

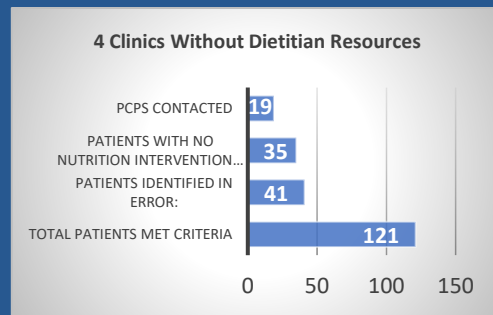
BACKGROUND

- A patient safety project was developed to improve identifying outpatient malnutrition.
- Goal to connect patients with Dietitians whenever possible.
- Goal to alert PCP when patients were identified in clinics without Nutrition Resources.
- Potential exists to prevent inpatient admission.

METHODS

- Weekly electronic report developed in 2018 and sent to Leaders.
- Report used BMI z-score <-3 to identify potentially severe malnutrition.
- Dietitians notified of patients scheduled in clinics they cover.
- Established Primary Care Providers notification in four clinics without nutrition resources including Orthopedics, Neurology, Hearing/Speech, Ophthalmology

Identifying Severe Pediatric Malnutrition in the Outpatient Clinic setting is an important step in connecting malnourished patients with nutrition resources.



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RESULTS

- Report ran 100 weeks
- 97 patients per week (approx.1% of all outpatients) met criteria
- 36% of identified patients had no nutrition intervention in the last 6 months.
- 64% of patients without nutrition intervention were attending clinic visits with no nutrition resources and thus needed PCP contact.

DISCUSSION

- Achieved improvement in identifying severe malnutrition hospital wide.
- Communication with Primary Care Providers improved. Yet, not all providers were available.
- Errors in height and weight measures remain a barrier to identification.
- Barriers exist in replicating report using weight for length z-score.
- Identification is the first step in improving malnutrition.