

**DISCLOSURE OF COMMERCIAL INTERESTS**

*The speaker has commercial interests in the following organization:*

*Administrator of Buckingham at Norwood Windsor Healthcare Communities  
240 bed SNF in Norwood, New Jersey*



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**MAXIMIZING CLINICAL OUTCOMES BY MINIMIZING DIETARY DEFICIENCIES:  
A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH**

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April 2, 2017



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**OBJECTIVES**

- ❖ Understand age related issues that contribute to appetite and weight loss in elderly*
- ❖ Discuss importance of good oral care and health for proper nutrition*
- ❖ Review IDC Team role in assessing and providing therapeutic interventions for nutritional well-being*
- ❖ Recognize the impact of culture change and person-centered care on food and nutrition delivery*
- ❖ Identify the Administrator's responsibilities in creating a quality nutritional environment to prevent dietary deficiencies*



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### CHANGES IN BODY

- ❖ Mean BMI declines after 60 yrs age
- ❖ Age related skeletal muscle loss due to reduced exercise/physical activity
- ❖ Reduced growth hormone
- ❖ Progressive increase in fat and decrease in fat free mass
- ❖ Impaired receptive relaxation of gastric fluids
- ❖ Increased Nitric Oxide = slower gastric emptying
- ❖ Higher mortality as weight loss commences due to disease processes



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### AGE RELATED CHANGES IN APPETITE

- ❖ Less hungry = eat less
- ❖ More rapidly satiated
- ❖ Consume smaller meals more slowly
- ❖ Fewer snacks between meals
- ❖ Reduced interest in food
- ❖ Less varied and more monotonous foods
- ❖ Diminished sense of taste and smell
- ❖ Greater intake when eating with others than eating alone



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### DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH

- ❖ Access to dental care over lifetime
- ❖ Socio-economic and cultural variables
- ❖ 70% of older adults have periodontal disease
- ❖ Fear
- ❖ Cognitive
- ❖ Untreated tooth decay



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### CHALLENGES TO ORAL HEALTH

- ❖ *Decreased dexterity*
- ❖ *Cognitive changes*
- ❖ *Salivary gland hypo-function*
- ❖ *Medications*
- ❖ *Depression, medical conditions, pain*
- ❖ *Reduced access due to cost, availability, access and accommodation*



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### CONSEQUENCES OF POOR ORAL HEALTH

- ❖ *Tooth loss = impacts chewing = favor less health foods*
- ❖ *Dentures restore less than 50% function level of natural teeth*
- ❖ *Dental/Oral pain = food avoidance = weight loss*
- ❖ *Ill fitting dentures*
- ❖ *Esthetics impact self-esteem and socialization*



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### IMPROVE ORAL HEALTH

- ❖ *Staff training to provide better mouth/oral care*
- ❖ *Family involvement*
- ❖ *Dental care available; mobile dental services*
- ❖ *Involve dental hygienists*
- ❖ *Education to deal with "care-resistant" behaviors*
- ❖ *Increase advocacy for dental/oral health*
- ❖ *New regulation – 3 day referral to dentist/lost dentures FIND*



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### WEIGHT LOSS FACTORS

- ❖ Decline due to disease and cognition
- ❖ Physical ability
- ❖ Swallowing
- ❖ Poor appetite
- ❖ Oral health
- ❖ Restricted/therapeutic diets may inhibit optimal food intake
- ❖ Time and assistance with feeding
- ❖ Environment



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### RISKS – “MEALS ON WHEELS”

- Medication effects
  - Emotional problems
  - Anorexia nervosa, alcoholism
  - Late life Paranoia
  - Swallowing disorders
  - Oral factors
  - No money, Nosocomial infections
  - Wandering and other dementia related behaviors
  - Hyperthyroidism, hypothyroidism
  - Enteric problems
  - Eating problems
  - Low salt, low cholesterol diet
  - Stones, Social problems ( isolation, inability to obtain preferred foods)
- CREDIT Morristown



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### MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

- ❖ Astute clinical assessment skills
  - ❖ Detect changes in eating/swallowing
  - ❖ Labs and diagnostic tests
- ❖ Sufficient time for feeding/assistance
- ❖ Positioning and seating
- ❖ Communication and alert system
- ❖ Recognize signs of depression and cognition decline
- ❖ Polypharmacy
- ❖ Use of supplements
- ❖ Opportunities for food and nutrition
- ❖ Use of medical management to control blood glucose levels rather than restrictive diets



