TRAINING COURSE ON THE
MANAGEMENT OF SEVERE MALNUTRITION

CLINICAL
INSTRUCTOR
GUIDE

World Health Organization
Department of Nutrition for Health and Development
Training Course on the Management of Severe Malnutrition

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MANAGEMENT OF SEVERE MALNUTRITION:
CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR GUIDE

1. Purpose of clinical practice

Clinical practice is an essential part of the Management of Severe Malnutrition course. Clinical sessions are led by the clinical instructor in the severe malnutrition ward each day of the course. The purpose of the clinical sessions is for participants to see and practise management of severely malnourished children, following procedures described in the WHO manual and the training course.1

Participants learn about the procedures for management of severely malnourished children by reading information in the modules or seeing demonstrations on videotape. They then use the information by doing written exercises or case studies. Finally and most importantly, in clinical sessions participants see the procedures carried out and practise some procedures in the ward with severely malnourished children.

General Objectives: During clinical practice sessions, participants will:

* see and practise identifying clinical signs of severe malnutrition and related illness in real children;
* observe and practise procedures for management of severely malnourished children;
* practise handling children gently and using a supportive and friendly manner with mothers;
* receive feedback about how well they have performed and guidance to help strengthen skills;
* gain experience and confidence in the procedures taught in the training course.

Clinical sessions are organized to give participants an opportunity to observe and practise skills in the order they are being learned in the modules. Each clinical session focuses on some new skills and reinforces the skills participants have learned about in previous modules. If any participant has difficulty with a particular skill, the clinical instructor gives the participant additional guidance. The purpose is to help every participant develop skill and confidence.

1 If the hospital where the course is conducted does not manage severely malnourished children according to WHO guidelines, it is imperative that procedures be made as consistent as possible prior to the training course. If the discrepancies are significant, the effectiveness of the training will be seriously compromised as the participants will see something different than what they are reading. If a facility wants to upgrade its procedures to be consistent with those in the WHO Manual, this may require training of staff, changing ward procedures, and obtaining additional supplies; the facility may request technical assistance from WHO well in advance of a training course. If there are only a few discrepancies between current practices and the WHO guidelines, the clinical instructor should be prepared to support the WHO guidelines and explain the practice in the training site. Local adaptation of some procedures is reasonable; the clinical instructor or Course Director should be prepared to explain how and why the current practice is consistent (or not consistent) with WHO guidelines.
2. Objectives of clinical practice sessions

Each clinical session has specific objectives for observation and practice. These objectives are based on the expected progress of the participants working through the modules in their small groups, with the guidance of the group facilitators. It is important that participants have read about the procedures (and done some related exercises) before the clinical session which focuses on them. The course schedule was designed with this in mind.

Day 1: Tour of Ward

- Observe the admissions area
- Observe the emergency treatment area
- Observe how the severe malnutrition ward or area is organized
- Observe the kitchen area
- Observe any special areas for play, health education, etc.

Day 2: Clinical Signs

- Observe children with clinical signs of severe malnutrition
- Look for signs of severe malnutrition
- Weigh and measure children
- Look up weight-for-height SD scores
- Identify children who are severely malnourished

Day 3: Initial Management

- Observe initial management of severely malnourished children
- Identify clinical signs of severe malnutrition, hypoglycaemia, hypothermia, shock, dehydration
- Practise using dextrostix
- Practise filling a CCP (Critical Care Pathway) during initial management.
- Assist in doing initial management, if feasible, such as:
  - Taking rectal temperature
  - Giving bolus of glucose for hypoglycaemia
  - Warming child
  - Giving first feed

Day 4: Flexible half day, optional clinical practice

Any of the preceding activities may be repeated for extra practice. If case management in the hospital is good, participants may be assigned to “shadow” and assist a caregiver in the hospital for part of the day. This day may also be a good opportunity to observe a teaching session with mothers or a play session.

Day 5: Initial Management and Feeding

- Observe and assist in doing initial management, if feasible, including:
  - Identify signs of possible dehydration in a severely malnourished child
  - Measure and give ReSoMal
  - Monitor a child on ReSoMal
  - Determine antibiotics and dosages
- Observe nurses measuring and giving feeds
- Practise measuring, giving, and recording feeds
Day 6: Feeding
- Review 24-Hour Intake Charts and plan feeds for the next day
- Determine if child is ready for F-100
- Continue to practise measuring, giving, and recording feeds

Day 7: Daily Care
- Keep CCPs on children observed and cared for
- Participate in daily care tasks, as feasible:
  - Measure respiratory rate, pulse rate and temperature
  - Administer eye drops, antibiotics, multivitamins; change eye bandages, etc.
  - Weigh child and record weight (on Daily Care page and on Weight Chart of CCP)
  - Observe and assist with bathing children
- Assist with feeding (continued practice)
- Monitor ward using checklist (if time allows)

Additional Objectives
- Observe teaching session with mothers
- Observe play session

3. The role of the clinical instructor

There is one clinical instructor who leads all the clinical sessions. The clinical instructor leads a session each day for each small group of participants (for example, 3 sessions each day with up to 6 participants each).

