MQii Recommended Malnutrition Clinical Workflow

**Patient Admitted to the Hospital**


# Malnutrition Screening

**Nutrition Assessment**

# Malnutrition Diagnosis

**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**

**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**

**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**

**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

# 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**

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

**Intervention Implementation**

* + **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**

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**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**

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