Advancing Policies for Quality Malnutrition Care in Older Adults through State Actions

Malnutrition care is recognized as an important gap area

- There are no national or state public health goals on malnutrition
- Malnutrition quality measures are not included in quality incentive programs.

Disease-associated malnutrition in older adults is a state economic burden

Twelve states have an annual economic burden of over $100 million for disease-associated malnutrition in older adults. Disease-associated malnutrition occurs when nutrient intake decreases and inflammatory responses increase.8

State legislators can take action

Proactive legislative and public health policy actions can help ensure quality malnutrition care is included in preventive and social services, patient safety, care transitions, and population health strategies for older adults.

State policy actions can include:

- Establishing a Malnutrition Prevention Commission for Older Adults
- Recognition of Malnutrition Awareness Week™ through a resolution9
- Including malnutrition care in state healthcare quality improvement initiatives

For more information visit http://www.defeatmalnutrition.today

To download a free state malnutrition advocacy toolkit visit http://bit.ly/state-toolkit

References: