



THE BRITISH DIETETIC ASSOCIATION

The Professional Association for Registered Dietitians
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National Sentinel Audit of Stroke 2004

The British Dietetic Association welcomes this report as it raises awareness of the importance of consistent and specialist stroke services throughout the country.

Alison Smith, Registered Dietitian and spokesperson for the British Dietetic Association Nutrition Advisory Group for Elderly People (NAGE), said:

“The National Clinical Guidelines for Stroke (published in June 2004 by the Royal College of Physicians) recognise that a dietitian is an essential member of the specialist stroke team. Dietitians play an important role throughout stroke care, from acute care of the stroke patient to their rehabilitation in both acute and community settings and secondary prevention of further strokes.

A wealth of research has proved that nutritional status has a huge impact on health, including recovery from illness. Dietitians in both acute and community stroke care work to ensure that malnutrition is prevented or treated, and that stroke patients are enabled to meet their nutritional needs. This will both improve patient’s wellbeing and help with their rehabilitation.”

Notes

The British Dietetic Association, founded in 1936, is the professional Association for registered dietitians in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is the nation’s largest organisation of food and nutrition professionals with over 5,000 members. About two-thirds of members are employed in the National Health Service. The remaining members work in education, industry, research, sport settings or freelance.

Registered dietitians hold the only legally recognisable graduate qualification in nutrition and dietetics. They are experts in interpreting and translating the science of nutrition into practical ways of promoting nutritional well-being, disease treatment and the prevention of nutrition-related problems. Their advice is sound and based on current scientific evidence.

Registration, awarded by the Health Professionals Council, is an indication that a dietitian is fit to practise and is working within an agreed statement of conduct.

For further details about the British Dietetic Association, please visit our Website: www.bda.uk.com

For more information on the role of the dietitian in the management of stroke please contact:

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