

**MNI activity report  
March - April 2020**

27 April 2020

Topic	Objective	Update on recent developments and next steps
ONCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote screening and nutritional care strategies at the national level under the banner “Optimal Nutritional Care for All” (ONCA)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Policy event in European Parliament – postponed due to COVID-19</b>            The event in European Parliament is postponed to 1<sup>st</sup> October (date tbc).            With MNI help, ONCA secured the support of two members of European Parliament to host the event: Marc Tarabella (Socialist – Belgium) and Aldo Patriciello (Christian Democrat – Italy).            MNI suggested hosting a virtual event, but ENHA decided against it as the likelihood of success was very limited , with most members of European Parliament focusing on the EU response to the COVID-19 crisis.</p> <p><b>ENHA/ONCA leadership</b>            Job description for ENHA Executive Director is finalised. The recruitment process has started. Applications welcome until 29 May.            MNI informed Frank de Man and Olle Ljungqvist that MNI expects an open recruitment process and wishes to be involved in the selection of ENHA’s future leader.            MNI has also asked to be represented in ENHA’s Board of Trustees with the following arguments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to reflect the reality of MNI’s contribution to the network over the years</li> <li>give MNI equal decision power to other ENHA members</li> <li>increase transparency regarding MNI’s role in the network</li> </ul> <p><b>ENHA advocacy on Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On MNI’s recommendation, ENHA has joined the ECPC initiative on cancer-related complications &amp; co-morbidities and provided input on malnutrition. Other ENHA members, such as EFAD, are also joining independently.</li> </ul> <p><u>Next steps:</u>            On MNI recommendation, ENHA will respond to the European Commission public consultation on the Europe Beating Cancer Plan (deadline 7 May) and will reach out to DG Santé Cancer team</p>

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		<p><b>ENHA position on nutrition/COVID</b>  MNI had invited ENHA to develop a statement on nutritional care for COVID-19 patients. ENHA opted to build an information hub on its website to disseminate the statements/recommendations of its members (ESPEN, EFAD, EUGMS, EPF, ECPC, etc) , which is a sensible approach. <a href="https://community.european-nutrition.org/">https://community.european-nutrition.org/</a></p> <p><b>November conference in Copenhagen</b>  No relevant development to report</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23-24 Nov 2020: ONCA conference in Copenhagen - Denmark</li> </ul>
<b>Cooperation with patient groups and other stakeholders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leverage patients voice on nutrition</li> </ul>	<p><b>European Cancer Patient Coalition</b>  MNI has joined the ECPC multi-stakeholder initiative on ‘<i>cancer-related complications and co-morbidities</i>’ and will co-sign the joint statement calling on the European Commission to cover cancer-related complications in a dedicated pillar in the forthcoming EU cancer action plan.</p> <p><u>Deliverables of the initiative in 2020:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update of the joint statement (including a chapter on malnutrition)</li> <li>• Response to the public consultation (by 7 May)</li> <li>• Systematic literature review (SLR) to collect evidence on all cancer-related complications/co-morbidities.</li> <li>• White paper on cancer-related complications/co-morbidities with recommendations addressed to the EU (Oct-Nov)</li> </ul> <p>The €10,000 contribution also covers ECPC contribution to the MNI SLR on cancer-related malnutrition.</p> <p><b>European Patients Forum</b>  No relevant developments to report .</p>

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<b>Regulatory affairs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure an appropriate Regulatory Environment for Enteral Medical Nutrition</li> </ul>	<p><b>Organic claims for FSMPs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following guidance from MNI Executive Committee, the RAWG has identified relevant persons in SG Santé and DG Agri and will request separate meetings to test their mindset on organic FSMPs when the COVID-19 crisis has settled (probably after the summer).</li> <li>SNE will confirm whether they can join forces with MNI on the project.</li> <li>In the meanwhile, the MNI RAWG is preparing arguments for the meetings with the European Commission.</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair vacancy not filled</b> No volunteer came forward to chair the Working Group. At this stage Gavino Pericu ( Nutricia) is co-Chair – acting as Chair ad-interim and leading the organic project.</p> <p><b>Monitoring of global landscape</b> No relevant development to report .</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>June-July: SNE will confirm if they can join/support the organic project.</li> <li>September- October: Meeting with DG AGRI and DG SANTE after the summer.</li> </ul>
<b>Market Access</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that decision-makers and payers are aware of medical nutrition interventions' economic value and provide rapid and sustained access to all appropriate patients who would benefit from these interventions, when and where they need it</li> </ul>	<p><b>Literature review on cancer-related malnutrition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research protocol approved with input from Alessandro Laviano and Antonella Cardone ( ECPC Director)</li> <li>Project well underway : list of all relevant studies finalised and shared with MAWG</li> <li>First findings and value message hierarchy expected by end April.</li> <li>The value messages will feed into the narrative for the MNI cancer advocacy programme.</li> </ul> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> May: Outline of the value story with set of evidence-based value messages</li> <li>May: PAWG to develop a narrative on cancer/nutrition based on SLR findings</li> <li>26 June: Final report/dossier delivery</li> </ul>

