

MNI Activity Report Q4

(October-December 2022)

INTERNAL INFORMATION ONLY - NOT FOR FURTHER DISSEMINATION

24 January 2023

Topic / Working Group	Objective	Update on recent developments and next steps
MNI Governance	General and admin updates	Changes in MNI Statutes The MNI Extraordinary General Assembly of 17 November 2022 approved some changes to the MNI Statutes in relation to (in summary): Setting maximum annual membership fee [compliance: required by Belgian Association Code]: the annual membership fee may not exceed the amount of EUR 500,000 Clarify the Powers of the General Assembly [smarter operations]: limit powers to those explicitly conferred to it by law; task with decisions concerning the expulsion of members Composition, Powers and Decision-Making in the Executive Committee [compliance]: delegate all powers not expressly reserved to the General Assembly; option to ask for unanimous decision-making on key topics Define the role and responsibilities of the Executive Director and Secretariat [smarter operations]: clarify role, appointment and reporting Simplifying representation of the Association vis-à-vis third parties and in court: the President as sole signatory (VP as backup); option to be represented by lawyer in court; daily management powers for Exec. Director Defining Conflict of Interest Procedure [compliance: required by Belgian Association Code]: all concerned parties are obligation to disclose the existence or potential existence of a conflict of interest as it arisesOnce the statutes will be officially signed by the notary and published, it will be available on MNI Website. MNI Project Template for Funding Requests In 2022 MNI adopted a Code of Conduct setting the minimum standards for MNI and its Members, to help avoiding potential conflicts of interest, healthcare fraud and support ethical and transparent interactions with the Healthcare Community.

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		 To enhance transparency and independence, as from 2022 MNI will provide funds to third partial based on specific criteria and following the submission of a detailed project proposal, including provision of overall objectives, methodology, budget, and KPIs. To ease this process, MNI has developed a template for submission of fundings' request, which publicly available on MNI website here. All funded projects will be listed publicly on the same 2022 MNI Annual Report The 2022 MNI Annual Report is in progress with the intention to publish it by April 2023. 	
MNI Strategy & annual plan	Develop an MNI Strategy	 Development of an MNI Strategy During 2022, the MNI Working Groups member and the MNI Executive Committee were consulted on the development of the MNI Strategy 2023-2027. The strategy is founded on three main pillars, upon which advocacy, regulatory/legal requirements and communication apply across the board: Raising the importance of Medical Nutrition (MN) in the care pathway Safeguarding and enhancing patient access of MN in the European Union Ensuring the proper (clinical) use of MN The strategy was approved by the MNI Executive Committee and the final version will be shared with members shortly. Project based approach As from 2023 MNI will work on a project-based approach, instead of Working Groups' based. The MNI Executive Committee approved a provisional plan of projects. MNI members' companies will continue to contribute to the various adopted projects with their expertise and all competent member representatives will be invited to lead and contribute to their implementation. Working Groups will therefore be gradually dissolved and members of WG now being nominated MNI experts, project and task force leaders. A webinar with the WGs members will be on 19 January to go through the new settlement and address any questions. 	

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Relationship with ESPEN / ESPEN WG	Continue trust & ensure a good and sustainable relationship with ESPEN	 MNI Grant 2023 MNI Grant: the MNI Secretariat and the MNI Grant Topic Leader, Helene Blanchard / Nutricia, have discussed the communication activities to disseminate it further. A call is planned with Rocco Barazzoni in February to discuss the Grant Ceremony in September at ESPEN Congress. Past grants: a progress update will be published in the course of 2023.
		 ESPEN Guidelines <u>Publications</u> ESPEN has published the <u>ESPEN Practical Guideline on Home Parenteral Nutrition</u> on the Clinical Nutrition Journal. It is now expected that next step this guideline be added to the ESPEN App.
		 App MNI is continuing its funding support to the ESPEN App. A contract was signed to: Support the development of the App version of the following ESPEN guidelines Polymorbid patient Nephrology
		 Include additional features in the App to improve the patients' experience ESPEN agreed to make further contact with other European-Western countries healthcare professionals' organisations and young doctors to promote the use of its App. Please find here an overview of the App state-of-play:

