

International Nutrition Survey 2011

Barriers Questionnaire

This year, in addition to the nutrition practice audit, as part of the International Nutrition Survey 2011 we would like to offer all participants the opportunity to also conduct a barriers assessment. The barriers assessment involves surveying ICU staff about important barriers to enterally feeding critically ill patients in your unit.



Why conduct a barriers assessment?

The International Nutrition Survey is a quality improvement initiative, with the primary goal of identifying gaps between nutrition guideline recommendations and nutrition practices, to hopefully illuminate opportunities for change, that lead to practice improvements. Recently evidence has emerged to suggest that in order for changes in practice to occur, one needs to first understand the local barriers to change so that these can be addressed and overcome in any quality improvement activities. You will be provided with a report that identifies the most important barriers to feeding patients in your ICU, these results will complement your benchmarked nutrition performance report and help you target opportunities for improvement.



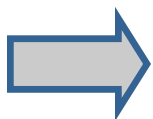
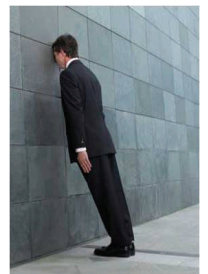
The barriers assessment provides invaluable information to aid in improving the quality of nutrition care received by your patients. Additionally, the individual coordinating the barriers assessment at each site will receive \$500 CAD towards attending an educational meeting of their choice.

Tell me more about the barriers questionnaire...

The purpose of this questionnaire is to understand the barriers that critical care providers face in implementing the recommendations of nutrition guidelines in their setting - specifically barriers to providing adequate enteral nutrition (EN).

The questionnaire is divided into 2 sections. Part A asks about 26 items related to providing adequate EN to patients and asks respondents to rate how important a barrier each item is in their ICU. Part B asks about the personal characteristics of the respondent.

Respondents have the option of completing the questionnaire online or completing a paper-based version of the questionnaire. The questionnaire is brief and should take approximately 5 minutes to complete.



You can download a draft copy of the questionnaire at www.criticalcarenutrition.com. Simply click on "International Nutrition Survey" and then "Study Tools".

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What does participation involve?

Coordinating the barriers assessment at your site involves distributing the questionnaire to all full- and part-time staff (i.e. physicians (not residents), nurses, dietitians). This can be via e-mail or inserting a paper copy in each individual's mailbox.

We will provide you with detailed instructions on how to distribute the questionnaire, including templates for several reminder communications to prompt staff to complete the questionnaire. We also recommend that you post posters promoting the barriers questionnaire throughout your ICU. These strategies will help to maximize response. You should aim to collect at least 40 completed questionnaires.



We recommend that you notify your Research Ethics Board that you intend to conduct a barriers assessment in addition to the nutrition practice audit. If you have already obtained ethics approval for participating in the International Nutrition Survey, the information regarding the barriers assessment should be submitted as an amendment to the original application.

How do I register to participate in the barriers assessment?



It is easy!

When registering for the International Nutrition Survey online, you will be asked if your ICU will also be completing the barriers questionnaire. Answer 'yes'. At this time you will also be prompted to complete the total number of full- and part-time physicians, nurses, and dietitians working in your ICU. This information will enable us to calculate a response rate for your site.

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