

ISDI Press Release

A New Era for Diabetes-Specific Enteral Nutrition Policy: A Scientific Update

Brussels, 14 November 2019

For hospitalised patients with diabetes, poor glucose control leads to adverse health outcomes while good control improves patients' outcomes and cuts the cost of care. Based on the evidence of clinical, health and economic outcomes, the International Special Dietary Food Industries (ISDI) endorses the use of diabetes-specific formulas (DSF) to help achieve and maintain glycaemic control, improve recovery, and reduce the cost of care.

ISDI considers it essential to share this endorsement on the occasion of World Diabetes Day 2019, and to recall the publication of its position statement ([read the document here](#)).

Poor glycaemic control is common in hospitalised patients and predisposes them to:

- Increased risk of perioperative infection
- Increased length of stay
- Greater risk of mortality

The American Diabetes Association has defined two key goals for nutrition therapy of hospitalised patients: to optimise glycaemic control and provide adequate nutrients to meet metabolic demands. DSFs are a category of foods for special medical purposes designed to meet these objectives by not only supporting the metabolic nutritional requirements of a standard formula, but also minimising glycaemic response. DSFs are also endorsed by the European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism (ESPEN) for the nutritional support of people with obesity and diabetes. Clinical evidence further validates the use of DSFs to improve patient outcomes and cut the cost of care by:

- Improving glucose levels and reducing glycaemic variability
- Reducing the risk of hypoglycaemia, and blunting the hyperglycaemia of stress-related metabolism
- Reducing insulin requirements
- Reducing length of stay, which leads to a reduction in total cost

Therefore, ISDI endorses the use of DSFs as a safe, efficacious and cost-effective strategy to support the management of hospitalised patients with, or at risk of, poor glucose control.

The International Special Dietary Foods Industries (ISDI) is the leading international

expert association on special dietary foods that brings together national, regional and international associations that are active in this food sector from more than 20 countries and over 6 continents. ISDI has a Non-Governmental Organization Observer status before Codex.

Note to the editors:

ISDI is the leading international expert association on special dietary foods, including foods specifically designed for infants and young children. ISDI members are national and international associations that are active in this sector from more than 20 countries over 6 continents. Our members manufacture and market foods that are formulated, in accordance with applicable Codex Alimentarius standards, to meet the compositional criteria, quality requirement and nutritional needs of infants and young children.

Further Contact:

Jean Christophe Kremer
ISDI Secretary General
M: +32 476 82 03 90
E: secretariat@isdi.org