

MNI Activity Report Q1 2023

(January-April 2023)

Brussels, 9 May 2023

Topic	Objective	Update on recent developments and next steps
MNI Governance	General and admin updates	<p>Changes in MNI Statutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes of the statutes adopted in November 2022 by the Executive and Extraordinary general assembly to adapt the text to modern legislation and MNI needs were officially recorded first at the Notary and then in the official Belgian gazette, the “Moniteur Belge” in March. <p>Executive/General Assembly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During its annual General Assembly, MNI appointed Ms Angelika Müller from BBraun as its new President for a 2-year mandate succeeding Ms Manuela Schaflechner, from Baxter, who becomes Vice-President. • The Executive Committee met twice in 2023 so far: on 10 February and 27 April. • Upcoming meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 22 June – online ○ September – F2F at ESPEN congress, exact date TBD ○ 27 November – F2F <p>End of Friesland Campina’s membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNI informed in December 2022 to Friesland Campina the end of its membership due to lack of 2022 membership fees payment as well as of communication about this absence of payment. However, the dues were still to be paid and after sending a lawyer’s letter followed by several phone calls to the CFO, the membership fees were recovered in March. <p>Bank account</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After submitting MNI’s updated Statutes to a bank MNI had high hopes it would accept us as new client, it appeared that it was not sufficient for that bank. MNI Executive Director is still actively trying to find a bank that would host the association’s bank account.

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MNI Strategy & Annual Plan	Develop an MNI Strategy	<p><u>MNI Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In February MNI released its 5-Year Strategy 2023-2027, which reiterates our mission and vision and present our strategic priorities and working methods for the coming years. • The new Strategy equips MNI to better face current challenges. It draws conclusion from the current global health context and assesses opportunities for the field of medical nutrition. The Strategy reflects on MNI’s governance, partnerships, membership and internal functioning, reiterating our focus on exchanging best practices and expertise. This will notably be achieved by supporting projects & joint initiatives to reach disease-related malnutrition-friendly policymaking and health systems. • The document outlines 3 strategic priorities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awareness: raising the importance of medical nutrition in the care pathway 2. Access: safeguarding and enhancing patient access to medical nutrition in the European Union 3. Use of medical nutrition: ensuring the proper (clinical) use of medical nutrition • The Strategy additionally advances advocacy, legal and communications as cross-cutting activities to be streamlined across projects. All work will be accompanied by a communication strategy. <p><u>2022 MNI Annual Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNI's first Annual Report captures the substantial internal changes for MNI - the appointment of a new Executive Director, a new Secretariat, new projects, new processes, the launch of MNI’s code of conduct and the creation of a five-year strategy - and it summarises the key achievements, partnerships and actions for 2022. • The document details how MNI worked to position medical nutrition on the EU health agenda and raise awareness on its importance. • It also outlines MNI's governance and financials.
ESPEN	Continue trust & ensure a good and sustainable relationship with ESPEN	<p>2023 MNI Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 submissions have been received and are now under evaluation. • A call is foreseen in June with ESPEN to recommend the winner to the MNI Executive Committee for endorsement. • The winner will be announced during the ESPEN Congress 2023 in Lyon, France, which will also be the occasion to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Grant (planning of activities in progress).

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		<p>Joint Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed: Wed, 13 Sep 2023 - 11:15-12:15 • Type: Policy session • Topic: Draft programme ongoing in discussion with ESPEN; cancer still priority focus. <p>ESPEN Guidelines update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESPEN Guideline on polymorbid medical inpatient – Update 2023: MNI was invited to provide comments in a short period of time (one month) which were submitted last 24 April. • ESPEN practical ICU Guideline: ESPEN is reviewing about five recommendations within the practical version. Once the references are updated, the guideline can be submitted to Clinical Nutrition for publication. The update of the whole guideline will follow within the next 1-2 years. • HPN Guideline App version: the beta version in is progress and it shall be published soon. <p>ESPEN Guidelines App</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the last MNI funding to the ESPEN App, an upgrade is in progress and it shall include also new features (sharing and news). Launch is foreseen around mid-May. • Please find here below an update on the App state-of-play:

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		<p>Overview ESPEN Guidelines App</p> <p>Last update: 29 March 2023</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ESPEN Guideline</th> <th>In App</th> <th>Status Practical Guideline</th> <th>Updates</th> <th>Funded by MNI</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Inflammatory Bowel Disease</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Published</td> <td>Published</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Liver disease</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Published</td> <td></td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chronic Intestinal Failure</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Published</td> <td>In progress</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Surgery</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Published</td> <td></td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pancreas</td> <td>No</td> <td>In progress</td> <td></td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cancer</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Published</td> <td>In progress</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Home Enteral Nutrition</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Published</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hydration in geriatrics</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Published</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Home Parenteral Nutrition</td> <td>In progress</td> <td>Published</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ICU</td> <td>No</td> <td>In progress</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Polymorbid patient</td> <td>No</td> <td>Commenting process</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nephrology</td> <td>No</td> <td>Looking for leader</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neurology</td> <td>No</td> <td>Draft</td> <td></td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Obesity in GI diseases</td> <td>In progress</td> <td>Submitted</td> <td></td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hospital nutrition</td> <td>No</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cystic fibrosis</td> <td>No</td> <td></td> <td>In progress</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dementia</td> <td>No</td> <td></td> <td>In progress</td> <td>No</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ESPEN Guideline	In App	Status Practical Guideline	Updates	Funded by MNI	Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Yes	Published	Published	No	Liver disease	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		Yes	ICU	No	In progress		Yes	Polymorbid patient	No	Commenting process		Yes	Nephrology	No	Looking for leader		Yes	Neurology	No	Draft		No	Obesity in GI diseases	In progress	Submitted		No	Hospital nutrition	No			No	Cystic fibrosis	No		In progress	No	Dementia	No		In progress	No
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Relationship with stakeholders	Build a nutritional care community & promote disease-related malnutrition screening and nutritional care strategies through the nutritional care community	<p>ENHA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MNI agreed to fund so far one ENHA project for a total of approx €43K for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU4Nutrition Plenary Session @ ONCA Conference, Amsterdam, 15-16 June The report of 2022 funded projects are still pending: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU Thematic Network on Integrated Nutrition Cancer Care EU Expert Session in Copenhagen EU Presidency Policy Seminar EU4Nutrition Strategy Workshop 																																																																																										

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		<p>ESSD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MNI is currently funding an ESSD project on “Targeted Education to Address Malnutrition and Swallowing disorders (TEAMS)” with the aim to define the most relevant educational needs in the area linking dysphagia and malnutrition among healthcare professionals who are involved in management of dysphagia. • It will be based on a web-based survey translated into 6 languages and the findings will be disseminated by publications in international peer-reviewed journals, presentations at national and international academic conferences, and public engagement activities such as public lectures and exhibitions. • The draft survey is ready and will be circulated to partners for input. <p>EPF (European Patient Forum)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Congress in April: EPF held its annual congress which was entirely dedicated to celebrating its 20th anniversary, through sessions reviewing how the association came about and what it has focused on, with a clear focus on patient’s engagement and participation’s to designing policies and rules that apply to the patients. The future of the patients role was also discussed in particular with a view of ensuring access to medicines and the new EU pharmaceutical legislation. MNI supported the event with a 10K sponsorship grant. • Lay versions of ESPEN Guidelines: there are no news nor progress, despite the regular exchange and requests on this point with EPF. <p>EuGMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They submitted a request for funding in relation to a 2-year project on “Malnutrition awareness of European community-dwelling older adults” to use the Malnutrition Awareness Scale in different countries in Europe. Overall key objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To create a platform for discussions on issues relevant to nutrition in geriatric care and to nutrition in healthy aging in general ○ To initiate collaboratively studies to support evidence-based nutritional treatment of older adults. • Requested €140K for 2023-24 • Discussions are still ongoing and clarifications on the objectives were requested to EuGMS.