Teaching a small number of participants in the ward at a time allows each person to have hands-on practice. The clinical instructor is able to watch carefully and give feedback to help each participant improve.

Experience has shown that this clinical teaching can best be done by someone who is present in the ward through the day, rather than by different facilitators coming in for an hour or two. The clinical instructor becomes familiar with the children and staff procedures and is comfortable moving about the ward. As the clinical instructor repeats the same teaching for each group during the day, he or she usually becomes very smooth and effective. The mothers and staff are also more comfortable seeing the same instructor with different groups of participants.²

Each morning, to prepare for the day, the clinical instructor reviews the teaching objectives for this day and plans how to accomplish them. For example, on the day when participants are to practise identifying clinical signs of severe malnutrition, he may locate several children in the ward who clearly demonstrate the signs. He plans how to show the signs on one or two children and then asks participants to point out signs on the other children. On a day when participants are learning about the

² The group’s facilitators should attend and assist as you request, but they are not in charge of teaching the group while in the ward.
stabilization phase, he may select several children in the ward who are in that phase and prepare for the participants to see their 24-Hour Food Intake charts, assess progress, and plan feeding for the next day. He may prepare a list of questions to ask or prepare tasks for participants to do with these children.

The clinical instructor needs to be skilled at anticipating what will occur on the ward and planning how 3 groups of participants can accomplish their objectives. If the clinical instructor finds that the schedule planned for clinical sessions will not work that day, he must plan an alternative and adjust the schedule.

General procedures and specific guidelines for teaching each clinical session are provided later in this guide.

4. Qualifications and preparation of the clinical instructor

The clinical instructor should have as many of the following qualifications as possible.

1. The clinical instructor should be currently active in clinical care of children. If possible, he (or she) should have a current position on the severe malnutrition ward of the facility where the training is being conducted. (If the clinical instructor is not on the staff of the facility, a staff assistant will be needed to help with arrangements and perhaps with translation.)

2. The clinical instructor should have proven clinical teaching skills.

3. The clinical instructor should be very familiar with WHO guidelines for management of children with severe malnutrition and have experience using them. It is best if he has participated in the course Management of Severe Malnutrition previously as a participant or facilitator. At least he should be familiar with and use the practices described in the WHO manual (Management of Severe Malnutrition: a manual for physicians and other senior health workers).

4. He should be clinically confident, in order to sort through a ward of children quickly, identify clinical signs that participants need to observe, and determine the progress of different children. He should understand the daily procedures in the ward and quickly see where participants may assist with care. He should understand each child's clinical diagnosis and prognosis so as to not compromise the care of critically ill children. He should be comfortable handling severely malnourished children and convey a gentle, positive, hands-on approach.

5. He must have good organizational ability. It is necessary to be efficient to accomplish all of the tasks in each clinical session. The individual must be able to stay on the subject, avoiding any extraneous instruction or discussion. He must be able to keep a view of the ward and all the participants, and keep all participants involved and learning productively. Teaching three groups of participants requires 4 ½ to 6 hours, and these are very active periods. He must be energetic.
6. The individual must be **outgoing and able to communicate** with ward staff, participants, and mothers. He should be a good role model in talking with mothers. (A translator may be provided if needed.)

7. If possible, in preparation for this role, the individual should work as an assistant to a clinical instructor at another course to see how to select cases, organize the clinical sessions and interact with participants. Or another skilled clinical instructor can join him during the first few days of the facilitator training or the course.

8. The clinical instructor must be available 1 – 2 days prior to facilitator training, during all of facilitator training, and during all of the course. He must be willing and motivated to get up early each morning to review cases in the severe malnutrition ward and prepare for the day's clinical sessions.

### 5. Before the facilitator training and course begin

1. With the Course Director, meet with the director of the severe malnutrition ward. Explain to the ward director how clinical sessions work. Describe what the clinical instructor and the participants would do. Ask permission to conduct sessions in the ward.

   If there are separate areas or wards where some severely malnourished children are kept, first meet with the hospital director to obtain permission, and then meet with the director responsible for each of these wards.

   Meet with staff in the ward (or in each ward) to inform them about the course and to ask for their help. Make sure your arrangements include the senior responsible nurse, not just the doctor in charge.

   If necessary, ask the ward director for a clinical assistant, preferably someone who works on the ward full time. Ask the director to assign the clinical assistant to come at the time of the early morning preparations (usually at 6:00 or 7:00 am depending on the schedule). Ask for a translator to help, if needed. (It will often be necessary to provide a stipend to this individual.)

2. If you are not familiar with the ward, visit it. See how the ward is laid out, the schedule of admissions, bathing and weighing, feeds, nursing rounds, teaching sessions for mothers, etc. Find out times patients are available or not available.

3. Meet with the Course Director and ward director to set the schedule for clinical sessions, so each group will have a clinical session each day. Plan for 3 groups of up to 6 participants each. A one to two-hour session is required for each group each day. (If there are more participants attending the course, you will need to schedule accordingly.) See the next section, “Scheduling clinical sessions,” for more guidance on scheduling. When the schedule is written, ensure that copies are made for each facilitator and participant.
4. Study this Guide to learn what you should do to prepare for and conduct clinical sessions. Visit the ward to plan how and where you can carry out your tasks.

5. Obtain necessary supplies for instruction. All participants, facilitators, clinical instructor and assistant should have a copy of the following:

- Objectives for Clinical Sessions (listed in the Introduction module)
- Weight-for-Height Reference Card
- F-75 Reference Card
- F-100 Reference Card
- Antibiotics Reference Card

For teaching, you will need a supply of:

- CCPs (100 copies of the Initial Management page plus 60 complete CCPs for a course with 15-20 participants)
- 24-Hour Food Intake Charts (100 copies for a course with 15 – 20 participants). Copy from Annex B of the Feeding module.
- Pens and pencils

And:

- 6 – 8 clipboards and string or tape to fasten clipboards to foot or head of bed
- Thermometers
- A few watches (or participants may all have their own)
- Scales and length board, stadiometer for measuring infants and children (Several scales and length boards will be needed if possible, since each participant will weigh and measure a number of children.)

And for Day 3:

- Dextrostix, blood samples, gloves for every participant

To ensure good handwashing, participants need access to:

- Running water
- Paper or cloth towels
- Soap for handwashing
- Lab coats, aprons, or towels to protect clothes when handling children. (Note: These should not be shared by participants; each should have his own.)

6. Check that all clinical supplies for care of children in a severe malnutrition ward are available (e.g., equipment/supplies for the ward, pharmacy, and kitchen; drugs). Supplement supplies of the ward if necessary. You should ensure that participants will observe management of children according to WHO guidelines. See Annex B for a complete list.

7. Meet with the Course Director to review your responsibilities and your plans for conducting the clinical sessions.
8. With the Course Director, plan how you will teach a session during the facilitator training. This will give you practice and will familiarize the facilitators with how clinical sessions will work.

Select one session to practise during in facilitator training, just as written. Alternatively, you could select and practise some key activities from different sessions, such as:
   a. identifying clinical signs of severe malnutrition (as done on Day 2);
   b. observing and helping with initial management (as done on Days 3 and 5);
   c. practise measuring and giving feeds (as done on Days 5 and 6).

9. Brief any staff that will be in the ward about what you will be doing, and the training sessions that will take place there.

10. During the facilitator training, give each facilitator a copy of the schedule for clinical sessions and explain how the clinical sessions will work. (See suggested explanation in Day 1, Notes, page 14.) Practise this explanation first as if you are speaking to a group of participants. Then discuss the sessions from the facilitator's point of view.

   Practise conducting a clinical session with facilitators in the role of participants. When the session is over, ask for feedback from the facilitators. This practice should help you to obtain experience and work out any problems before the actual course begins.

11. Before the course begins, study the Tally Sheets for Clinical Sessions in Annex C and plan how you will use them. Make a copy to write on.

6. Scheduling Clinical Sessions

It can be a challenge to schedule clinical sessions in a way that allows all groups to accomplish each day’s objectives. Study the objectives for each day and think about when the ward’s routine will accommodate them. Plan to rotate the three groups through the schedule, so that each group experiences the ward at different times in the daily schedule, and no group sees the ward at the same time every day.

Though it would be easiest for the participants and facilitators if the schedule is the same, or nearly the same, each day, it is necessary to vary it somewhat. It is critical to provide everyone with a copy of the schedule to avoid confusion and tardy groups.

**Day 1 objectives (Tour of Ward)** can be achieved at any time after the first two hours of the opening day, in other words after the groups have had time to read the *Introduction* module.

**Day 2 objectives (Clinical Signs)** can be achieved at any time when participants can observe children and their clinical signs in the ward, and when there are children
waiting to be seen in the outpatient or inpatient queue. Participants should have finished the module *Principles of Care* before this session.

**Day 3 objectives (Initial Management)** can be achieved when the staff is carrying out initial management procedures for new patients. The clinical sessions on this day should be scheduled at times when there are usually new admissions.

**Day 4 is a flexible half day** during which you may or may not schedule clinical practice. It may be a good day to achieve the additional objectives of observing a teaching session or play session. If so, schedule accordingly.

**Day 5 objectives (Initial Management and Feeding)** include participants again assisting with initial management. The clinical sessions on this day should be scheduled at times when there are likely to be new admissions. Participants may also observe and help with feeding. Therefore, each session should include a scheduled feeding time.

**Day 6 objectives (Feeding)** include more practice measuring and giving feeds. Each session should include a scheduled feeding time.

**Day 7 objectives (Daily Care)** include daily care tasks, such as weighing children, measuring respiratory rate, pulse and temperature, giving antibiotics and bathing. Determine at what times the regular staff usually perform these tasks and whether the three clinical sessions can be scheduled to correspond to these times. It is possible that some groups will not be able to practise all of the daily care tasks.

**Additional objectives:**
* Observing a teaching session with mothers;
* Observing a play session.

These teaching and play sessions may be observed during already-scheduled clinical sessions or may need to be scheduled in addition. Determine when staff will conduct these sessions and schedule each small group to observe at one of those times. If necessary, you may just call each small group out of the classroom to observe a brief teaching session. Although participants do not read in the modules about these activities until later in the course, it is acceptable to have them observe at any time. In the example schedule that follows, all three groups will observe a play session at the same time on Day 4. This was possible because the play area has plenty of space for observers.

Scheduling may need to be creative in order to meet all objectives. A clinical session may need to be scheduled quite early or late on some days in order for each group to participate in a feeding time. You may use a grid similar to the one below to plan clinical sessions. The times shown are just an example. A blank grid is in Annex A.
**EXAMPLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical Session</th>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day 1 Tour of Ward</strong></td>
<td>11:00 – 12:00</td>
<td>13:00 – 14:00</td>
<td>14:15 – 15:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day 2 Clinical Signs</strong></td>
<td>9:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>10:45 – 12:15</td>
<td>13:30 – 15:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day 3 Initial Mgm’t</strong></td>
<td>13:30 – 15:00</td>
<td>9:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>10:45 – 12:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day 4 Flexible half day, optional clinical practice</strong></td>
<td>All groups will observe play session at 10:00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day 5 Initial Mgm’t and Feeding</strong></td>
<td>10:45 – 12:45 (11:00 feed)</td>
<td>13:30 – 15:30 (15:00 feed)</td>
<td>8:30 – 10:30 (9:00 feed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day 6 Feeding</strong></td>
<td>8:30 – 10:00</td>
<td>10:15 – 11:45</td>
<td>12:45 – 14:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day 7 Daily Care</strong></td>
<td>13:00 – 14:30</td>
<td>9:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>10:45 – 12:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observe teaching session for mothers (occurs 14:00–14:30 daily)</td>
<td>Day 7 at 14:00</td>
<td>Day 5 at 14:00</td>
<td>Day 6 at 14:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observe play session (occurs 10:00–11:00 daily)</td>
<td>Day 4 at 10:00</td>
<td>Day 4 at 10:00</td>
<td>Day 4 at 10:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**7. General procedures for planning and conducting clinical sessions**

1. Each day, review the objectives for the next day and plan how to accomplish them with the groups in the time allowed.

   Participants will practise some tasks (such as feeding children) by assisting the staff doing patient care on their regular schedule. Some tasks will need to be organized specially, by assigning participants to work with selected children who have certain characteristics.

   If the schedule requires adjustment in order to accomplish the session objectives, inform the Course Director and/or the group facilitators. If any special supplies are needed, be sure they will be available. Prepare or make copies of any forms needed, such as CCP pages or 24-Hour Food Intake Charts.
2. Each morning, review the children in the ward and select appropriate children to be managed by participants during the day’s sessions. This must be done in the morning as the clinical condition of hospitalized children can change overnight.

Identify children appropriate for the objectives for that day. For example, on some days you will need children who exhibit certain clinical signs. On other days, you will need a number of new admissions. Try to select at least one patient per participant. It is desirable to have a separate patient for each participant to work with during the session.

Always be alert for additional children with infrequently seen signs. Because some signs may be rarely seen in this hospital, show them to participants whenever there is an opportunity. These signs may include:

- severe dermatosis (++++)
- severe oedema (++++)
- signs of dehydration, especially skin pinch goes back slowly
- signs of shock (cold hand with slow capillary refill > 3 seconds, weak/fast pulse)
- corneal ulceration, Bitot’s spots

3. Keep a list with brief notes on each of the selected cases for your own reference during the day. Note the child’s name, age, (location in the ward if necessary), and relevant signs. However, keep in mind that clinical signs can change rapidly in very ill children from one session to the next.

Mark the beds of the children that you plan to show to participants, for example, by posting a coloured card at the foot of the bed. This will help you locate these children easily.

4. Brief the ward staff on what the participants will do today. If participants will assist the regular staff with certain procedures, be sure that the staff know this and are willing. Remind the staff that they are setting the example, and that they should be ready to explain what they are doing and answer participants’ questions, if possible.

5. Before each session, remind participants to wash their hands carefully. Ask them to be sure to wash again between patients and at the end of the session. This is for their own protection as well as the children’s.

6. At the beginning of each session, tell the participants the objectives for the session today. Demonstrate any new clinical procedure that they have not seen (such as giving ReSoMal, measuring height) before you ask them to do it.

7. Depending on the objectives for the session, assign each participant to a child to assess or care for, or to a staff member to work with. In some instances, you may assign a pair of participants to work together with a child. Be sure that participants have any forms or supplies needed.
8. Observe while participants carry out the assigned tasks. Watch for any participant who does not understand what to do. No participant should be standing around, chatting with other participants or staff. All the time during clinical sessions should be used productively. If a participant has completed a task and does not have another assignment, he can move to observe another participant or staff member at work.

9. Make sure that course work is not interfering too much with the ward routine, especially provision of treatment. Inform families about the course. For potentially disturbing tasks such as weighing, avoid handling the same children repeatedly during the day.

10. Give feedback to participants individually and in “rounds,” in which participants gather by a child’s bed for a report on what another participant has seen or done. Ask questions to encourage the participant to elaborate as needed. Refer to the child’s clinical signs, or chart, or feeding record, etc.

