



Topic Disposition Summary: Nutrition Priority Indicator

Date: 7/24/2024

Nomination Number: 1090

Purpose: This document summarizes information addressing a nomination submitted on February 20, 2024, ([link to EHC posted topic nomination](#)) through the Effective Health Care Website. This information was used to inform the Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC) Program decisions about whether to produce an evidence report on the topic, and if so, what type of evidence report would be most suitable.

Issue: The nominator has raised concerns that current nutrition priority indicators focus heavily on coverage metrics rather than the quality and impact of nutritional interventions. The nominator would use an evidence product to shift policy and practice towards quality-oriented indicators that better reflect the outcomes and effectiveness of nutrition programs.

Findings: The EPC Program develops systematic reviews and other evidence synthesis reports to inform healthcare decision-making by clinical professional groups, clinicians, healthcare organizations, patients, and others. The EPC Program does not conduct primary research therefore, the program will not develop this topic further.

Background: Priority nutrition indicators are metrics used to measure the progress and impact of nutritional programs and policies, especially in at-risk populations.¹ These indicators help in evaluating the effectiveness of interventions and identifying areas needing improvement. They are vital for tracking progress towards global nutrition goals and ensuring that interventions are both targeted and effective.² Effective indicators can inform policy decisions, guide resource allocation, and improve program design and implementation. They also play a critical role in addressing malnutrition by helping to monitor and evaluate the success of nutrition programs aimed at reducing stunting, wasting, and micronutrient deficiencies. Furthermore, accurate and comprehensive nutrition indicators are essential for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to health and well-being.³⁻⁵

Despite the importance of these indicators, there is a notable lack of recent studies examining the effectiveness and impact of current use of nutrition priority indicators. This gap indicates that there is currently insufficient new evidence to justify the production of an EPC evidence product on this topic.

References

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Conflict of Interest: None of the investigators have any affiliations or financial involvement that conflicts with the material presented in this report.

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