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		<p>All.Can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All.Can re-submitted in April a project proposal to develop a Policy Heat Map with a cancer efficiency metrics landscape assessment and an Implementation Guide. Budget: €20K The proposal is under evaluation by the MNI Executive Committee now. <p>SPCC / Clinical nutrition in cancer clinical trials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr Matti Aapro, oncologist, submitted an initial idea of project proposal for funding related to the mandatory inclusion of clinical nutrition in cancer clinical trials. 2 step approach proposed: i. Political event; ii. Technical to change the standards For further discussion.
Public Affairs / PAWG	Position Medical Nutrition and Disease-related Malnutrition higher on the health policy agenda	<p>Critical Raw Material</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EC Proposal published on 16 March, it does not cover food. MNI submitted letters sent to EMA, DG SANTE and DG AGRI regarding the importance of critical ingredients for medical nutrition. EMA has offered a response to our official letter. MNI to follow up with DG SANTE and DG AGRI. <p>Mental Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last February, MNI provided feedback to the Call for Evidence on the EU Initiative “A comprehensive approach to mental health” stating that Nutritional care – including malnutrition screening – should be part of the support to people with mental and neurological disorders. During last MNI experts’ workshop it was agreed to develop 2-3 key messages from this call to be used for advocating towards the EU authorities. Issue discussed at the MNI Executive Committee meeting in April – interest depends on the direction the European Commission will take with the EU Mental Health Strategy.

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		<p>Clinical trials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In February 2023 MNI submitted comments in relation to the entry into force of the EU Clinical Trials Information System claiming for a mandatory assessment of the nutritional status of the patient during and after the trials <p>Pharmaceutical legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The European Commission published its proposal for the EU pharmaceutical legislation – the proposal is not favorable for the pharmaceutical industry due to changes made to the basic data protection, and increased environmental and launching obligations. The proposal is NOT the finalised legislation, as both the European Parliament and Council (EU Member States) now will prepare their amendments for the proposal. MNI is currently monitoring, depending on the members MNI can prepare specific policy statements.
FSMPs	Ensure an appropriate Regulatory Environment for Enteral Nutrition	<p>Repetition on Front of Pack of FSMPs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The outline document is on its final phase, and it will undergo a legal check. In parallel, the MNI-SNE Task Force will start the development of additional documents (Educational slide deck, Video, Infographic ...) to support advocacy at local and EU level as needed in the future. <p>Organic Labelling for FSMPs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documents finalised (Report, Presentation, List of Ingredients) The MNI-SNE Task Force will now prepare a presentation for and organise a meeting with the European Commission for follow-up. <p>Global topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The members are finalising a document which will serve as a live repository of reference documents – developed over the years by MNI, SNE, and ISDI - that can be shared within the industry and used at basis for further discussion at local level with the authorities.

