



November 2008

# Countess Bulletin

## ‘MUST’

Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool

### In Brief:

- The Trusts' Nutrition Steering committee have chosen the Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool (MUST) to replace the current Burton nutrition screening tool
- The Trust's implementation of MUST is part of a wider project which also incorporates recent nutrition initiatives such as protected meal times
- The MUST is designed to help identify adults who are underweight and at risk of malnutrition, as well as those who are obese
- The aim is to implement the MUST on all adult wards in 12 months
- A focus group is taking place on Tuesday 25th November 9:30-11:30 in Training Room 2 in the E&TC and attendees will receive refreshments and entry into a prize draw
- All nursing staff are welcome and at least one representative from each ward is encouraged to attend
- Email Abigail Price or bleep 2371 for more details or to book a place on the focus group as spaces are limited

The Trusts' Nutrition Steering committee have chosen the new Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool (MUST) to replace the current Burton nutrition screening tool.

MUST, adapted by BAPEN (British Association of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition), is part of a national campaign to deal with malnutrition in all care settings and incorporates nutrition initiatives such as protected meal times.

Abigail Price, MUST Project Dietitian, said: "MUST is a reliable and robust screening tool which leads to best practice in dealing with malnutrition. The focus will be on action in order to improve and monitor the nutritional status of our patients"

She added: "We aim to implement the MUST on all adult wards in 12 months. The plan is to pilot the tool and then commence a roll out across the entire hospital. "

Abigail is asking for your help to take part in the MUST focus group on Tuesday 25th November 9:30-11:30 in Training



Room 2 in the E&TC. All nursing staff are welcome however due to limited spaces you are advised to reserve your place as early as possible.

Abigail would like to encourage a representative from each ward to attend in order to add value to the focus group. She will confirm places via email well in advance and may also offer additional dates depending on demand.

There will be a free prize draw and refreshments for those who attend the focus group.

For further information about MUST please go to <http://www.bapen.org.uk/musttoolkit.html> or speak to your ward Dietitian. You can also contact Abigail Price via email or bleep 2371.