Keep these discussions brief and avoid making participants feel uncomfortable or intimidated. When you ask a participant about what he has done for a child and why, keep the tone positive. If a participant has overlooked something, you or another participant can suggest what could have been done better. Emphasize that the participants are all here to learn.

11. At the end of the session, gather the participants all together and summarize the session. Mention the important signs and procedures covered in the session and refer to common problems that participants encountered (for example, difficulties counting respiratory rate, errors recording initial treatment or intake). Reinforce participants for doing tasks correctly, and give them suggestions and encouragement to help them improve.

12. Record (tick) on the Tally Sheet (Annex C) the objectives accomplished by the group during the clinical session. Make notes on any problems.

13. Repeat steps 5 – 12 with each small group.

14. Participate in the daily facilitators’ meeting. Report to the facilitators and the Course Director on the performance of each group at the clinical session that day and whether the objectives were achieved. Discuss whether participants are able to perform procedures correctly with patients. If certain tasks or concepts were difficult for participants, ask facilitators to review them in the classroom the next day. Identify any procedures that you were unable to demonstrate or the participants could not practise. Discuss plans to try again in the next day's session.

Also inform the facilitators about the next day’s clinical sessions. Review any important points about the schedule, the objectives, help that you need, etc. Remind facilitators of anything that participants should bring to the sessions, such as their laminated reference cards.
8. Specific instructions for each day’s clinical session

On the following pages are specific instructions for each day’s clinical session. Guidelines for each day include how to prepare, the participants' objectives, the instructor's procedures, and what to do to conclude the session.

For some days, there are additional notes about preparing for or conducting that particular session.

When preparing for the first day or two, you may also find it helpful to refer to the general procedures just described. After you are familiar with the general procedures, simply refer to the appropriate summary for each day.
Day 1: Tour of Ward

To Prepare

Review these guidelines for Day 1.

Prepare to take each group for a tour of the ward and all areas where severely malnourished children are seen and treated. Identify areas that you will show and prepare your comments. If possible, obtain data on the number of severely malnourished children seen each month or each year, and how long these children typically stay in the hospital.

Plan to tour the ward, the emergency treatment area, admissions area, kitchen area, and any special areas used for play, health education, etc.

If possible, find one child on the ward who has made a good recovery (a “success story”) and prepare to describe the child’s condition on admission and how he has improved, emphasizing the successes.

Participant Objectives

- Observe the admissions area
- Observe the emergency treatment area
- Observe how the severe malnutrition ward or area is organized
- Observe the kitchen area
- Observe any special areas for play, health education, etc.

Instructor Procedures

1. Introduce yourself.

2. Explain to participants how clinical sessions will generally work. See Note “A” that follows. Explain that today the group will not work with patients but will tour the ward and other areas where severely malnourished children are seen or treated.

3. Explain hygiene procedures to be followed. Participants should wash hands with soap before and after each session and between patients. Explain where handwashing facilities are located. (Even though participants will not be asked to handle patients today, they should wash anyway in case they touch the children.)

4. Take participants to the admissions area and explain how children are admitted for severe malnutrition.

5. Visit the emergency treatment area and explain what treatments are given here.

6. Take participants for a tour of the ward, pointing out areas that participants will learn about at the course: beds, areas for weighing and bathing, play area, education area, etc.

7. If possible, while touring the ward, show a “success story,” a child who was admitted in serious condition but is now gaining weight, cheerful, etc.
8. Visit the kitchen or area where food is prepared. Point out food scales, ingredients used, etc.

At end of the session
Answer any questions that participants may have.

Notes:

A. Explanation to participants of how clinical sessions will work

You may wish to use the following explanation:

The purpose of clinical sessions is to give you opportunities to see and practise procedures for management of severe malnutrition. The severe malnutrition ward may not be like the setting where you usually work. However, seeing and working in the ward will help you understand the procedures and what is needed to carry them out. Then you will have ideas on putting the recommended procedures into practice at your hospital.

You will learn from both what you see and what you do in the clinical sessions. You will observe while the staff performs some procedures, for example, giving initial treatment to a critically ill child. You may assist the staff and participate in some procedures, such as monitoring a child on ReSoMal. You will be assigned some tasks to perform on your own, such as feeding children and recording amounts taken. Sometimes you will work in pairs, particularly if there are not many patients. I (the clinical instructor) will assign you to tasks and patients, and will watch and give guidance and feedback on your work. I may ask you to show the other participants your case. You should not feel shy. We are all learning.

Your interactions with a child and his or her mother should always be gentle and patient. Severely malnourished children must be handled very gently and kindly. Interactions with the mothers of the patients should be encouraging and supportive. When you speak to a mother here, you should be kind to her and listen carefully.

If a child suddenly becomes much sicker, be sure to alert me and/or the ward staff.
Day 2: Clinical Signs

To Prepare

Review the "General Procedures" (pages 9 - 11 of this guide) and these guidelines for Day 2.

Arrange for participants to weigh and measure children. Ensure that scales are working and stadiometer or measuring boards are set up correctly.

Select one or two children with a variety of clinical signs to show to participants. Try to find clear examples of signs. See Note “A” that follows for a list of the signs to show today.

