

Review of: "Knowledge, Perception and Challenges of Implementing Nutrition Screening: A Survey of Healthcare Professionals"

Elaine MacAninch¹

¹ National Health Service

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Congratulations on this work to ascertain knowledge, perception and challenges of implementing nutrition screening amongst health care professionals. This presents important and valuable data to support the need for nutrition screening in the Malaysian pre surgical population. Below I have shared some suggestions:

- In the abstract you need to state what NS is before you can use the acronym
- You mention several possible screening tools- which tool was used in the hospital where this research took place? How is this implemented? Is this mandated in care protocols?
- In the intro could better define "Western countries"
- Aims - you mention that the findings of this study will support development of a standard nutrition care pathway and improve the quality of dietetics but this was not really discussed in the results or discussion of the paper.
- Methods are well defined
- It was interesting that only 42% of participants disagreed with "Nutrition screening is not important to every patients postoperative recovery" yet most felt NS would enhance post surgical recovery- This would be worth some further discussion
- You mentioned that "not perceived doctors orders" was a common challenge to implementing NS- It would be good to explore this in more detail. It is not clear what current standard screening procedures are in place- Is there a current protocol for nutrition screening? What is the expectation for NS (which professional is responsible for NS/ when should NS take place). Do you have any suggestions on how this may be improved so NS is better mandated as a standard procedure/ expectation of medical/ senior leadership team?
- Strengths and limitations- you mentioned " these findings add remarkable information on the positive clinical and nutrition care outcomes of implementing NS" however this was not the aim or reflect the findings of the paper which was to ascertain perception on NS use amongst staff. It would be useful to define how this paper could support development of NS and nutrition care protocols

I hope the above comments are of use. Wishing your team well with further work and research in this important and often neglected part of surgical recovery.

