

1. To deliver excellent nutrition care, the new HNELHD PCP outlines key elements; Governance, Weight & Height, Nutrition Screening & Assessment, Nutrition Care Planning, Planning & Delivery of Food & Fluids, Mealtime Environment, Provision of Assistance to Eat/Drink, Staff Education, Training & Evaluation. The District Patient Quality Nutrition Committee (PQNC) oversees PCP compliance across HNELHD's large geographical area, spanning 25 local government areas with many unique facilities.

2. To achieve this, we collaborated with key staff to optimise the detail in the PCP & planned evaluation in a way that will drive frontline nutrition care forward. By adding Nutrition Care to the annual District wide mandatory audit reporting system, we can measure compliance more efficiently & effectively plus increase the 'weight' of nutrition care.

You are what you eat!
Stepping up **Nutrition** Care across our District, a worthy cause!

Optimising Scope

Hunter New England Local Health District (HNELHD)
Nutrition Care for Inpatients & Residents Policy Compliance Procedure (PCP) & adjoining Quality Audit Reporting System (QARS) tool

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3. Results were positive, allowing; PQNC governance, multidisciplinary consultation, mapping of elements to the National Safety & Quality Health Service Standards (NSQHS) & streamlining nutrition evaluation into a short 18 question QARS tool, for which the results feed into site specific consolidated audit results/action plan. Amongst many competing health care demands, this raises staff awareness & action to implement strategies to comply with the Nutrition Care Policy.

4. In discussion, the new PCP/audit drives compliance by; a) Assigning evaluation responsibilities to staff responsible for the tasks. b) Inclusion of NSQHS Standards to assist staff with accreditation readiness & raise the value of nutrition. c) An efficient District wide QARS tool to focus on targeted site specific improvement.