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		ESPEN Guideline	In App	Status Practical Guideline	Updates	Funded by MNI
		Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Yes	Published	Published	No
		Liver disese	Yes	Published		No
		Chronic Intestinal Failure	Yes	Published	In progress	No
		Surgery	Yes	Published		No
		Pancreas	No	In progress		No
		Cancer	Yes	Published	In progress	Yes
		Home Enteral Nutrition	Yes	Published		Yes
		Hydration in geriatrics	Yes	Published		Yes
		Home Parenteral Nutrition In progress Published		Published		Yes
		ICU	No	In progress		Yes
		Polimorbid patient			In progress	Yes
		Nephrology	No	Looking for leader		Yes
		Neurology	No	Draft		No
		Obesity in GI diseases	No	In progress		No
		Hospital nutrition	No			No
		Cystic fibrosis	No		In progress	No
		Dementia	No		In progress	No
Relationship with ENHA	Promote screening and nutritional care strategies through the nutritional care community affiliated to ENHA	MNI-ENHA cooperation MNI agreed to fur EU Thematical EU Expert EU Presid EU4Nutrit ENHA submitted	otal of €72.000,00: der discussion.			

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Other stakeholders	Build a nutritional care community	 EuGMS Catherine Hartmann is in touch with the EuGMS Secretariat to discuss with Cornel Sieber potential further cooperation in 2023. Date of the follow-up call pending from EuGMS. PCE (Pancreatic Cancer Europe) See below under HPN EPF (European Patient Forum)
		 EPF's 20th Anniversary Policy Event: The 20th Anniversary Policy Event will be held in Brussels, Belgium 28 April 2022 (tbc), in-person and with the possibility of following sessions via live streaming. MNI agreed to sponsor this event. Acknowledgments and MNI logo are part of the sponsor package, as well as one seat to attend the event. The 20th Anniversary Policy Event will: Celebrate EPF's key achievements in health policy and practice Draw learnings from EPF's organisational journey Co-design, together with our members and broader stakeholder community, a vision for the future of the European patient community Lay version of ESPEN guidelines: some progress has been made. EPF drafted a 4-page document including what patients selected as "the best" recommendations of the full-length IBD guideline. They are currently re-drafting those into lay language. In parallel, they are looking for a graphic designer who would make the guideline more visual. After they are done with IBD, they will probably do the same for the liver-disease guideline.
		 ECPC (European Cancer Patient Coalition) Charis Girvalaki, ECPC Director, left her post as from 9 January 2023. Before leaving she shared the long-awaited Reports of the 2021 activities funded by MNI: Cancer Comorbidities Coalition / deliverables: White Paper Webinars during European Week Against Cancer 2021 Special report on Beating Cancer (BECA) amendments Policy paper

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		 Nutrition booklet and campaign / deliverables: Campaign "The Living Well During Cancer Treatment" with Patients Stories 2021 here Updated the toolkit materials Challenge Cancer Intergroup webinar European survey on nutrition (800 responses from cancer patients around Europe)
		 The MNI and SNE Secretariats – together with Xavier Lavigne / Abbot , SNE Board member and MNI RAWG Chair - held regular meetings / catch-up calls to keep each other updated and to follow-up on projects related to FSMPs, namely: Front of Pack task force; 6 ways to recognise an FSMP (based on EU law); Organic Labelling for FSMPs; court cases on FSMPs. During its last General Assembly in October, SNE adopted a strategy for the period 2023-2024, definying in details goals and an action plan. MNI contributed to an SNE overview of joint or MNI-only materials on disease-related malnutrition, medical nutrition, FSMPs.
		 MNI and ISDI finalised a joint factsheet on 6 ways to recognise an FSMP (based on Codex) which is now published on both associations' website and social media channels. Following the adoption of a Code on "Responsible Practices for Interactions with Healthcare Professionals", ISDI published a statement on "Supporting optimal nutrition and ethical interactions with healthcare professionals". Read more here. ISDI recently changed its legal seat from the USA to Belgium.