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		<p>FSMPs education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions ongoing on how to further use all the material developed to educate target audiences (policymakers, administrator, inspectors, HCPs ...). A joint discussion with SNE is being planned. <p>ONS Q&As document re. Article on The Lancet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An article on ONS was published last October on The Lancet on “Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of oral nutritional supplements in frail older people who are malnourished or at risk of malnutrition: a systematic review and meta-analysis” concluding that <i>“there is little evidence of ONS reducing malnutrition or its associated adverse outcomes in older people who are frail. High-quality, non-industry-funded, adequately powered studies reporting on short-term and long-term health outcomes, determinants, and participant characteristics are needed.”</i> Preliminary considerations on this article were as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The narrow definition of frailty influenced the studies considered and valuable studies were excluded. None of the authors of the article is active in the areas of malnutrition and nutritional care; they are mostly people active on (health?) economic analysis. The studies are not really comparative; not even a randomised trial is included. They list the titles of the studies but without providing any details. Therefore, MNI engaged Fionna Page - Independent Nutrition Consultant and HCPC Registered Dietitian (UK) & Co-Author of the MNI Medical Nutrition Dossier responsible for ONS and Enteral Tube Feeding chapters – to develop two versions of Q&As: one focused on a commissioner/payor audience and one for healthcare professionals (HCP) The plan is not to actively disseminate these Q&As documents (as it may trigger even more attention on this article), but rather be ready to answer any questions or challenge raised as a consequence of this publication.
Home Parenteral Nutrition	Raise awareness on the benefits of parenteral nutrition in the ambulatory sector	<p>HPN Discharge Operational recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESPEN submitted a project proposal on HPN discharge operational named “Operational recommendations to implement the HPN guideline”. The general and specific objectives are well defined, including other stakeholders' involvement.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal focuses on dissemination, in line with latest discussions with ESPEN Chair. • In the project proposal they acknowledge the MNI White Paper on HPN Access Mapping, mentioning the project is in line with that. • The timeline is somewhat very spread over 2023-2024 for dissemination activities • Budget: €16200. • The funding was approved by the MNI Executive Committee, and the contract is being signed. <p>HPN Access Mapping – White Paper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The White Paper was published on MNI website here. • Communication and dissemination activities ongoing. • Next step: develop an advocacy and communications / dissemination plan for HPN access mapping results. <p>PCE (Pancreatic Cancer Europe)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication campaign on nutrition still ongoing, including malnutrition in pancreatic cancer patients and usefulness of HPN. • A report of the activities linked to MNI funding is being requested.
HEOR / Market Access	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	<p>Oncology Health-Economic Model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented to experts and NIGs end-March during a virtual webinar. • The final model and user guide are being reviewed by the market access experts. • Next steps, including dissemination of the model and user guide, are to be determined. <p>Contingency planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter on patient access (increase of inflation adding barriers) submitted to the European Commission. • No answer has been received as of 1 April 2023. • A “non-paper” sent to the EU Council by 18 Member States gives hope that countries pays great attention to the impact of inflation on availability of medical treatments and partially answers MNI call to put in place contingency plans for the latter.

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	and where they need it	
Communication	<p>Raise MNI profile. Position malnutrition as a public health issue. Educate on the role of medical nutrition in disease management.</p>	<p>Website revamp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per MNI’s annual plan, the MNI Secretariat has started working on improving the MNI website, through the selection of an agency, SIMPL who will provide new design, new structure and tools The new draft site map has been submitted to MNI staff for review and approval The Communication expert members are invited to meet soon to review the proposal The plan is to have a new website in the summer <p>MNI News / Publications / Webpages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MNI prepared videos with members of the MNI Executive Committee, videos currently being edited and finalised. Published news and social media posts on the MNI Strategy, MNI Grant, change of MNI Presidency, as well as on MNI public affairs activities. Started to develop the editorial calendar(March) and continue to update this list <p>Twitter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tweet impressions: increase of 47% (10 106) New followers: increase of 10% (946) <p>LinkedIn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New followers: increase of 45% (645) Highest reactions to a post: increase by 30% Post impressions: similar number compared to end of 2022
MNI experts workshop	Meeting of the MNI experts members to discuss main topics and find synergies	<p>Outcome MNI Experts’ Workshop 28 March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MNI experts’ workshop took place on 28 March 2023 in Brussels. Approximately 30 experts participated to the meeting and breakout sessions. The final minutes are available on MNI Intranet here.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members had the opportunity to participate to a survey to provide their feedback on the workshop and suggestions for future workshops: although the overall impression was positive, some express the need to dedicate more time to discussions and extending the workshop to one day and a half is being considered. <p>Next MNI Expert workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 October, Brussels, maybe to be extended - TBC