

Improving the Practice of Nutrition Therapy in the Critically Ill: An International Quality Improvement Project

February 2007

NEWSLETTER



Critical Care
Nutrition

Successful Start to the International Survey

Registration for the international survey has been open for one month and the response has been overwhelming. To date, there are 158 ICUs and 209 users registered. The truly international nature of this survey has been demonstrated by the fact that these ICUs are located in over 20 countries with representatives from every continent (with the exception Africa). Thank you for your participation and hard work, we are truly grateful, and excited to see the results. Defining actual nutrition practices throughout the world, will highlight strengths and weaknesses, and help us to work together to identify opportunities for improvement.



Thank you for your queries and comments on both the paper based and online survey. We welcome your feedback and continue to endeavor to create a tool that is both comprehensive and user friendly. If you are currently experiencing any problems with data collection or web based data entry, please do not hesitate to contact Naomi Jones, Project Leader (jonesn@kgh.kari.net).

It's Not Too Late to Take Part

We are aware that some ICUs have been unable to register thus far due to delays in receiving ethics approval, absences, or other local conflicts. It is still not too late to be involved. User and patient registration will remain open until **20th April 2007**. 60 day outcomes data can be entered until **4th June 2007**.

Update on the Canadian Clinical Practice Guidelines

The Canadian Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) for Nutrition Support in Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Patients are a set of recommendations that have been systematically developed by expert committee review of the evidence on nutrition therapies in the critically ill. These CPGs were first developed and published in September 2003 and have been updated

on a regular basis since then. The most recent update was in **January 2007** and information about these latest revisions are available on our website www.criticalcarenutrition.com.

Tools and training kits designed to help you implement these guidelines at your institution can also be downloaded from the website.

After completing your data collec-

tion for the International QI Project, you will receive a benchmarked performance report for your ICU. This report will compare your current practice to these Canadian Nutrition Support CPGs, helping you to illuminate the gaps between what is actually done and what the best evidence says should be done.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

As you proceed with data collection it is natural that queries may arise. To assist you, we have incorporated 'help notes' throughout the instruction manual and have developed a list of frequently asked questions. Please make sure that you take the time to review the latest version of these documents available at www.criticalcarenutrition.com and on the survey website.

Contact Us:

Dr Daren K Heyland, Director dkh2@post.queensu.ca
Naomi Jones, Project Leader jonesn@kgh.kari.net

Clinical Evaluation Research Unit,
Kingston General Hospital, Kingston, ON, Canada, K7L 2V7

Tel: (001)-613-549-6666 ext 2812

Fax: (001)-613-548-1351