Look for children in the admissions area and/or ward who could be assessed for clinical signs of severe malnutrition, weighed, and measured. For each group, you will need 1-2 children per participant. It is best if the same children are not used repeatedly during the day. For the sake of comparison, include a few children who are not severely malnourished.

Ask facilitators to have their participants bring their Weight-for-Height Reference Cards and a pen or pencil to the clinical session.

Participant Objectives

- Observe children with clinical signs of severe malnutrition
- Look for signs of severe malnutrition
- Weigh and measure children
- Look up weight-for-height SD scores
- Identify children who are severely malnourished

Instructor Procedures

1. Review the objectives for today’s clinical session.
2. Show one or two children with various clinical signs, which may include: wasting, oedema, dermatosis, eye signs. See Note “A” that follows. Point out these signs to participants.
3. Using these same children (unless they are too sick), demonstrate how to measure weight and height/length. Follow guidelines in the module Principles of Care, pages 7-11. Demonstrate measuring both standing height and supine length.
4. Ask participants to look up the weight-for-height SD score of these children and determine if they meet criteria for admission (given on page 14, Principles of Care).
5. Assign each participant to assess one or two children in the admissions area and/or ward. Include some children who are not severely malnourished. Ask participants to assess each child for clinical signs of severe malnutrition, weigh, and measure the child. Ask them then to determine if the child is severely malnourished and should be admitted.
6. Watch as participants examine each child for clinical signs such as wasting, oedema and dermatosis. Ask the facilitators to assist participants as they weigh and measure children since a partner is needed for these tasks.

7. When a participant has finished assessing a child, ask the participant what he has found. Look at the child again with him, agreeing with the findings or asking him to look again if he missed a sign.

8. Towards the end of the session, conduct rounds. See Note B that follows. Ask each participant to present one of the cases assessed for the benefit of the other participants. Select cases that are most interesting and have a variety of clinical signs among them. The participant should point out the clinical signs; state the child’s weight, height, and SD score; and explain whether the child should be admitted. Ask the participant questions as needed to draw out a complete explanation.

At end of the session
- Summarize the session with participants.
- Answer any questions.

Notes:

A. Clinical signs to demonstrate on Day 2

Try to locate and show as many clear examples of the signs as possible. Avoid discussion of additional clinical signs so that the participants can focus primarily on the signs taught in the course and become skilled at recognizing them. Not all signs will be present in the ward every day. Whenever a child is admitted with an infrequently-seen sign, be sure to show it to the participants, even if it is not listed in the objectives for that day.

Signs to teach on Day 2:

Severe wasting

Oedema

+ Mild: Oedema of both feet
++ Moderate: Oedema of both feet, plus lower legs, hands, or lower arms
+++ Severe: Generalized oedema including both feet, legs, hands, arms and face

Dermatosis

+ Mild: Discoloration or a few rough patches of skin
++ Moderate: Multiple patches on arms and/or legs
+++ Severe: Flaking skin, raw skin, fissures (openings in the skin)
Eye signs

Bitot’s spots
Pus and inflammation (redness)
Corneal clouding
Corneal ulceration

All of the above signs are explained in the module Principles of Care, and photographs are provided in the Photographs booklet.

It is helpful to show children with different degrees of severity of oedema and dermatosis. Look for as many children as possible with these signs and with different degrees of severity. Showing several children side by side who have, for example, no, mild (+), moderate (++) and severe (+++) oedema can be very helpful.

It is important that participants avoid overcalling signs. Participants need to become confident in saying a sign is NOT there, not just in recognizing the abnormal signs.

B. Individual practice identifying clinical signs, followed by rounds to give feedback

The technique of “rounds” will be used frequently in clinical sessions. On different days, participants may be asked to assess patients for certain signs, record information on various forms, or decide on appropriate feeding plans or treatments. The general process is to have each participant do some individual (but supervised) practice with a patient and then present the case or decisions to the group.

On Day 2, participants will be assigned to assess patients for certain clinical signs (wasting, oedema, dermatosis, and eye signs), and also to weigh and measure the patients to determine whether they should be admitted. Assign each participant to a different patient (or if necessary, participants may pair up). Select patients with signs that should be learned or reinforced in the session. Also select a few patients without these signs. Thus, by the end of the session, participants see children with and without the signs, so the distinction is clear.

Ask participants to go to the patient, check that patient, and record findings. The participants should all check their patients and then signal to you when they are finished. Then conduct rounds as follows:

- Gather the participants and take the group to the bed of the first case. Ask the assigned participant to describe the signs found, the weight and height, and the SD score.
- Ask questions to encourage the participant to elaborate as needed. For example, if oedema is present, you may need to ask, “What degree of oedema?” If necessary, give participants a chance to examine for the sign, for example, to stand near the child to check for oedema by pressing the foot.
• Ask whether the child should be admitted. If necessary, ask participants to write their individual decisions on slips of paper and hand or show them to you, so you are sure they are giving their own decisions, not influenced by others or fear of embarrassment. These problems will vary by group. Be aware that some people are quite shy and do not like to have a joke made if they have made an error. With slips of paper, it is possible to talk about agreement of the group without singling out the wrong answer of any one participant. You will know which participants are assessing correctly and which need more practice.

