

The Three Rs of Advocacy

Reimbursement, Research, and Regulation



“From the beginning, ASPEN has been instrumental in obtaining research funding and influencing reimbursement for nutrition support.”

Jay M. Mirtallo
MS, RPh, BCNSP, FASHP, FASPEN
ASPEN President 2011-2012

Through the years, ASPEN has:

- Served as a technical resource to Medicare and its carriers concerning clinical practice
- Provided clinical advice to FDA on medical foods, central venous catheter complications, and drug shortages
- Monitored activity on Capitol Hill as it pertains to home health care, technology assessment, and professional involvement in the delivery of nutrition support
- Provided ongoing assurance that the federal government includes nutrition in its many reports and assessments concerning health and disease
- Influenced decisions on EN coding and pricing, Health Care Financing Administration's proposed rule on the provision of nutrition care to hospitalized patients, and the role of the dietitian in this endeavor

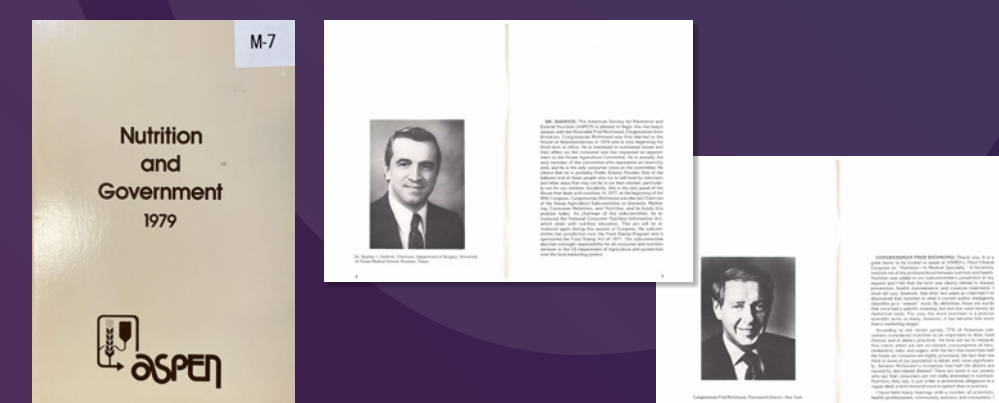
Visit the ASPEN Public Policy and Advocacy booth 118 to support nutrition-related bills.

1975

ASPEN's first national public statement was made during a testimony before the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on National Health. The presentation, "In Hospital and Hospital Free Hyperalimentation," was delivered by Drs. Stanley Dudrick, James Long III, and George Blackburn.

1979

Pamphlet from session on "Nutrition – A Medical Specialty" from ASPEN's 1979 Clinical Congress in Boston featured Congressman Fred Richmond, 14th District of New York, discussing nutrition and public health.



1987

ASPEN president, Albert Bothe, MD, FASPEN, at a Congressional hearing.



1990s-PRESENT

ASPEN joined the Digestive Disease National Coalition (DDNC) and made annual Congressional visits.

2010

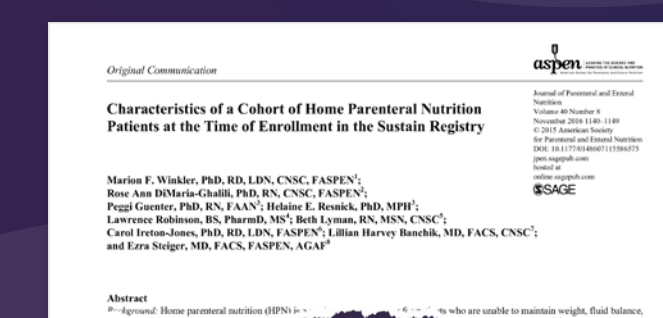
ASPEN and DDNC members in front of Senator Arlen Specter's office at a 2010 congressional visit.



Left to right: Peggi Guenter, RN; gastroenterologist from Pennsylvania (name unknown); RoseAnn DiMaria-Ghalili, RN; Henry Parkman, MD; and patient advocate Bette Marie Bond

2011-2015

ASPEN ran Sustain, a home PN registry to gather data on this population and advocate for HPN care.



2012

ASPEN launched annual Malnutrition Awareness Week.™

2014-PRESENT

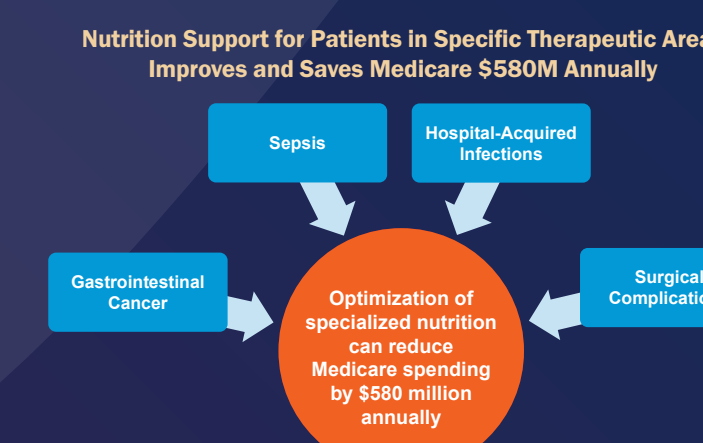
ASPEN Public Policy Agenda, updated and board approved annually, developed by the Public Policy Committee.

2016

ASPEN joined Defeat Malnutrition Today, a coalition of organizations concerned with malnutrition in older adults.

2020

Value Project detailed how nutrition support could reduce Medicare costs.



2021

Update on Medicare Reimbursement Coverage for Home Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition relaxes HPN and HEN Medicare criteria.

2024

ASPEN implemented a survey to assess the extent and severity of parenteral nutrition access and reimbursement issues.

2024 DDNC Fall Forum



Left to right: Congressman Jim McGovern and ASPEN representatives Wanda Johnson, Nancy Edwards, Dr. Patricia Byers, and Dr. Shirley Paski