

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

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this paper. This study highlights the importance of education and training amongst HCP to ensure effective nutrition screening and referral to dietetics. Overall it is well constructed, however certain edits are recommended as detailed below.

## Abstract

Term "short practices" unclear

Methods should be more explicit in terms of the questionnaire used and the population surveyed

Demographics of the HCP should be in the results

..."concur that challenges faced to execute NS accordingly beforehand are the barrier" – could be clearer

## Introduction

.... showed that all screening and assessment instruments have a higher nutritional risk associated with a higher risk for mortality and adverse clinical outcomes but not with treatment response from nutritional support – could be clearer

## Methods

Some superfluous detail in study location

The details of the HCP are repeated in the location and subjects

More details should be given on what NS tools are used at this location, what is the policy, what training is provided as standard?

## Results

Unclear when stating "two of the major reasons were unsure to refer (29/103; 28.2%) and not perceived Doctor's order to refer patients (29/103; 28.2%)", do you mean patients must be referred for screening? Is it not the practice that everyone is screened and then referred as necessary to dietetics?

## Discussion

“Study in a public hospital” should be “A study”...

Therefore, it is worth noting that patients undergoing any surgical procedures are generally nutrition-depleted and prone to develop postoperative complications if they are not screened. - statement requires reference

Avoid use of terms obviously/basically/on top of – too casual

“of both two hospitals” should be “in both hospitals”

“This is in line with the current study, as 28.2% claimed that the main reason for not implementing NS tool is not perceived orders from general practitioners to conduct a thorough NS.” I am unsure what is meant by this statement, GPs tend to work in the community and do not direct whether screening is completed on an inpatient

“This relates to a study carried out, as 60.4% of general practitioners choose their patients wisely for NS, and 39.6% of them claimed to have no understanding about NS” unclear statement

The strengths are somewhat overstated