

UNDERNUTRITION - Failure to Thrive (FTT)



Addendum 1: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ's)

Who is this Guideline for?

Acute Care unit Nurses, Pediatrics providers, Dieticians, OT, ST

What is new in this guideline?

Admission weight and length

• Importance of using Length board for accurate height (under 2 years)

Avoid Friday admissions

• Evidence shows that Friday admits require longer LOS since there are less services available over the weekend.

Classify degree of malnutrition

• Done by automatic Nutrition consult using PYMS screening

Nurse to observe and document at least one feed per day

- Includes observing formula preparation by caregiver, caregiver interaction with child during feed, child's behavioral response to feeding, and feeding tolerance in terms of symptoms
- Document in Compass under

No need to monitor refeeding labs

• Evidence shows that refeeding syndrome only occurs in severe malnutrition and can prevent by starting with lower calorie intake and progressing upwards (WHO feeding protocol per Nutrition guidelines)

Consultations

• For specific concerns and done EARLY: OT for oral-motor function, ST for swallow, CARE team for concerns of abuse/neglect/follow-up compliance

Discharge criteria listed

- 3 days of weight gain
- Caregiver education completed
- Follow up arrangements clear
- Consider a signed contract with caregivers when concerns for compliance or understanding (CARE team can facilitate this if consulted EARLY).