Appendix 4: MQii Recommended Malnutrition Clinical Workflow



Malnutrition Screening

Definition: systematic process of identifying an individual who is at risk for malnutrition to establish whether the patient is in need of a malnutrition assessment

• 24 Hrs. Following Patient Admission

Nutrition Assessment

Definition: systematic approach to collect and interpret relevant data from patients, caregivers, patient family members, and the medical record to establish a malnutrition diagnosis and determine a patient's malnutrition severity

• 24 - 48 Hrs. Following A Screening Where Patient is Determined to Be At Risk

Malnutrition Diagnosis

Definition: identification of and labeling of a patient's nutrition problem that requires independent treatment that may be unrelated to the patient's index at hospital admission

• Immediately Following Nutrition Assessment

Malnutrition Care Plan Development

Definition: development of a document outlining comprehensive planned actions with the intention of impacting nutrition-related factors affecting patient health status

• Immediately Following Diagnosis

Intervention Implementation

Definition: implementation of specific actions outlined in the malnutrition treatment care plan

Within a Maximum of 24 Hrs. Following Diagnosis

Malnutrition
Monitoring & Evaluation

Definition: identifies the amount of progress made since patient diagnosis and assesses whether outcomes relevant to the malnutrition diagnosis and treatment goals are being met

Reassessment & Rescreening Performed Based on Patient Needs
 Results of Initial Screening and/or Assessment; See Best
 Practices Section for More Information

Initiate Dietitian Consult and Malnutrition-Risk Diet Order for At-Risk Patients

- Intervene immediately for at-risk patients with food and/or oral nutritional supplement per malnutrition-risk protocol to accelerate treatment unless contraindicated
- Conduct nutrition assessment as soon as possible
- Following assessment, any active malnutrition-risk diet order should be reevaluated

Discharge Planning

Definition: documentation of malnutrition diagnosis, status, and orders in discharge plan

• 24 Hrs. Prior to Hospital Discharge for Patients Previously Assessed to be At Risk or Malnourished







IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE