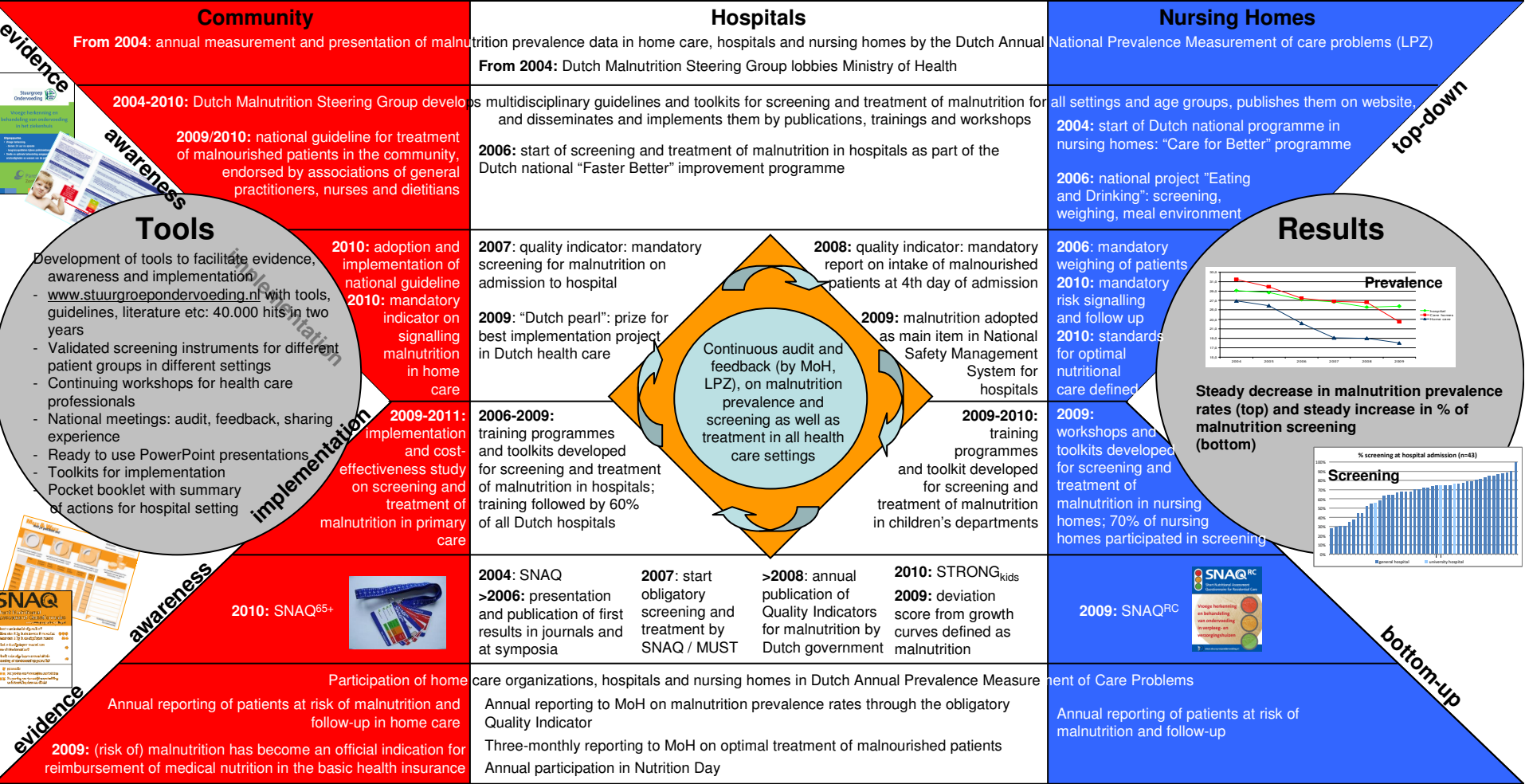


Top-down and bottom-up approach of malnutrition leads to a decrease in prevalence rates in all health care settings in the Netherlands

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Summary: Starting in 2004, the Dutch Malnutrition Steering Group, the Dutch Annual National Prevalence Measurement of Care Problems (LPZ), the Dutch Ministry of Health (MoH) and NESPEN have collaborated to tackle malnutrition in the Netherlands. These combined efforts have led to a significant decrease in malnutrition prevalence rates in all health care settings

The Dutch approach: The annual measurement of malnutrition prevalence rates and the driving force of the Dutch Malnutrition Steering Group has led to a coordinated and successful approach in tackling malnutrition in close collaboration with the Dutch Ministry of Health.
 From 2004-onwards: Annual National Prevalence Measurement of Malnutrition (LPZ) in hospitals, nursing homes and home care
 From 2004-onwards: Dutch Malnutrition Steering Group (involving all disciplines as well as associations of specialists and hospital boards) receives political endorsement and convinces Ministry of Health to support development of screening and treatment tools for hospitals, residential care and community
 From 2006-onwards: Ministry of Health fully involved and funding the projects of the Dutch Malnutrition Steering Group from 2006-2012 (€ 1.5 m) and official recognition of the Malnutrition Steering Group



evidence
awareness



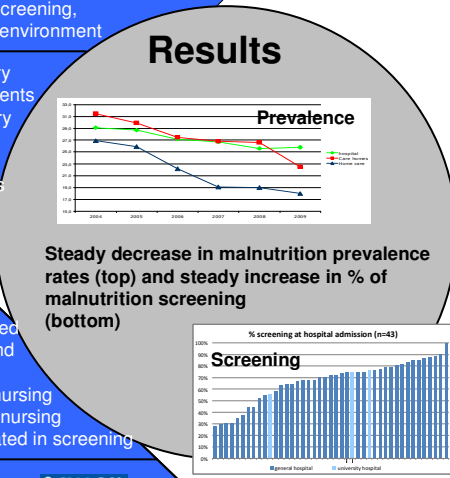
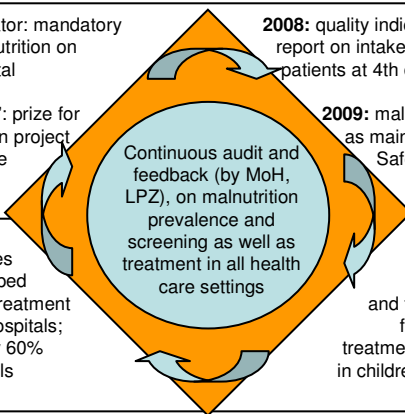
Tools

Development of tools to facilitate evidence, awareness and implementation

- www.stuurgroepondervoeding.nl with tools, guidelines, literature etc: 40.000 hits in two years
- Validated screening instruments for different patient groups in different settings
- Continuing workshops for health care professionals
- National meetings: audit, feedback, sharing experience
- Ready to use PowerPoint presentations
- Toolkits for implementation
- Pocket booklet with summary of actions for hospital setting

Implementation

awareness

Key success factors: Multidisciplinary approach, involvement of Ministry of Health, annual presentation of malnutrition data, mandatory screening, mandatory reporting on optimal treatment in hospitals, large numbers of training programmes and workshops to enhance implementation

Key achievements: Ongoing collection and feedback of malnutrition data, mandatory screening and treatment, annual audit and feedback, malnutrition in main list of quality indicators in Dutch health care, protein and energy goals for malnourished patients defined, recognition of malnutrition as a healthcare problem as important as overweight, malnutrition defined as one of the four topics in the National Safety Management system for all Dutch hospitals, (risk of) malnutrition has become an official indication for reimbursement of medical nutrition in the basic health insurance

Future plans: Annual measurement and further implementation of screening and treatment in all health care settings, improvement of results, sharing knowledge and experience in Europe and website in English, strengthening the chain and cooperation between the settings and the Malnutrition Steering Group by a Ministry-funded "Malnutrition Knowledge Center", improvement in the basic education of (clinical) nutrition for doctors and nurses