

## **CSNM supports the International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative**

CSNM is impressed with the tremendous work that has been completed to date toward IDDSI. We are overwhelmed by the group of volunteers from diverse professions including nutrition & dietetics, medicine, speech pathology, occupational therapy, nursing, patient safety, engineering, food science & technology from around the world who came together on the project.

The development of the international standardised terminology and definitions for texture modified foods and thickened liquids for persons with dysphagia will have a positive outcome for our members who are Nutrition Managers working toward improved resident and patient care on a daily basis.

### **CSNM appreciates the IDDSI objects that were out lined as follows:**

- A standardised way of naming and describing texture modified foods and thickened liquids for people with dysphagia across the lifespan
- Process intended to be person-focused, rather than profession focused. The development of a global terminology that will 'work' for all cultures and that will be accompanied by practical and valid measurement techniques that will facilitate use by persons with dysphagia, caregivers, clinicians, food service professionals and industry partners.
- To provide a common language that can be used for technical, cultural, professional and non-professional use with belief this should be a living document, changing as needs change.

These objectives as noted will enhance the work of the Nutrition Manager along with their healthcare teams toward efficiencies that will ensure that residents and patients receive the correct texture modified foods and thickened liquids which will improve safety and care for individuals with dysphagia of all ages, in all care settings and across all cultures.

Today's Nutrition Managers are often challenged by the increasing acuity of resident and patient needs in the field of nutrition. Our members welcome opportunities to share their time and knowledge in building up the CSNM community and the nutrition industry with such initiatives as IDDSI. CSNM will look forward to supporting IDDSI by sharing the results of the IDDSI studies and implementation across the country through educational webinars, conference forums, the CSNM Food Service and Nutrition quarterly magazine and on the CSNM website as we have practised in the past.

CSNM is pleased to see that the Canadian Dysphagia Industry Group has agreed to fully transition to the IDDSI framework and descriptors by January 2019.

CSNM will encourage their members to become familiar with the IDDSI system and evaluate how best to integrate these standards where possible in their work establishments. Your committee has responded to requests from the international community by agreeing to lead the roll-out and implementation of the IDDSI Framework in a planned and coordinated manner.

***Hats off to IDDSI. You have come a long way toward this success.***

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