



COUNCIL  
OF EUROPE

CONSEIL  
DE L'EUROPE



Royal College  
of Nursing



Department  
of Health



BAPEN  
Advancing Clinical Nutrition

BMA

Supporting the thrust of  
the 10 characteristics

NHS

National Patient Safety Agency

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE RESOLUTION FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL CARE IN HOSPITALS

## 10 Key Characteristics of good nutritional care in hospitals

- ➔ All patients are screened on admission to identify the patients who are malnourished or at risk of becoming malnourished. All patients are re-screened weekly.
- ➔ All patients have a care plan which identifies their nutritional care needs and how they are to be met.
- ➔ The hospital includes specific guidance on food services and nutritional care in its Clinical Governance arrangements.
- ➔ Patients are involved in the planning and monitoring arrangements for food service provision.
- ➔ The ward implements Protected Mealtimes to provide an environment conducive to patients enjoying and being able to eat their food.
- ➔ All staff have the appropriate skills and competencies needed to ensure that patient's nutritional needs are met. All staff receive regular training on nutritional care and management.
- ➔ Hospital facilities are designed to be flexible and patient centred with the aim of providing and delivering an excellent experience of food service and nutritional care 24 hours a day, every day.
- ➔ The hospital has a policy for food service and nutritional care which is patient centred and performance managed in line with home country governance frameworks.
- ➔ Food service and nutritional care is delivered to the patient safely.
- ➔ The hospital supports a multi-disciplinary approach to nutritional care and values the contribution of all staff groups working in partnership with patients and users.

# COUNCIL OF EUROPE RESOLUTION 12/11/2003 FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL CARE IN HOSPITALS

## Recommendations - Government of the member states should:

- ➔ Implement national recommendations in food and nutritional care in hospitals
- ➔ Promote implementation both in public and private sectors
- ➔ Ensure widest possible dissemination of recommendations

## The Five Broad Areas of the Resolution:

- 1 Nutritional assessment and treatment in hospitals
- 2 Nutritional care providers
- 3 Food services practices
- 4 Hospital food
- 5 Health economics

There are over 100 recommendations within the resolution and they have been summarised by the Council of Europe Alliance into the 10 Key Characteristics.

## Non-Government

The Stakeholders within the Alliance are:

- British Dietetic Association
- Hospital Caterers Association
- Royal College of Nursing
- Royal College of Physicians
- Royal College of Speech & Language Therapy
- National Association of Care Catering
- British Medical Association
- British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition
- Intercollegiate Group on Nutrition Education
- Nutrition Society

## Government

The Stakeholders within the Alliance are:

- National Patient Safety Agency
- Department of Health
- Scottish Executive - QIS
- Welsh Assembly Government
- Department of Health and Public Service - Northern Ireland