• If some participants did not identify a sign correctly, demonstrate or let participants try again. Find out why they decided differently – where they were looking, the definition they are using, or other relevant factors. Treat their opinions with respect. “Let's look again”.

• Make sure the atmosphere is supportive, so participants do not feel bad if they miss a sign. You may say, “It takes a while to learn these signs. Do not feel bad if you make a mistake – we all will”. Give encouragement and thank the participant who presented the case.

The above procedures should be adapted for rounds on other days to be suitable for the tasks being practised.
Day 3: Initial Management

To Prepare

Arrange a place for participants to practise testing blood samples using dextrostix. Plan how the blood will be obtained. Gather a supply of gloves, dextrostix, and supplies for obtaining blood samples.

Obtain a supply of Initial Management pages of CCP (2 – 3 copies per participant).

In the morning and throughout the day, look for newly admitted patients who are severely malnourished.

Brief the staff who do initial management of severely malnourished children about the objectives and plans for the clinical session. Get their ideas and cooperation for participants to observe and, if feasible, participate in giving care.

Ask facilitators to remind participants to bring their Weight-for-Height Reference Card, F-75 Reference Card and a pen or pencil to the session.

Participant Objectives

- Observe initial management of severely malnourished children.
- Identify clinical signs of severe malnutrition, hypoglycaemia, hypothermia, shock, dehydration.
- Practise using dextrostix.
- Practise filling a CCP during initial management.
- Assist in doing initial management, if feasible, such as:
  - Taking rectal temperature
  - Giving bolus of glucose for hypoglycaemia
  - Warming child
  - Giving first feed

Instructor Procedures

1. Review with the participants the objectives of this session.
2. As severely malnourished patients are admitted, place participants so that they may closely observe initial management without getting in the way. Describe to them what is being done. Brief them on any emergency care that has already occurred. If there are several patients, spread out the participants so that they can be more involved.
3. Ask participants to complete the Initial Management page of a CCP as the case is managed. Provide any needed information about the child that participants cannot directly observe.
4. Keep the focus on initial management, but point out certain things whenever they are observed (e.g., a child with dermatosis, oedema of both feet, corneal ulceration).
5. Teach the additional clinical signs listed (see Note “A” that follows) by pointing them out, asking participants questions about the signs, and asking participants to identify the signs in new patients.

6. During a slow moment or when there is no new case, ask participants to examine Dextrostix (or brand used at the hospital) and read the package directions. Using available blood samples, (and wearing gloves), have participants test a few samples to watch the colours change and read the results.

7. Without interfering with care, if feasible, assign participants to patients. (See Note B that follows.) As feasible, with supervision, participants should practise the following:
   - Checking for signs of shock: lethargic/unconscious, plus cold hand, plus either slow capillary refill or weak/fast pulse
   - Giving bolus of glucose
   - Taking rectal temperature
   - Warming a child
   - ing first feed

   Watch participants carefully and give feedback. Let other participants observe the practice.

8. Assign each participant to identify the clinical signs of a particular child on the ward and record information on the patient on the Initial Management page of a CCP. Even if the child is not a new patient, participants should assess the child as though he is a new patient. Participants should complete as much of the Initial Management page as possible. Unless the child is too ill, this will involve weighing and measuring the child. (If the child is too ill, use a weight/height from the hospital record.)

9. After all participants have finished, conduct rounds of the children assessed.

At end of the session

Summarize the session with participants.

Answer any questions.

Notes:

A. Clinical signs to teach on Day 3

Show these signs/problems when present. Also ask participants questions to review the definitions of these signs and how to check for them:

- Hypothermia: rectal temperature <35.5°C
- Hypoglycaemia: blood glucose <3 mmol/l
Shock: lethargic/unconscious, plus cold hand, plus either slow capillary refill (>3 seconds) or weak/fast pulse

Signs of dehydration:
- Skin pinch goes back slowly  
- Restless/irritable  
- Lethargic  
- Thirsty  
- Sunken eyes  
- Dry mouth/tongue  
- No tears

Also review the clinical signs from Day 2 (severe wasting, oedema, dermatosis, eye signs).

**B. Assigning cases for initial management**

There may not be enough new admissions for each participant to be assigned to a new patient. There are several alternatives, which can be used in combination:

- Participants may group together to watch an especially interesting case being examined by hospital staff. Explain what is happening, what the staff are doing, and what results are found. Participants should record on the CCP while they observe. They should participate in the examination if it will not interfere with care of the child. For example, one participant could be asked to check for signs of shock, another to take the rectal temperature, another to give the initial bolus of glucose (if needed), etc.

- Two or three participants may work together to examine a patient. Each participant records on a CCP.

- Each participant may examine a child already on the ward “as if” the patient were a new admission. Participants should ask the questions and do the tasks that would be necessary for initial management (weigh, measure, check for signs of shock, ask about diarrhoea, check for signs of dehydration, etc.). If blood work has already been done on the child, participants should look at the child’s record for the results. If blood work has not yet been done and is needed, with permission and supervision of hospital staff, participants may take a blood sample and use Dextrostix to test for blood glucose level. Participants should record on the CCP.