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Public Affairs / PAWG	Position Medical Nutrition and Disease-related Malnutrition higher on the health policy agenda	 Europe's Beating Cancer Plan MNI responded to the European Commission's consultation on the European Cancer Inequalities Registry (ECIR). The ECIR aims at tackling inequalities in cancer prevention and care. MNI not only responded to the official survey but also sent a letter to the European Commission highlighting the issue of cancer-related malnutrition and malnutrition screening, as well as the lack of systematic collection from Member States on the matter. The Commission replied to MNI letter acknowledging the importance of nutritional care for cancer patients and the lack of comparable data and pointed to two projects launched by the Commission: INTERACT-EUROPE - a 18-month project (July 2022 - November 2023) led by the European Cancer League which brings together 33 partners from 17 countries aiming at developing a European inter-specialty cancer training programme, involving all main oncology disciplines and professions, cancer centres and patient groups, based on relevant needs assessments. Network on Integrated Nutrition Cancer Care: This is the network created through ENHA in 2021 under the Health Policy Platform of the Commission. Critical Raw Material MNI responded to the European Commission's consultation on the Critical Raw Materials Act. Main points:
		face potential risks of shortages. Ingredients referred to: Sunflower oil; Amino acids; Vitamins and trace elements; but also concerns lie with Hydrolysed Corn Starch; Lecithin; Maltodextrin; Glucose; Hydroxides, Citrates, Phosphates, Carbonates, Chlorides; Whey & Casein Derivatives; Lactose; Milk Powders.

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		 Cancer Clinical trials Hrishi Kulkarni liaised with and met Matti Aapro, professor in oncology (Switzerland), sharing common views on how to improve clinical nutrition in cancer care and research. Hrishi's point of view is that for MNI to have an impact, we have to, inter alia, work on medical education in particular through clinical trials (CT), especially for cancer, as there is no lack of funding for cancer drug development, but almost nobody bothers with nutrition. We could reach oncologists by advocating that CT for cancer drugs should include nutrition as an ethical component as per the European Parliament BECA report. Hrish and Matti discussed the subject matter and agreed that this could be a project for MNI where Matti could be the project coordinator. The PAWG and ESPEN WG discussed this ambitious idea and agreed to make contact with Matti Aapro to explore it futher. A call with Aapro is now scheduled in February.
Regulatory Affairs / RAWG	Ensure an appropriate Regulatory Environment for Enteral Nutrition	 MNI Statement on FSMPs vs General Foods The RAWG finalised a document to clarify in detail the differences between categories of foods, in particular between FSMPs and general/fortified foods, within the scope of the EU Regulations. The document is published here. 6 ways to recognise an FSMP As an extract to the statement mentioned above, the RAWG worked out a simple factsheet to ease the understanding of the category to the non-specialists of the sector. The table was further duplicated: one referring to EU FSMPs law and one to global concept of FSMPs under Codex. These documents were respectively shared with SNE and ISDI for dual branding. The documents are published here. Repetition on Front of Pack of FSMPs The MNI-SNE Task Force is finalising an outline document including:

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		 Indication of rationale for use of fsmp vs health claims Prominent indication of key nutritional characteristics on front of pack Indication of the disease indication in the product name Appendix 1 - regulatory texts concerning labelling that support the sne-mni position References Each paragraph is intended to be a stand-alone topic A power point presentation will be developed, once the outline document is finalised To integrate tables as much as possible (it might be easier in the ppt) The final documents can then be converted into nicely designed documents that can be used towards the EU and national authorities Further communication material to be explored in the future Next steps: These FSMPs documents are meant as part of a wider idea to educate policymakers, administrators, payors, healthcare professionals, etc. on FSMPs, as well as reference for the industry at large. MNI and SNE jointly intend to share these documents with Basil Mathioudakis – former Head of Unit of the European Commission at DG Health, currently in charge of food inspectors' training.
		 Organic Labelling for FSMPs Background: FSMPs for infants and adults cannot make organic labelling in the EU and MNI and SNE wanted to ensure consistency in the possibility to make organic labelling in the EU for all Foods for Specific Groups categories. MNI and SNE had a virtual meeting with the European Commission DG Agri and DG Health in February 2021. The Commission showed interest but had other priorities in 2021 and asked many technical questions. Following that meeting the RAWG commissioned a Report to Ecocert to respond to the questions raised by the European Commission. Ecorcert provided overall a positive feedback on positioning FSMPs for organic labelling and developed a series of documents:

