

**MNI activity report  
May-June 2020**

7 July 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>Recruitment of ENHA Executive Director</b> ENHA has received 31 applications for the position of Executive Director. 8 candidates were shortlisted and 3 have been selected for interview with the objective to select the future ENHA leader by the end of the summer. Ceri Green is part of the selection Committee in her capacity of ENHA Trustee and channels MNI position.</p> <p><b>ENHA contribution to EU Beating Cancer Plan consultation</b> On MNI’s recommendation, ENHA has responded to the European Commission public consultation on the Europe Beating Cancer Plan (deadline 7 May), co-signed the multi-stakeholder statement on <a href="#">cancer-related complications and comorbidities</a> and invited DG Santé Cancer team leader to present at the 1<sup>st</sup> October event in the European parliament.</p> <p><b>ENHA strategy for 2020-2022</b> MNI contributed to the ENHA 2020+ strategy and asked for a focus on implementation of nutritional care and measures of impact of the ONCA campaign The current draft strategy includes positive developments such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>acceleration of ONCA digital communication</li> <li>establishment of an EU affairs focus group (Léa Coulet will represent the MNI)</li> <li>plans to build closer links with the Ministries of Health in ONCA countries</li> <li>stronger focus on education of healthcare professionals</li> <li>establishment of national malnutrition awareness weeks</li> <li>cooperation with the WHO.</li> </ul> <p>Final strategy document to be finalised shortly.</p>

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		<p><b>ONCA2020 conference postponed to November 2021</b>  The Danish ONCA alliance decided to postpone the conference by 12 months on FMF (industry group) suggestion, in order to allow effective engagement with politicians and participation of patients groups.  The focus of the Danish ONCA campaign is on raising awareness about malnutrition, and strengthening the involvement of patients groups (COPD, cancer and umbrella patient association).</p> <p><b>ONCA endorses national Malnutrition Awareness Weeks</b>  Following the example of the BAPEN awareness week, ONCA invites national alliances to establish national awareness weeks:  1-4 October – Portugal; 5-12 October – UK; 8-12 November – France; 16-22 November - Denmark</p> <p><b>Virtual policy dialogue in the European Parliament – 1<sup>st</sup> October</b>  The event is confirmed on 1<sup>st</sup> October. It will address nutrition and nutritional care for COVID-19 and cancer patients. The draft agenda is not yet available.</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020: ONCA-EPF virtual event in the European Parliament</li> <li>– 23-24 Nov 2021: 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>EPF:</b> No relevant developments to report since the last report.</p> <p><b>ECPC: Making cancer-related complications an EU health priority</b>  With the <a href="#">statement</a> signed by 20 organisations (and co-funded by MNI) the European Cancer Patient Coalition calls for a comprehensive and integrated approach to cancer care and calls on the EU to make cancer-related complications (including malnutrition) and comorbidities a health priority.</p>

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		<p><b>ECPC: Launch of the <a href="#">EU Parliamentary Intergroup 'Challenge cancer'</a></b>  The EU Parliamentary Intergroup on cancer is coordinated by the ECPC and will serve as a forum for Members of European Parliament to engage in dialogue with patients, cancer survivors and carers, scientific and medical societies, research institutions, think tanks, medical practitioners and researchers, policy makers and leaders of the health industry, civil society at large, national governments and institutions. (see also the PAWG update).</p>
<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>  SNE confirmed interest in joining a fact-finding meeting with DG AGRI in September. SNE engagement in potential next steps will depend on the meeting findings.</p> <p><b>WG Chair confirmed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Xavier Lavigne – Abbott- was nominated Chair of the WG.</li> <li>Gavino Pericu (Nutricia) is co-chair.</li> </ul> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>  2<sup>nd</sup> draft of value messages delivered end of June. These messages will serve as basis for the cancer advocacy programme narrative (developed by the PAWG).  The delivery of the value dossier (1<sup>st</sup> draft of the final deliverable) is postponed to 24 July. (Delay due to the collection and sharing of articles from MNI members which took more time than planned).</p> <p><b>Survey on impact of post-COVID-19 on access to medical nutrition</b>  The MAWG developed a survey addressed to the NIGs, to capture their views on the impact of the post COVID-19 environment on access to medical nutrition. NIGs are invited to take the survey in July, and the MAWG members will analyse the answers and prepare a ppt report by end-September.</p>

