



**BAPEN**

Putting patients at the centre  
of good nutritional care

1992 - 2022



**Dr Trevor Smith**  
BAPEN President

# An Update from BAPEN

Looking back over the past few months of BAPEN activity has been inspiring to see, and I'm pleased to share a round-up of various activities. I'd also like to take this opportunity to highlight a few exciting activities to look forward to this autumn!

## Home Artificial Nutrition (HAN) Week

HAN Week this year was another brilliant success, generating awareness and conversations around essential nutritional treatments, including parenteral nutrition, enteral nutrition and oral supplements. The focus is around these lifesaving and life-changing treatments received by people living in the community, and it is always a privilege to read the incredible stories and experiences as part of the #ThisIsMe, #ThisIsUs call to action. This year was also particularly special as PINNT celebrates its 35th birthday, and I extend my congratulations for the running of a successful and inspiring campaign.

## 'MUST'

You may have seen that researchers at the University of Manchester called for participation in discussion groups around the potential for the development of a mobile app for the 'Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool' ('MUST'). Currently, 'MUST' is only available as an online tool or paper-based, but this exciting project is looking at the development of a mobile app. The discussion group will examine content, functionality and usability and the opportunity to share feedback. Do keep your eyes peeled for further updates on this.

In June, 'MUST' was introduced as part of the initial first day physical health screen at Her Majesty's Prison Berwyn, Wales. Fran Allsop, a Registered Dietitian at the prison, recently spoke to BAPEN about this initiative, which she hopes will help ensure that patients receive equitable, timely care from the multi-disciplinary team to prevent risk of further weight loss and health decline and identify need for further intervention and investigations. The full article written by Fran, as well as a contribution from Dr Rebecca Stratton, Chair of the Malnutrition Action Group (MAG), is available to read here: <https://bit.ly/BAPENHMP>.

In other 'MUST' news, an article in the *British Journal of Nutrition* (BJN) about 'MUST' has been recognised as 'seminal' in a recent review. Acknowledged as one of the most highly cited papers from this journal over the years, the 2004 paper was cited to have contributed and resulted from systematic efforts to improve detection and treatment of malnutrition in the UK. Find out more about the recent review, as well as the original 2004 article here: <https://bit.ly/BAPENSEM>.

## UK Malnutrition Awareness Week 2022

UKMAW2022 is just around the corner – so please do mark 10-16th October in your calendars. We are delighted to be working with the Malnutrition Task Force (MTF) for the fifth year running, to raise awareness of malnutrition and dehydration in all settings, highlighting the importance of everyone working together to increase identification and management.

Awareness weeks like this are so important for joining forces and spreading important messages to wider audiences. Please do keep your eyes peeled for further information about this, as well as ways that you can get involved!

As in previous years, the MAG will be running their national screening survey for all health and social care professionals to take the temperature on malnutrition rates and nutritional care received. The aim is to gather data from a range of health and social care settings across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. I urge as many of you as possible to contribute to the screening survey, as the more data we collect, the stronger the picture we can pull together and use as a comparison to previous years to track change and patterns. Keep your eyes peeled for the portal opening in October!

## Getting to know BAPEN

Some of you may have seen the interview series we have launched around getting to know the team behind BAPEN. Most recently, Kate Hall, our Communications Officer, was interviewed on her experience in the role and why she feels as though good communication keeps us on track and strengthens our collective voice. I'd encourage those interested to read the piece here: <https://bit.ly/BAPENMEETKH>.

## BAPEN's 30th Birthday

To mark our 30th birthday milestone, we are asking for people to share memories of BAPEN over the past three decades for featuring in future issues of In Touch and/or on social media. This is a great opportunity to commemorate lots of stories about BAPEN and I'm really looking forward to reading them! If you would like to share a memory, or if you have any questions at all, please email: [bapen@mandfhealth.com](mailto:bapen@mandfhealth.com).

## BAPEN Annual Conference

I'm also very excited that Conference 2022 is not too far away! Please do join us 29 & 30 November 2022 at the Hilton Brighton Metropole for the opportunity to meet together as a multidisciplinary organisation. I know the Conference Committee are working hard on the programme, which will be published in due course. I am looking forward to sharing best practice, hearing updates from colleagues in various settings across the UK, and also celebrating BAPEN's 30th birthday.

Early bird registration for Conference has now opened: <https://bit.ly/BAPENREG>. If you haven't attended BAPEN Conference before, I'd urge you to join us this year! We haven't had the opportunity to meet in person for a few years now, and I am very much looking forward to seeing many of you in Brighton!

BAPEN's 2021 Webinar Series available on demand: [www.bapen.org.uk/resources-and-education/meetings/annual-conference](http://www.bapen.org.uk/resources-and-education/meetings/annual-conference)

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