

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.⁷

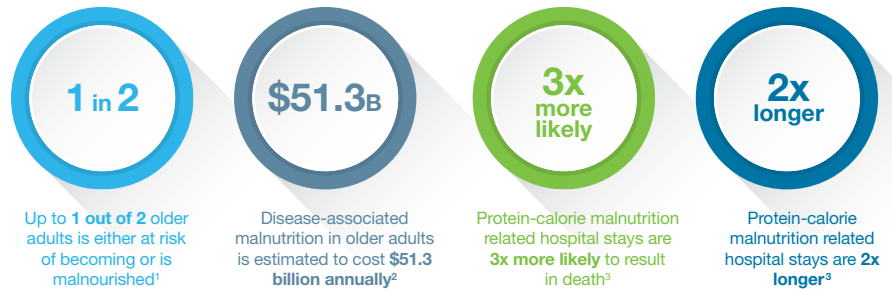
State legislators can take action

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.

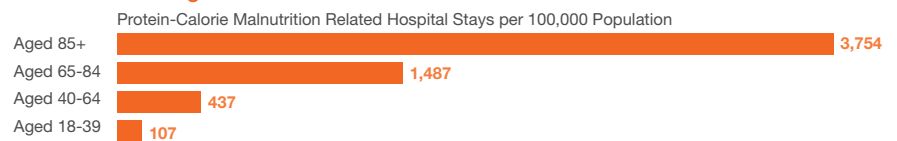
State policy actions can include:

- Recognition of Malnutrition Awareness Week™⁸ through a resolution
 - Including malnutrition care in state healthcare quality improvement initiatives
 - Establishing a malnutrition prevention commission for older adults
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- For more information visit <http://www.defeatmalnutrition.today>
 - To download a free state malnutrition advocacy toolkit visit <http://bit.ly/state-toolkit>
 - To learn about the *National Blueprint: Achieving Quality Malnutrition Care for Older adults, 2020 Update* visit <https://www.defeatmalnutrition.today/blueprint>

Malnutrition Is a Critical Public Health Issue

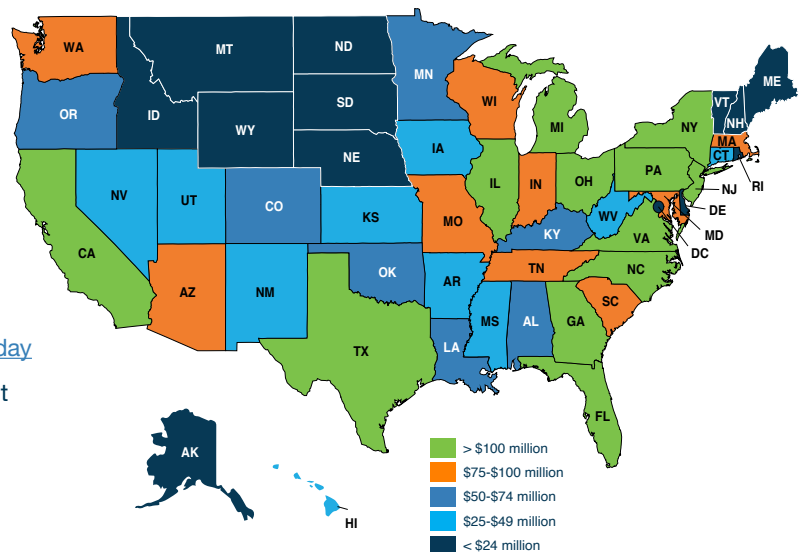


Malnutrition is Highest in Older Adults³



Malnutrition is intensified by the disparities and social isolation from the COVID-19 pandemic.⁴ Additionally, nutrition status is a relevant factor influencing the outcomes of patients with COVID-19.⁵

State Economic Burden of Disease-Associated Malnutrition in Older Adults⁶



References:

¹ Kaiser MJ, et al. *J Am Geriatr Soc.* 2010;58(9):1734-1738. | ² Snider JT, et al. *JPEN.* 2014;38(2 Suppl):77s-85s. | ³ Barrett ML, et al. US Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. https://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/reports/HcupMalnutritionHospReport_083018.pdf. Published August 30, 2018. | ⁴ Defeat Malnutrition Today. COVID-19 and Older Adult Malnutrition. <https://www.defeatmalnutrition.today/covid-19>. | ⁵ Laviano A, et al. *Nutrition.* 2020;110834. | ⁶ Goates S, et al. *PLoS ONE.* 2016;11(9):e0161833. | ⁷ Jensen GL, et al. *J Parenter Enteral Nutr.* 2010;34(2):156-159. | ⁸ American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition. Malnutrition Awareness Week™. <http://www.nutritioncare.org/maw/>.