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		<p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 24 July: Delivery of value dossier on cancer – 1<sup>st</sup> draft</li> <li>- End September: COVID-NIG survey final report</li> </ul>
<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>COVID-19 and nutritional care</b></p> <p>On 23<sup>rd</sup> June the Communication WG and other working groups representatives discussed how to communicate on the role of nutritional care for COVID-19 patients. Two options were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with ESPEN &amp; EFAD to educate healthcare professionals (e.g. ICU; GPs; nurses)</li> <li>• Maintain MNI's existing horizontal approach disseminating clinical societies/experts recommendations.</li> </ul> <p>The first option was approved by the MNI Executive Committee.</p> <p><u>Next step:</u> MNI members to volunteer to lead the project by 7<sup>th</sup> July &amp; prepare a project proposal for the next Executive Committee meeting (22 September).</p> <p><b>Other ongoing activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEO for MNI website and Digital Marketing Campaign to increase traffic on MNI website</li> <li>• Support ESPEN communication on dissemination of IBD guideline app via MNI channels</li> </ul> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2H 2020: SEO - set up google ad campaign</li> <li>- September : Communicate on MNI Grant winner</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 Congress goes virtual</b></p> <p>The ESPEN Congress is maintained in 19-21 September and will be virtual.</p> <p><b>MNI Grant – 15 applications</b></p> <p>A total of 18 applications were submitted, with 15 meeting the criteria, from Belgium (2), China, Czech Republic, France, Ireland, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Spain (2), Sri Lanka, Switzerland, the Netherlands (2) and Turkey. None address cancer, but a handful address COVID/nutrition. Objective to identify the winning submission – in close partnership with ESPEN Matthias Pirlich – by mid-July and to award the winner during the Joint Session on 21 September (virtual).</p>

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		<p><b>ESPEN IBD guideline app live</b>            ESPEN agreed to implement most of changes recommended by the MNI and launched the app on 25 June on both iOS and Android. A web-based version is also available.            In agreement with ESPEN, MNI helps with the dissemination of the app to ensure it reaches its target audience: gastroenterologists and dietitians.            On 30 June: 100 downloads were already secured            KPIs defined for success within 3 months after launch: 200 downloads, minimum of 3 stars rating, and number of active users: 50% of users should return to app within 30 days of their first visit.</p> <p><b>ESPEN guidelines</b>            MNI was involved in the second review round of the draft Nephrology guideline (replacing the cancelled consensus meeting); comments on 10 refined recommendations were aligned and submitted by MNI to ESPEN.</p> <p><b>NEMS (Nutrition Education for Medical Students)</b>            The NEMS project is shaping up with interesting activities in 2020:            4 pilot universities (Sapienza Rome; Universidad Complutense Madrid; Zagreb University and Aristotle University of Thessaloniki) are implementing nutritional programmes with different models for integration (vertical/horizontal – mandatory/electives). Student satisfaction/feedback will be collected via survey.</p> <p>ESPEN is developing links with EMSA (European Medical Student Association) to promote the project and will organise a webinar on NEMS at the ESPEN 2020 congress with participation of EMSA, students, university delegates, council and ESPEN members.</p> <p>ESPEN also participates in expert discussions organised by the European Commission health executive agency (<a href="#">CHAFEA</a>) on the education of healthcare professionals for better health promotion and disease prevention, where Prof. Muscaritoli emphasizes the importance of educating medical students on nutrition and nutritional care.</p> <p><b>ESPEN-ONCA-MNI Joint session goes digital</b></p>

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		<p>The joint session is confirmed on 21 September (exact time tbc) with the theme “Living healthier lives during cancer treatment with optimal nutritional care”.</p> <p>Participation of EFAD, ECPC confirmed. Statement of support from members of European parliament still to be confirmed.</p> <p>MNI encouraged the joint session co-organisers to reach beyond the usual ESPEN audience by inviting many external stakeholders and has asked for the possibility to invite external participants free of charge and is awaiting confirmation on feasibility from ESPEN/MCI.</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– July: MNI-ESPEN liaison group call (exact date tbc)</li> <li>– Mid-July: Objective to finalise the Joint Session programme</li> <li>– 20 July: MNI to inform all MNI Grant submitters on status of their submission</li> <li>– July/August: Second review of Hospital nutrition guideline expected</li> <li>– 25 September: MNI to confirm support to ESPEN guideline app if KPIs met</li> </ul>
PN	Raise awareness on benefits of parenteral nutrition in the ambulatory sector	<p><b>The Task Force is progressing on planned deliverables:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HPN website : Search Engine Optimisation ongoing to drive traffic to website</li> <li>• Mapping of access to HPN in Europe: questionnaire shared for comments; questions to be prioritised.</li> <li>• Discharge protocol for HPN patients: Draft concept paper almost finalised, pending, discussion with ESPEN.</li> <li>• Relationship building with PACIFHAN : dialogue ongoing to identify potential avenues for cooperation.</li> <li>• ESPEN PHN guideline published in press in April and now published on ESPEN Website.</li> </ul> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– September: Access mapping - agency selection for data collection</li> <li>– September: HPN website - Publication of video animation on</li> <li>– Q3-Q4: HPN website: continue SEO google ad campaign</li> </ul>