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<b>Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise MNI profile</li> <li>• Position malnutrition as a public health issue</li> <li>• Educate on the role of medical nutrition in disease management</li> </ul>	<p><b>External communication – published materials</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Malnutrition infographic</li> <li>• Cancer: Press release on MNI response to Cancer road map consultation (1<sup>st</sup> consultation) and cancer-specific section on MNI homepage developed.</li> <li>• COVID-19: New section on MNI website with expert statements/recommendations on COVID &amp; nutrition – and related Tweets</li> <li>• SEO in progress to improve traffic to MNI website</li> </ul> <p><b>Internal communication to NIGs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer: Webinar on Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan to NIGS</li> <li>• GROW: Reminder for NIGs</li> <li>• MNI Grant: Reminder for NIGs</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair / Co-Chair call</b> No volunteer came forward to chair and/or co-chair the Communication Working Group.</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEO in progress to improve traffic to MNI website</li> <li>• HPN website: publish video animation on how HPN works (after COVID-19 crisis)</li> </ul>
<b>Relationship with ESPEN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish trust &amp; ensure a good and sustainable relationship with ESPEN</li> <li>• Strengthen MNI’s influence on ESPEN priority setting and activities</li> </ul>	<p><b>ESPEN guidelines – MNI contribution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MNI ESPEN WG submitted comments to hospital nutrition and nephrology guidelines.</li> <li>• HPN guideline published</li> </ul> <p><b>ESPEN guideline app project</b> Recommended improvements for ESPEN guideline apps shared with ESPEN. Discussion on next steps pending. Project slowed down by the COVID-19 crisis (lack of availability of ESPEN members).</p>

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		<p><b>NEMS (Nutrition Education for Medical Students)</b> No relevant development to report since last report. Cristina Cuerda (project leader) not available probably due to COVID-19 crisis.</p> <p><b>ESPEN-ONCA-MNI Joint session:</b> The programme is shaping up, with a focus on nutritional care during cancer care. Progress slowed by the COVID-crisis. Programme to be finalised before the summer.</p> <p><b>ESPEN advocacy on Europe's Beating Cancer Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On MNI recommendation, Rocco Barazzoni has contacted the European Commission cancer team to share ESPEN position on nutritional care during cancer treatment. Alessandro Laviano is developing ESPEN response to the public consultation.</li> <li>• ESPEN has also joined the ECPC initiative on cancer-related complications and co-morbidities.</li> <li>• ESPEN has also been contacted by ECCO for a joint initiative ( no additional information available at this stage).</li> </ul> <p><b>ESPEN expert statement on COVID-19</b> ESPEN has published 10 recommendations on the nutritional care of COVID-19patients in ICU, co-authored by the WHO. MNI is disseminating the statement via website/Twitter. <u>Next steps:</u> May: Joint WHO-ESPEN fact sheet outlining ESPEN guidance on nutritional care of COVID patients</p> <p><b>ESPEN Congress</b> The ESPEN Congress is maintained for now. ESPEN/MCI will inform the MNI if the situation evolves.</p>
PN	Raise awareness on benefits of parenteral nutrition in the ambulatory sector	<p><b>Communication</b> HPN video animation is finalised. Dissemination postponed to after COVID-19 to ensure it gets attention. <a href="https://vimeo.com/iqmedia/review/403644184/cc209bebd2">https://vimeo.com/iqmedia/review/403644184/cc209bebd2</a></p>

