**Barriers to Delivery of Enteral Nutrition in PICU survey**

A barrier is something that hinders your ability to deliver adequate amounts of enteral nutrition. Below is a list of 24 items that have been identified as barriers to feeding critically ill patients. **Read each one carefully**. Consider if you think the item is a barrier in your PICU, and indicate the DEGREE to which it hinders the provision of enteral nutrition in your PICU on a scale of 0-6 where **0 means ‘not at all’** (you believe that it is not a barrier) and **number 6 means ‘an extreme amount’** (you believe that the provision of EN is severely affected by this factor). For each potential barrier, indicate the number that best reflects on average the situation in your ICU.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Not at all** |  **Very little** |  **A little** |  **A moderate**  **amount** |  **A lot** |  **A great deal** |  **An extreme**  **amount** |
| **Delivery of Enteral Nutrition to the Patient** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Delay in physicians ordering the initiation of EN.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Waiting for physician to order and check x-ray to confirm tube placement.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Frequent displacement of feeding tube, requiring reinsertion.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Delays in initiating motility agents in patients not tolerating enteral nutrition (i.e. high gastric residual volumes).
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Delays and difficulties in obtaining small bowel access in patients not tolerating enteral nutrition (i.e. high gastric residual volumes).
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. In resuscitated, hemodynamically stable patients, other aspects of patient care still take priority over nutrition.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Nutrition therapy not routinely discussed on ward rounds.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Severe fluid restriction (especially post-operative cardiac surgery)
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Conservative PICU feeding protocol
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Difficulty in delivering enteral feed due to feeding tube obstruction or pump delivery problems with thickened formula
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| **Dietitian Support** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Waiting for the dietitian to assess the patient.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Dietitian not routinely present on weekday patient rounds.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. No or not enough dietitian coverage during evenings, weekends and holidays.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Not enough time dedicated to education and training on how to optimally feed patients.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
|  | **Not at all** |  **Very little** |  **A little** |  **A moderate**  **amount** |  **A lot** |  **A great deal** |  **An extreme**  **amount** |
| **PICU Resources** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Delays to preparing or obtaining non-standard enteral feeds
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. No or not enough feeding pumps on the unit.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| **Healthcare Professional Attitudes and Behaviour** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Non-PICU physicians (i.e. surgeons, gastroenterologists) requesting patients not be fed enterally.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Nurses failing to progress feeds as per the feeding protocol.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Enteral feeds withheld due to diarrhoea.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Fear of adverse events due to aggressively enterally feeding patients.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Enteral feeds withheld for bedside procedures, such as physiotherapy, turns, and administration of certain medications.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Enteral feeds being withheld in advance of procedures or operating department visits.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Lack of familiarity with current guidelines for nutrition in the PICU.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. General belief among PICU team that provision of adequate nutrition does not affect patient outcomes.
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| 1. Lack of staff knowledge and support around breastfeeding mothers
 | **0** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |

**Part B: Personal Characteristics of the healthcare professional completing this survey**

**Please check the box that best corresponds to you.**

1. What is your primary clinical specialty?

Dietitian ☐

Nurse ☐

Physician ☐

1. How long have you been working in PICU?

0 - 5 years ☐

6 - 10 years ☐

11 - 15 years ☐

Greater than 15 years ☐

1. What country is your PICU in? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What type of PICU do you work in:

General PICU ☐

Mixed cardiac and general PICU ☐

Cardiac PICU ☐

Mixed PICU-NICU ☐

**Are there any other things you consider barriers that are not on this list?**