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<b>National Industry groups / GROW project</b>	Grow the medical nutrition market in Europe	<p><b>GROW4:</b> The deadline closed on 30 June. MNI received proposals from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Czech Republic: ‘Unleash the power of nutritional care in oncology’</li> <li>• Poland: ‘Ensuring integrated clinical nutrition therapy in entire oncology treatment’</li> <li>• Denmark: ‘Ernæringnytter: awareness raising campaign on malnutrition’</li> <li>• Italy: ‘Nutrizione Medica’</li> </ul> <p><b>MNI-NIGs webinar on 29 September</b> The annual meeting with NIGs is turned into a 1hour webinar on 29 September and will present the GROW4 projects and award the winner(s).</p> <p><u>Next steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 23 July: GROW4 shortlist</li> <li>– Mid- September: Winner(s) selection</li> <li>– 29 September: MNI-NIGs webinar</li> </ul>
<b>Code of Conduct</b>	Develop a code of conduct to strengthen MNI reputation and credibility toward stakeholders	<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> <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 – strong progress despite COVID-19 crisis</b></p> <p><u>Reminder of previous important milestones:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint MNI-SNE response to EU Beating Cancer Plan public consultations</li> <li>• Joined the ECPC led multi-stakeholder initiative Making Cancer related complications and comorbidities an EU Health Priority.</li> <li>• 2 infographics: cancer &amp; malnutrition</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings with the European Commission, 12 MEPs, 2 health attachés (Portugal, The Netherlands), participation in 6 forums/events on the Europe Beating Cancer Plan. Outreach programme ongoing.</li> <li>• Letter to the Commissioner in charge of health and to the Cancer Board mission</li> </ul> <p><u>EONS project Nutricanurse kick-start in May</u> The project includes three deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Webinar addressing oncology nurses in November</li> <li>– Scientific publication (with input from EFAD and ESPEN)</li> <li>– Booklet summarising key points</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EFAD will contribute to the webinar content and to the scientific publication as co-author. ESPEN has also been invited to contribute – nature of ESPEN cooperation to be confirmed.</li> <li>• The literature review is now completed and EONS is working on the manuscript first draft which will serve as basis for the scientific article.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cancer priority resurfaces at EU level after the COVID-19 pandemic</b> Two structures in the European Parliament will work on the EU Beating Cancer plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <u>Special Committee on Cancer</u> is a formal body of the European Parliament (established on 23 June). The aim is to define the official position of the European Parliament on the Europe Beating Cancer Plan.</li> <li>• <u>European Parliament Intergroup on Cancer</u> is an informal structure coordinated by the ECPC. The aim is to serve as informal forum for Members of European Parliament (MEPs) from all political groups to dialogue with stakeholders (health care practitioners, researchers, patients, cancer survivors, carers and industry) on topics such as prevention, access to treatment, medicine shortages, quality of life and research innovation in cancer care.</li> </ul> <p>MNI has already met with MEPs from different political groups and countries. We will continue our engagement with both structures to share our recommendations to integrate nutritional care in cancer patient management.</p>



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		<p><b>NIGs involvement in MNI cancer advocacy programme:</b>  National Industry Groups' support is needed to ensure the EU Beating Cancer Action Plan addresses malnutrition of cancer patients.  NIGs should mobilise the nutritional care community at national level and engage with local health authorities leading the national cancer plan.  MNI offers the NIGs phone sessions to present the latest status and discuss strategies to share MNI recommendations with the national Ministries of Health.</p> <p><b>European Commission proposes ambitious health programme in the aftermath of the COVID pandemic</b>  Called <a href="#">EU4Health</a>, the programme proposes a vision for a safer and healthier EU for the period 2021-2027. With a proposed budget of €9.4 billion, this programme aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• boost EU's preparedness for major cross border health threats</li> <li>• ensure that health systems are resilient and can face epidemics as well as long-term challenges (e.g. ageing population and inequalities in health status)</li> <li>• The EU funding mechanism for health will also support other health priorities such as cancer, affordable medicines &amp; health devices, eHealth, cancer, anti-microbials, vaccination.</li> </ul> <p>The Public Affairs WG will explore the possibility to position nutritional care in the health programme in particular for older people and COVID-19 patients.</p> <p><u>Next steps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– July: Reach out to the Special Committee on Cancer and the Intergroup on Cancer</li> <li>– July-August: Leverage the findings of the literature review on cancer and develop narrative</li> <li>– July-August: Assess potential opportunities to leverage the EU4Health programme</li> <li>– Meeting with Health Commissioner – confirmation pending</li> </ul>

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News from the MNI secretariat		<p>All MNI events in 2020 will be virtual, including the 15 October working group workshop.</p> <p><b>Important dates in 2020:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 21 September: ESPEN-ONCA-MNI virtual Joint Session</li> <li>– 22 September: Executive Committee virtual meeting</li> <li>– 15 October: MNI working groups virtual workshop</li> <li>– 27 November: Executive Committee virtual meeting</li> <li>– 1<sup>st</sup> October: ONCA event in European Parliament</li> </ul>