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Home Parenteral Nutrition / HPN WG	Raise awareness on the benefits of parenteral nutrition in the ambulatory sector	 A full Report A List of Ingredients for organic labelling A draft Presentation to be used as basis to introduce the topic with the Authorities Global topics The members are working on creating a repository of reference documents that can be shared within the industry and signposted to the national industry groups (NIGs). The intention was also to produce a series of papers on the regulatory environment for Medical Nutrition based on EU and CODEX/international requirements. The documents mentioned above in this paragraph are part of these efforts. Furthermore, this repository will support education of relevant stakeholders: regulators, policy-makers, administrators, healthcare professionals etc. on FSMPs. Funding to Pancreatic Cancer Europe (PCE) PCE finalised a booklet and 7 infographics addressing – among other topics related to nutrition - malnutrition, medical nutrition and Home Parenteral Nutrition. This material is now used for an awareness campaign on social media to different target audiences to support improving the nutritional status of the pancreatic cancer patient. More information here HPN Access Mapping – White Paper The HPW WG – with the support of Mtech - has finalised a White Paper on "Factors contributing to unequal access to home parenteral nutrition in Europe". The paper concludes that despite the proven benefits of HPN, the extent to which it is used across Europe varies markedly. Reasons for this include: The absence of legislative frameworks to support the provision of HPN. Inconsistent enforcement of legislation when such a framework does exist. Mixed acceptance and implementation of HPN clinical guidelines. A lack of reimbursement for the intervention. 					

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		 The paper adds on with three crucial calls to action: HPN clinical guidelines need to be more consistently implemented, further reimbursement for HPN must be provided, and the management, organisation, and delivery of HPN all need to improve. Greater efforts are needed to better educate and inform decision-makers of current evidence and expert opinion in treatment guidelines. Improving adherence with treatment ESPEN guidelines will lead to improved access to HPN among those patients who need it. Action is needed by payers to address setting, indication, and regional reimbursement limitations to improve patient access to HPN. The paper was recently submitted to the MNI Executive Committee for endorsement, prior to its publication and dissemination. 				
Market Access Working Group	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	 Oncology Health-Economic Model Mtech circulated the final model specification in November, and the draft model was presented to the MAWG in early December. The final draft was circulated on 23 December and MAWG members are to provide their final comments to Mtech by 20 January 2023. Market access challenge in Portugal Further to the issues raised by Mafalda Quelhas earlier in 2022 (implementing medial nutrition policies including the reimbursement of homecare in Portugal), it was agreed to request a 2-hour online meeting in December to discuss the developments in Portugal and to better prepare for an in-person workshop. Due to delay in receiving Mafalda's reply, the call was set for 12 January 2023. EU inflation position paper – timing/info gathering The group wishes to publish a position paper on the increasing costs due to inflation in the EU. It was agreed to aim for circulation by end January. NIGs secretariats from FR, UK, BE, DE and NL have been asked to share the position papers they published, which will serve as a basis for MNI's. 				

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National Industry Groups / GROW WG	Grow the medical nutrition market in Europe	 GROW-6 initiative The GROW-6 was awarded as follows: 60,000 Euro to the Dutch project on Health economic report which will include Social Return on Investment 40,000 Euro to the Czech project: "Unleash the potential of Medical Nutrition via raising awareness and GPs engagement" The Executive Committee agreed to discontinue the GROW initiative in 2023. 					
Communication / Communication WG	 Raise MNI profile Position malnutrition as a public health issue Educate on the role of medical nutrition in disease management 	 MNI Funding Food for Spec Website analytics (od for Special M	<u>Iedical Purpos</u>	es? and how to red	cognise it?	Ave
		Default Channel Grouping	Users	New Users	Sessions	Pages/Session	Avg. Session Duration
		Direct	3154	3076	3886	1.65	00:01:32
		Organic Search	1809	1739	2233	1.61	00:01:35
		Referral	64	48	206	3.78	00:05:54
		Paid Search	7	6	10	1.20	<00:00:01
			Social media analyt Twitter Tweet impressions:		:		

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		Profile visits: 2169 New followers: 20 LinkedIn Post Impressions: 5890
Upcoming MNI appointments	For information	Executive Committee meetings in 2023 • 10 February – online • 27 April – F2F • 22 June – online • 19 September – F2F • 27 November – F2F MNI WGs Workshops • 28 March, Brussels • 17 October, Brussels