To enhance the intermediary communicative responsibility of community health service organizations among government, hospital and outpatients.

CSPEN comprises professionals, including clinicians, dietitians and nurses to train healthcare workforce in community for malnutrition management and proposes nutrition management policy, and community health service organizations to implement and disseminate nutrition knowledge and skills to residents, outpatients and carers.

To intensify the nutrition counseling and nutrition education for residents (especially the aged), outpatients and carers by community health service.

Objectives and scope

To train personnel in community health service organizations to improve the professional knowledge, correct their low awareness of malnutrition for avoiding the missing diagnosis of mild and moderate malnutrition.

To supervise and provide professional guidance for community health service organizations to implement nutritional screening, nutritional counseling and nutritional education of residents (especially the aged), outpatients and carers.

To work with stakeholders to ensure community health service organizations playing their nutritional management roles as a media between patients in hospital and at home.

Planned activities & deliverables

Outline the steps to be taken

Disseminate the national nutritional plan which CSPEN proposed and increase the nutritional management awareness of residents, outpatients and carers.

Healthcare professionals train the personnel working in community health service organizations to increase their professional nutrition knowledge.

Personnel in community health service organizations implement nutrition management, including nutritional screening, nutritional counseling and nutritional education among residents (especially the aged), outpatients and carers.

What are the concrete deliverables of the project?

The improvement and implementation of nutritional management at community health service level will:

Ameliorate burden of hospital to cope with severe malnutrition efficiently.

Increase the diagnostic rate of mild and moderate malnutrition to guarantee nutritional intervention early.

Ensure not only patients, carers but also residents (especially the aged) to have nutritional screening before malnutrition occurrence.

Improve the intermedia responsibility of community health service organizations between hospital and outpatients.

What achievements are possible in the next 12 and 24 months?

0-6 months: Develop and disseminate the nutritional management policy of community health service.

7-12 months: Perform professional training for the personnel at community health service organizations in representative piloting regions in China.

13-24 months: Implement nutritional management (nutritional screening, nutritional education and nutritional counseling) of residents (especially the aged), outpatients and carers; Collect data for providing evidence and strategies of application nationwide.

Resources & enablers

Describe personnel, financial needs

The experts, trainers and speakers of CSPEN for this project setting would be 15,000 euros.

The engagement of related personnel to manage and implement this project at community health service organizations would be 10,000 euros and data analysis would be 5000 euros. The total financial support requirement would be 30,000 euros.

Specify how the grant will be spent: Training related personnel at community health service organizations; Development and dissemination of community nutritional management policy; Nutritional management for community residents (especially the aged), outpatients and carers.

What factors will make it successful?

The National Nutrition Plan proposed by CSPEN is already as the national policy which contributes to other nutritional management policy development and implementation; The success of this project will be assessed by the rate of mild and moderate malnutrition from community residents (especially the aged), outpatients and carers, and the malnutritional reduction rate after management of nutritional intervention by community health service organizations.

Results/outcomes & expected impact

How will the findings be implemented? The findings will be as the innovative pilot to scale up through the whole nation in China gradually to reduce the malnutritional rate.

How will this project advance patient care/contribute to optimal nutritional care? This project will contribute to ameliorate the burden of hospital nutritional care and well improved the nutritional management of outpatients as well as the residents to decrease the rate of malnutrition

What makes the project innovative? Take full advantages of community health service organizations to perform nutritional management for outpatients, carers and residents.

Will the project be likely to influence national nutrition policy? Yes, this project will influence and be beneficial for the development and implementation of national nutrition policy.

Is the project transferable to other settings / countries? Yes, the project could be applied to other settings/countries, especially poorly resourced hospitals (e.g. Insufficient personnel) world wide.