



## SASPEN News

nutritionDay is a worldwide initiative from the European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism (ESPEN) to fight malnutrition in institutions, including intensive care units, hospital wards and nursing homes. nutritionDay will take place on 9 November 2017. South Africa has never participated in this initiative. Implementing nutritionDay in South Africa in 2017 is a major focus for SASPEN and ENASA. The biggest stumbling block in this process remains obtaining ethics approval for institutions to participate. Therefore it is of utmost importance that institutions willing to participate are identified urgently to start the ethics approval process. SASPEN, with support from ENASA, will guide the process once institutions are identified and both organisations will be involved in the implementation of nutritionDay and provide assistance in the form of human resources and stationary for data collection. To learn more about nutritionDay please visit [www.nutritionday.org](http://www.nutritionday.org). If you are interested in participating, please contact a SASPEN representative, via our website or any of our social media platforms.

We are joining the British Dietetic Association (BDA) again this year for Dietitian's week from 12–16 June 2017. This year's theme "Evidence and Expertise" is aimed at highlighting the importance of evidence based approach in nutrition. SASPEN will also be focusing on creating awareness around disease related malnutrition in its Dietitian's week campaign. SASPEN with the help of ENASA will again be distributing resource packs to requesting dietitians and have T-shirts available for purchase. SASPEN's social media platforms provide more information; and please share your Dietitian's week experience and photo's with us!

SASPEN will be joining the Critical Care Society of Southern Africa (CCSSA) again this year for the biennial congress in Sun City. The

congress will take place from 19–22 October 2017. The overall theme for the congress is "Precision Medicine" and SASPEN's contribution will be in the form of a program that focuses on management of specific patient groups in the intensive care unit, with the theme "Hitting the bullseye with nutrition in ICU". SASPEN is looking forward to sharing in the knowledge of our international speakers, Prof Remy Meier and Prof Mette Berger, as well as that of the local faculty. The scientific program highlights are available on the congress website. Registration for the congress is now open; be sure to make use of the early bird registration opportunity until 1 August. SASPEN, together with the trade and the international faculty, is also excited to facilitate the Life Long Learning (LLL) program at this congress. We look forward to welcoming the different role-players in nutrition to the LLL opportunity and spreading the knowledge and understanding of nutrition in the ICU. This will be a first at this year's congress and we hope to make this a standard part of the SASPEN program in future. You can visit the congress webpage at [www.criticalcare.org.za/CSSA17](http://www.criticalcare.org.za/CSSA17) for more information, as well as to register.

The SASPEN biennial meeting will be held at the congress. It is also an election year for the new SASPEN council, which will be announced at this meeting. The election process will be done electronically. Please nominate SASPEN members who are willing to serve on the council. More information regarding the nomination process will be communicated on SASPEN's social media platforms.

We would like to hear about your initiatives and plans. Please 'like' us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and join us on LinkedIn to stay informed about events and opportunities. You can visit our webpage on [www.saspn.com](http://www.saspn.com) or download our SASPEN application on your smart devices.