

# Community Nutrition Support Project - Swindon

The Community Nutrition Support Project aims to improve the identification, treatment and monitoring of malnutrition in adults in the community.

## **The Project**

### In care homes:

Audit has shown that the prevalence of malnutrition in Swindon care homes is 35%. 'MUST' training has taken place, with the approach of using 'MUST' champions. Working more closely with CQC will further facilitate 'MUST' implementation.

### In GP surgeries:

A project entitled 'Clinical and Cost-Effective Prescribing of Oral Nutritional Supplements for Adults in the Community' involved an audit of ONS prescribing in four GP practices in Swindon (2009) against NICE guidance, followed by 'MUST' training sessions in all participating GP surgeries, and re-audit in 2011.

### In the wider community:

Dietitians provide 'MUST' sessions for community teams, carers, sheltered housing staff, Age UK Befrienders and Health Ambassadors. Articles in local newsletters have been published, focusing on identifying malnutrition risk and practical ways to provide nutrition support.

## **The Benefits**

Benefits include improved quality outcomes for vulnerable individuals; the provision of nutritional support and guidance for healthcare professionals involved in patient care; improved screening in care homes; increased profile of malnutrition within the wider community. In addition, NHS Swindon observed an 11 per cent (£27,251) reduction in spend of Oral Nutritional Supplements.

**For further information**, please contact:

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Or visit: [http://www.nice.org.uk/usingguidance/using\\_guidance.jsp](http://www.nice.org.uk/usingguidance/using_guidance.jsp) and search for  
NICE shared learning example 2010-2011. *Clinical and cost effective prescribing of oral nutritional  
supplements (ONS) for adults in the community.*