



NNEdPro Global Centre for Nutrition and Health

Advancing and implementing nutrition knowledge to improve health, wellbeing and society

Save the dates for NNEdPro's 10th Anniversary Week

- NNEdPro Cambridge Summer School in Applied Human Nutrition: 14th-17th July 2018
- International Summit on Medical Nutrition Education and Research in Cambridge: 19th & 20th July 2018

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NNEdPro Win MNI Grant

The NNEdPro Global Centre champions the cause of nutrition education to improve health. Since its inception almost ten years ago, NNEdPro has maintained a strong focus specifically on medical nutrition education and training the medical practitioners of the future.

In the UK and many other countries across the world, medical students are given very limited, if any, nutrition education during their training. Being on the frontline of healthcare, an understanding of the core principles of nutrition is therefore paramount.

Recently, NNEdPro was delighted and honoured to be awarded the International MNI (Medical Nutrition Industry) Award presented by MNI President, Tim Meyerhoff. The application was supported by the British Dietetic Association (BDA). The British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN) provided endorsement for the proposed work, and BAPEN President Dr Simon Gabe was in attendance at the award ceremony, which took place on 11th September 2017 at the European Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ESPEN) Congress at The Hague.

NNEdPro's application led by Harrison Carter and Dr Minha-Rajput-Ray competed with 21 competitors from 13 countries worldwide and were subsequently awarded funding to undertake a patient-centred project to tackle the growing burden of malnutrition in the UK and the tentative project plans were presented at ESPEN 2017.

The grant associated with this award will be used to develop a potentially scalable model for a sustainable nutrition education initiative primarily targeting medical students across England, whilst also actively engaging patients, healthcare service and education providers as well as a multidisciplinary cross section of health professions.

MNI commented that they were drawn to this project due to the 'originality of the proposal as well as focus on patient involvement'. They also valued the blended learning target that will make use of face-to-face and e-learning, which NNEdPro aims to develop with major UK stakeholders. The e-learning aspect of the project is an on-going venture for NNEdPro. This aims to offer a wide range of topics for study, utilising existing platforms and the development of a dedicated learning portal, particularly for medical students. NNEdPro hopes to engage students and healthcare professionals with stimulating, interactive lessons.

Such an initiative would aim to improve patient outcomes, as well as enhancing implementation strategies to advance nutritional care in clinical practice. In time, it is envisaged that this project combined with other existing NNEdPro initiatives will result in a multidisciplinary blended learning package, targeting malnutrition in all its forms, in both the acute hospital and community settings.

Following development of the learning package, NNEdPro will identify networks of regional champions, aligned with local training deaneries, comprising local clinicians including dietitians as well as medical educators and also patient representatives. The champions will be the first to roll out an innovative model for nutrition education to medical students in their respective regions, whilst also utilising this initiative to strengthen the profile of nutrition practice in primary and secondary care.

The NNEdPro group will seek to launch activity on this initiative at the beginning of 2018 and work closely with the BDA, BAPEN and representatives of stakeholder organisations, such as Health Education England, Public Health England and NHS England, in order to maximise the implementation potential from this initiative.

Please email: info@nnedpro.org.uk to register interest in learning more and expressing interest as the project unfolds. Further information: www.medicalnutritionindustry.com/mni-grant/2017/

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