

Organised by the ENHA, with the collaboration of the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality

European experts, patients and country delegations meet for the 3rd "Optimal Nutritional Care for All" conference

- **33 million adults in Europe are at risk of malnutrition/undernutrition¹.**
- **Patients with chronic diseases who also suffer from disease related malnutrition, require significantly greater resource use, estimated to cost European Healthcare Systems as much as €170 billion each year².**
- **Optimal Nutritional Care for All (ONCA) supports implementation of nutritional risk screening and good nutritional care across all European countries.**
- **Full implementation of ONCA will significantly drive quality of care, improve patients' health and reduce cost.**

Madrid, 21 November 2016 - On 21-22 November, over 120 experts, patients and delegations from 15 European countries will meet in Madrid for the 3rd Optimal Nutritional Care for All (ONCA) conference, organised by the European Nutrition for Health Alliance (ENHA), in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality in Spain.

With the support of the European Parliament in 2010 and the implementation of national initiatives since 2012, The Optimal Nutritional Care for All programme, is designed to substantially decrease disease-related malnutrition (DRM) and undernutrition in the EU and the WHO-EURO countries. It aims to encourage the implementation of national plans and best practices for optimal nutritional care in each European country, **bearing in mind that at least 33 million adults in Europe are at risk.**

The main aim of the conference is to establish multidisciplinary platforms in participating countries and to progressively implement the agreed ONCA strategy and programmes in all European countries by 2020. The conference will also discuss the current status of the national nutritional care programmes, given that early detection and treatment of DRM is essential to lower or prevent these malnutrition figures. The ONCA programme

- contributes to improved health through both prevention programmes and health care
- drives public private collaboration in nutrition and health across Europe
- helps to make nutritional care an integral part of health and health care
- creates continuous innovation by sharing best practices among the countries

Patients with chronic diseases who also suffer from disease related malnutrition, require significantly greater resource use than patients who are well nourished. Therefore, leading experts in the field of nutrition and health professionals, together with associations of patients, the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality and the Industry itself, are working together to ensure that each patient receives timely and appropriate nutritional care.

¹ Ljungqvist O, van Gossum A, Sanz ML, de Man F. The European fight against malnutrition. Clin Nutr 2010;29:149-50.

² Ljungqvist O, de Man F. Undernutrition: a major health problem in Europe. Nutr Hosp 2009;24:369-70.

Treating and caring for patients with malnutrition/undernutrition is estimated to cost European healthcare services €170 billion each year. Full implementation of the Optimal Nutritional Care for All programme will significantly drive quality of care, improve patients' health and reduce cost.



'Optimal Nutritional Care for All' platform



EUROPEAN
FEDERATION OF
THE ASSOCIATIONS
OF DIETITIANS



About ENHA

ENHA is a multi-stakeholder platform at European level that promotes implementation of nutrition risk screening across Europe, public awareness, partnership working, policy development and health education and training. ENHA is co-chaired by Professor Olle Ljungqvist, representing the European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism (ESPEN) and Professor Cornel Sieber, representing the European Union Geriatric Medicine Society (EUGMS) and the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics for the European region (IAGG). ENHA is a charity and has a board of trustees that is responsible for decision making.

ENHA appointed a Steering Committee to lead the campaign through strategic guidance and engagement with partners at national level. The Steering Committee is made up of representatives from the European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism (ESPEN), European Union Geriatric Medicine Society (EUGMS), Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union (PGEU), European Hospital and Healthcare Federation (HOPE), European Federation of the Association of Dietitians (EFAD), European Patients' Forum/Patients Network for Medical Research and Health (EPF/EGAN) and Medical Nutrition International Industry (MNI). More information about ENHA at www.european-nutrition.org.

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