

AUGUST 2018

MALNUTRITION CONNECTION

Providing Information to Share on Malnutrition Awareness and Advocacy

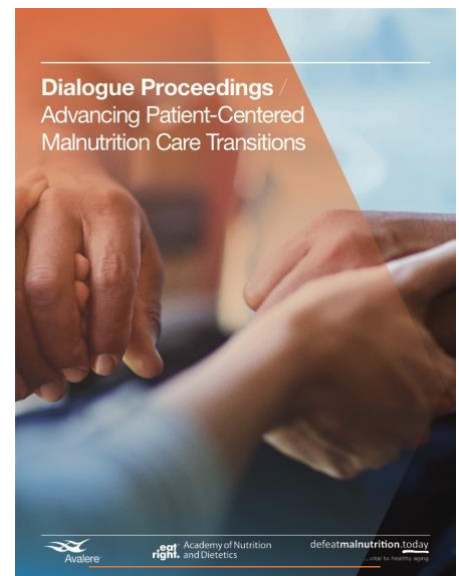
In March 2018, Defeat Malnutrition Today, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and Avalere Health hosted a Dialogue on **"Advancing Patient-Centered Malnutrition Care Transitions."** Support for the Dialogue was provided by Abbott. Experts from the healthcare and aging fields came together to discuss solutions. This month, the three organizations released the [Proceedings of the Dialogue](#) as well as a [summary infographic](#). These resources can also be found on the Defeat Malnutrition Today [Resources page](#).

Malnutrition, defined as a nutrition imbalance including under-nutrition and over-nutrition, is a pervasive, but often under-diagnosed, condition in the United States. This prevalence is exacerbated among those who are already ill: chronic diseases such as diabetes, cancer, and gastrointestinal, pulmonary, heart, and chronic kidney disease and their treatments can result in changes in nutrient intake and ability to use nutrients, which can lead to malnutrition.

Too often, as patients transition from one point of care to another, their nutrition status is not evaluated, documented, or even included in patient health conversations. Lack of evaluation and management can result in negative health and financial outcomes as malnourished adults have been found to utilize more health services with more visits to physicians, hospitals, and emergency rooms.

Clinicians, community and social service providers, patients and caregivers, payers, and policymakers can take action to address care gaps using key recommendations identified during the Dialogue. By partnering to (1) support systematic nutrition screening and care, (2) provide better education and shared decision making, and (3) improve data infrastructure to capture and share critical nutrition information, stakeholders can facilitate enhanced care coordination and better outcomes for patients across care settings.

Read the Dialogue report and recommendations at: <https://bit.ly/2OAWyKL>



US Economic Burden of Disease-Associated Malnutrition is Estimated to be \$157 Billion Annually

Social Media Content:

- Read the results of the Dialogue “Advancing Patient-Centered #Malnutrition Care Transitions” about how we can provide better care coordination and outcomes for patients <https://bit.ly/2OAWyKL>
- Interesting results of the Dialogue “Advancing Patient-Centered #Malnutrition Care Transitions” – We must do better for patients to support systematic nutrition screening and care! <https://bit.ly/2OAWyKL>