

Bwrdd lechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe Swansea Bay University Health Board

gofaiu am ein gilydd, cydweithio, gwella bob amser caring for each other, working together, always

Rydym yn croesawu goheblaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Date: 16th August 2021

Swansea Bay University Health Board Headquarters One Talbot Gateway, Seaway Parade, Port Talbot SA12 7BR

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr Aled Gruffydd Assistant Coroner for Swansea and Neath Port Talbot The Guildhall Swansea SA1 4PE

Dear Sir,

### Re: The inquest into the death of Ms Catherine Best

As a result of the inquest into the death of Ms Catherine Best held on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021, and the Prevention of Future Deaths Report made against the Health Board, the Nutrition and Dietetic service would like to respond and outline the changes made to the relevant policies, procedures, guidance and training in relation to nutrition and hydration since 2012.

#### **Governance Structure**

Within Swansea Bay University Health Board (SBUHB) the Executive Nurse Director has corporate responsibility for Nutrition and Hydration. The governance structure is via the Health Board Nutrition and Hydration Steering Committee, which meets quarterly and reports to the Health Board Quality and Safety Governance Group which also meets quarterly. The Steering Committee has responsibility to ensure that the relevant Health and Care Standard (2.5 Nutrition and Hydration) are met.

The Terms of Reference for Nutrition and Hydration Steering Committee:



Pencadlys BIP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

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I also attach the Feedback to Quality and Safety Forum/ Governance Group:



HB Quality and HB Quality and Report for QSGG Safety - Patient NutrSafety - Patient NutrNutrion update.doc

#### **Minimum Nutrition Standards**

The All-Wales Nutrition and Catering Standards for Food and Fluid Provision for Hospital Inpatients (launched October 2011) have been adopted within SBUHB and formed the basis of the Health Board Nutrition and Catering Policy which was published in May 2013. This replaced the previous Nutrition and Catering Framework and describes the responsibilities, meeting structure and governance arrangements for the organisation. The policy is reviewed every 3 years and is currently under planned review which is due to be completed September 2021.





all wales nutrition and catering standa

#### CID1222 Nutrition Hydration and Cater

#### Identification of Nutritional Risk and Nutritional Care Pathway

The All-Wales Hospital Nutrition Care Pathway Protocol was adopted within the predecessor organisations of SBUHB in 2008. As part of this pathway, the Adult Nutrition Risk Screening Tool (WAASP) was used for the identification of nutritional risk. This tool is used for every patient on admission to ensure the early identification and intervention for patients at risk or presenting with malnutrition or dehydration. The pathway also mandated the use of All Wales Food and Fluid Charts which monitor patient's oral food and fluid intake to identify those patients at risk of malnutrition and to aid referral to specialist teams such as dietetics or speech and language therapists to identify poor intakes.

Audits of compliance with the care pathway, nutritional risk screening and the implementation of nutritional care plans are undertaken on a monthly basis via the Health & Care Standards Care indicators. Monthly Quality Assurance Matrons audits monitor if risk assessments are completed. The Health Board also has a programme of Quality Assurance audits which would include reviewing compliance with Nutrition and risk assessments.



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In addition, the Nutrition and Dietetic Service undertake an annual audit of nutrition risk screening and provide feedback on the findings to the Nutrition and Hydration Steering Committee. Local feedback and action plans have been agreed to support improvements in nutritional care.

In 2019, the "All Wales in Patient Nutrition Risk Screening Tool" was adopted within SBUHB following the Welsh Health Circular (2019) 026. The tool includes additional guidance on referral to Nutrition and Dietetic Services, including for those who require enteral tube feeding or where clinical judgment indicates that there are additional nutritional concerns. The implementation of the All Wales Tool was supported by additional training sessions provided by the Nutrition & Dietetic Service and the launch of an e learning module. Compliance with the e learning module will be monitored through the Nutrition and Hydration Steering Committee.



### **Training including Nurse Induction**

The Nutrition and Dietetic Service delivers training on the identification of nutritional risk, nutritional care pathways and enteral tube feeding as part of the New Registrant and Nurse Induction programmes.





clinical induction of 2020 UPDATE.doc new registrants-nut

In addition to the e-learning module supporting the All Wales Nutrition Risk Screening Tool, there are additional e learning modules on the use of Food and Fluid Record Chart charts. These are mandated for registered nursing staff on a one off basis. Monitoring of compliance of E-learning modules is undertaken via individual service delivery groups and is reported to the Nutrition and Hydration Steering Committee on a quarterly basis. Each delivery group will produce an action plan to support improvements in performance.



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#### **Medical Education**

The Nutrition and Dietetic Service deliver training sessions on nutrition and enteral/ parenteral nutrition for F1 and F2 medical staff as part of their ongoing professional development.

Management of Refeeding Syndrome and Out of Hours Enteral Feeding Regime

The Swansea Bay University Health Board Guidance on the Management of Refeeding Syndrome and the Standard Out of Hours Enteral Feeding Regime have been reviewed three yearly since they were published in 2011.

These 2 documents were reviewed most recently in April 2020 to reflect changes in the recommendation for electrolyte supplementation and energy provision in the National Guidance<sup>1</sup>.

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The standard enteral feeding regime in critical care areas was also updated in 2020, to reflect changes in clinical practice.

Additional SBUHB Guidance on the Nutritional Management of Patients with Eating Disorders during acute admissions and a Standard Enteral Feeding Regime for patients with Eating Disorders were published in June 2012. This guidance has been updated to reflect changes in the recommendations of the MARSIPAN working group<sup>2</sup> and is reviewed every 3 years.



#### Insertion and Management of NG Feeding tubes

The Health Board policy on The Insertion and Management of NG Feeding Tubes was updated in 2018 and includes reference to the clinical decision making process to support NG tube feeding.



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# Additional Care Plan for the Management of High Nutritional Risk during the COVID 19 Pandemic

During the COVID 19 pandemic a Care Plan for the Management of High Nutritional Risk was implemented to support areas in the event of low staffing levels or staff redeployment.



The Nutrition and Dietetic service are continuing to work with colleagues to develop this care plan to support areas of staff shortage.

# Nutrition and Dietetic Service Clinical Standards for In Patient Nutritional Support

The Clinical Standards for Inpatient Nutritional Support have been adopted by the Health Board since 2017. They include reference to consideration of enteral nutrition for patients who are unable to meet their nutritional requirements orally. An audit of compliance to the standards is undertaken every 2 years by the Nutrition and Dietetic Service with the next planned audit in autumn 2021. The results and Action Plan for improvement are agreed with the Nutrition and Dietetic Service Clinical Governance meetings.

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I hope that the information contained in the Health Board's response will provide you with the assurance required in relation to the Prevention of Future Deaths Report that was received as a result of the Ms Best inquest.



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## **Yours Sincerely**

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THERAPIES AND HEALTH SCIENCE

References:

1. A Pocket Guide to Clinical Nutrition – Fifth Edition. PEN Group Publications, British Dietetic Association

2. MARSIPAN Management of Really Sick Patients with Anorexia Nervosa. (2014).



Pencadiya BiP Bae Abertawe, Un Porthfa Talbot, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR / Swansea Bay UHB Headquarters, One Talbot Gateway, Port Talbot, SA12 7BR

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