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		<p><b>HPN access mapping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preliminary top-line data collection to start within the companies. A template is in progress.</li> </ul> <p><b>Relationship building with stakeholders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus for 2020 will be on relationship building with PACIFHAN and ESPEN.</li> </ul> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contract for HPN website's support on SEO and Digital Marketing Services (Q2)</li> <li>Access mapping: template for compilation of data to identify gaps (Q2)</li> <li>Concept paper on discharge protocol for HPN patients for discussion with ESPEN (Q2)</li> </ul>
<b>National Industry groups / GROW project</b>	Grow the medical nutrition market in Europe	<p><b>GROW4:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadline for GROW submissions postponed to 30 June.</li> <li>One submission received to date from AVKV/Czech Republic.</li> <li>Poland and Denmark have informed MNI that they plan to submit a proposal.</li> </ul> <p><b>MNI-NIGs annual meeting</b> MNI will start working on the organization of MNI events at ESPEN in coming days.</p> <p><b>NIGs involvement in MNI cancer advocacy programme:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MNI has shared the joint MNI/SNE response to the European Commission public consultation on Europe's Beating Cancer Plan, and provided guidance how to contribute, via a webinar on 2 April, and via notification on 20 April.</li> <li>MNI cancer resource hub is also available to NIGs on the MNI Intranet.</li> </ul>
<b>Code of Conduct</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a code of conduct to strengthen MNI reputation and credibility toward stakeholders</li> </ul>	<p>No relevant development to report since the last report. MNI is still awaiting to close the loop on EPF comments.</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legal review of final draft by Clifford Chance, before publication</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MNI companies to plan for the implementation of the code.</li> <li>• CoC WG to be discontinued once the code is published.</li> </ul>
<b>Public Affairs</b>	Advance MNI objectives by leading policy and advocacy initiatives	<p><b>MNI Cancer Advocacy Programme – good progress despite COVID-19 crisis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The European Parliament has de-prioritised files not directly related to COVID-19 until the outbreak is under control. This might lead to delays on several files, including the EU Beating Cancer Plan. Despite this, MNI has secured a number of phone meetings with MEPs in March-April: Esther De Lange (NL); Maria de Graca Carvalho (Portugal), Brando Benifei (Italy); Tilly Metz (LX); and meetings have been postponed to May: Veronique Trillet-Lenoir (FR); Sara Cerdas (PT); Pernille Weiss (DK).</li> <li>• 4 April: joint MNI/SNE webinar addressed to NIGs to encourage them to contribute to Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan and to join forces with the PEN society and MoH. Dominique Poiroux presented and called on the NIGs to act. Strong participation with 70 participants and active engagement from NIGs on the topic.</li> <li>• Joint MNI/SNE response to the public consultation on the Europe’s Beating Cancer Plan – submitted on 24 April and shared with NIGs.</li> <li>• MNI joined the ECPC initiative on cancer-related complications and co-morbidities (see page 2 &amp; 3 for more details) which calls for a pillar of actions dedicated to cancer-related complications and co-morbidities, including malnutrition.</li> <li>• NutriCanurse: EONS educational project for oncology nurses work plan finalised and approved by MNI. Project kick off pending contract signature.</li> <li>• ENHA/ESPEN committed to responding to the European Commission consultation. EFAD considering (tbc).</li> <li>• MNI and MNI members attended on 23 April a webinar organised by the ECPC to present the progress of Europe’s Cancer Mission Board, due to present a draft report proposing concrete targets and timelines by the end of May 2020.</li> </ul> <p><u>Next steps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore possibility to submit input to the Cancer Mission Board</li> <li>• Leverage the findings of the literature review</li> <li>• Meeting with Health Commissioner – confirmation pending</li> </ul>

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<b>News from the MNI secretariat</b>		<p><b>MNI Q1 workshop 24 March - virtual meeting</b>  The workshop successfully took place on 24 March.  Good discussions despite 'virtual' conditions. Minutes circulated to all working groups.</p> <p><b>Important dates in 2020:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 June: Executive Committee meeting – Brussels - tbc</li> <li>• 21 September: MNI-NIGS annual meeting</li> <li>• 22 September: Executive Committee meeting – ESPEN – Lyon/France</li> <li>• 23-24 November: ONCA conference</li> <li>• 27 November: Executive Committee meeting – Maidenhead / UK</li> </ul>