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### IMPACT OF CULTURE CHANGE

- ❖ *Person-centered care*
- ❖ *Holistic approach*
- ❖ *Home-like environment*
- ❖ *Liberalized diets = quality of life*
- ❖ *Resident Rights and preferences*
- ❖ *Historical data regarding food and meal habits, routines*
- ❖ *Encourages creativity*
- ❖ *Evolving and changing*



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### ROLE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

- ❖ *Assemble clinicians— dietitian, nursing, food service, medical director, dental services, recreation, social services, etc.*
- ❖ *IDC team – assessments, MDS, care planning, communication, psycho-social needs*
- ❖ *Adequate food budget to provide nourishing, well balanced diet*
- ❖ *Sanitation - food preparation, storage, distribution and sanitation; F371*
- ❖ *Staffing – adequate time to feed; cross train staff to help feed*
- ❖ *Equipment – calibrate scales regularly; kitchen equipment; temperatures*
- ❖ *Systems – monitor weight, intake, significant changes, meal distribution*
- ❖ *Quality Assurance – identify trends for improvement*



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### HOW TO ACHIEVE POSITIVE OUTCOMES

- ❖ *Quality Measures*
  - *Weight loss – avoidable/unavoidable*
  - *MDS accuracy*
  - *Functional Improvement Section GG/MDS – Self Care (eating, oral hygiene, toileting hygiene)*
- ❖ *QAPI – collect feedback/data and identify areas for improvement*
  - *Satisfaction surveys, meal observation, Resident Council, menu planning, supplement usage, snacks*
- ❖ *Advance Care Planning*
  - *Upon admission, review quarterly to avoid ethical dilemmas*
  - *POLST, MOLST*
  - *Hospice*
- ❖ *Person Centered Care*
  - *Get to know individual – personal and cultural preferences, eating patterns, medications, dietary restrictions*
  - *Build relationships - identify changes*
- ❖ *Pain Management*
- ❖ *Oral Hygiene – dental services*
- ❖ *Adaptive equipment – restorative dining F369*



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### HOW TO ACHIEVE POSITIVE OUTCOMES

- ❖ *Minimize distractions and stimuli - smaller dining areas, calm atmosphere*
- ❖ *Encourage appetite*
  - *Aroma, visual, steam table*
  - *Presentation – tasty, appealing colorful plate; dishes, utensils; table setting;*
  - *Different consistencies – puree, ground, chopped*
- ❖ *Food First! before supplements*
  - *Calorie rich snacks, super cereal, milk shakes*
- ❖ *Evening snacks – delivered and distributed*
- ❖ *Access to food and snacks 24/7*
- ❖ *Consider cultural tastes and habits*
  - *Large meal midday/evening*
- ❖ *Activities with food – baking, cooking, vegetable/herb garden, use family recipes*




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### DIETARY / FOOD SERVICE

- ❖ *Meal service - proper preparation and storage, sanitation, dates*
- ❖ *Proper temperatures – leave kitchen hot*
- ❖ *Communication - Admissions*
  - o *Clinical ↔ Dietary*
  - o *Dietary ↔ Resident/Family*
- ❖ *Extended hours for meals*
  - o *Breakfast 7-9 am*
  - o *Steam tables; choose entrée; aroma*
- ❖ *Homemade – stock, soups, desserts; home-grown herbs*
- ❖ *Train and mentor staff*
- ❖ *Menu Planning Committee - ongoing*
- ❖ *Use resident recipes*
- ❖ *Encourage creativity – special events*




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<b>POST ACUTE</b>	<b>vs</b>	<b>LONG TERM</b>
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <i>Medicare therapeutic stay</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Medicare paying for recovery</i></li> <li>• <i>Follow therapeutic diet to get better</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <i>Strict diet</i></li> <li>❖ <i>Personal service</i></li> <li>❖ <i>Fatigue from therapy and recent hospitalization</i></li> <li>❖ <i>Prefer to eat in room</i></li> <li>❖ <i>Discharge education</i></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <i>Liberalized diets</i></li> <li>❖ <i>Participation in meal planning</i></li> <li>❖ <i>Encourage autonomy</i></li> <li>❖ <i>Relationships exist</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Easier to detect changes</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <i>Dining experience and socialization</i></li> <li>❖ <i>Outings – restaurants</i></li> <li>❖ <i>Activities involving food</i></li> </ul> |
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