It is important that participants actually do as many tasks as possible, not just observe. You will have to work out the best way for participants to practise the tasks given the patients available.

It is possible that participants may discover that a child is being treated inappropriately. For example, they may find a child who is unnecessarily receiving IV fluids. If a participant discovers inappropriate treatment, discuss the correct treatment with participants. As soon as possible, discuss the situation privately with the appropriate hospital staff.
Day 4: Flexible half day, optional clinical practice

Any of the preceding activities may be repeated for extra practice. If you feel that extra practice is needed, discuss this with the Course Director. If case management in the hospital is very good, participants may be assigned to “shadow” and assist a caregiver in the hospital for part of the day. This day may also be a good opportunity to achieve the additional objectives of observing a teaching session with mothers, or observing a play session.

Note to Clinical Instructor:

On Day 6 you will need correctly completed 24-Hour Food Intake Charts for a number of children for one or more days. So that you will have these available, ensure that staff are keeping the 24-Hour Food Intake Charts. You may need to help or provide some instruction. If the staff keep different records of feeding, you may be able to transcribe these records onto the 24-Hour Food Intake Charts. Otherwise, you may need to “make up” realistic charts based on the staff’s description of how the child is feeding.

On Day 7 you will need detailed information on a child who has been in the hospital for at least 3 days. Preferably, staff are keeping CCPs routinely on children in the ward. If they are not, request that staff keep some type of careful records on daily care, daily weight, monitoring data, etc. for several children over the next few days. Select children who are likely to still be in the hospital on Day 7 of the course. You may then transcribe this information onto a CCP.
Day 5: Initial Management and Feeding

To Prepare

Brief staff that participants will again observe and participate, as possible, in initial management. Tell staff that you are especially interested in seeing new patients and severely malnourished patients who have diarrhoea. Select new or recent admissions to be seen by participants.

Obtain a supply of the Initial Management page of the CCP (2 per participant) and 24-Hour Food Intake Charts (2 per participant).

Brief staff in the ward about when participants may observe and possibly assist with measuring and giving feeds. Confirm the feeding schedule so that you will know how to pace the activities during the session.

Ask facilitators to tell participants to bring all four laminated reference cards and a pencil or pen.

Participant Objectives

- Observe and assist in doing initial management, if feasible, including:
  - Identify signs of possible dehydration in a severely malnourished child
  - Measure and give ReSoMal
  - Monitor a child on ReSoMal
  - Determine antibiotics and dosages
- Observe nurses measuring and giving feeds
- Practise measuring, giving, and recording feeds

Instructor Procedures

1. Review with participants the objectives for today’s session. Explain that they will continue to practise initial management tasks practised on Day 3. In addition, they will practise the tasks listed in the objectives for today.

Initial Management

2. Continue having participants observe and participate in initial care. Assign participants to patients as feasible. See Note B on page 21. Supervise closely. Have participants complete an Initial Management page of the CCP on each case observed or managed. Without interfering with care, if feasible, ask different participants to practise the following:
   - Checking for signs of shock: cold hand with slow capillary refill or weak/fast pulse
   - Giving bolus of glucose
   - Taking rectal temperature
   - Warming a child
   - Giving first feed
For patients with diarrhoea, also ask participants to practise:
- Looking for signs of possible dehydration
- Measuring an appropriate amount of ReSoMal for child
- Giving ReSoMal orally or through NG tube
- Monitoring child on ReSoMal and recording results

3. Ask participants to determine the appropriate antibiotics and dosages for the patient and record them on the CCP. They should refer to the *Antibiotics Reference Card* as needed. Discuss their answers.

4. When participants are ready, conduct rounds.

**Feeding**

5. Move to the kitchen area and then the ward so that participants can observe nurses measuring and giving feeds to children at all stages of treatment. Explain (or have the nurse show and explain) how the correct amount of feed is measured for each child.

6. When it is feeding time, find a mother or nurse who is feeding a child correctly with a cup, and have participants observe how the child is held, how the cup is held, and how long to pause between sips. Find a child who is being fed by NG tube and show how the feed slowly drips in. (It should not be plunged.)

7. Without interfering with usual feeding procedures, give each participant an opportunity to measure the correct amount of feed for a particular child, feed that child, and record intake on the 24-Hour Food Intake Chart. Watch and give feedback to participants on how they feed the child (holding the child closely and gently, encouraging the child to eat). *See Note A below.* Be sure that participants correctly measure and record leftovers.

At end of the session

Summarize the session with participants.

Answer any questions.

**Notes:**

**A. Holding and feeding children**

Participants can help with NG feeding while a child is lying down or held by the mother. However, to feed a child properly with a cup, the participant must hold the child. Children may be distressed if taken from the mother. Participants should not cause the child distress. If the child clings to the mother, the participant may sit with the mother, observe and offer assistance or guidance as the mother feeds the child. For example, if a mother tries to pour the feed quickly into a child who is lying flat, the participant might show the mother how to prop the child more upright in her arms and feed more slowly.

When holding children, participants must be careful of hygiene. They should wear a lab coat or place a towel in the lap if possible. They should wash their hands carefully before the clinical session, between children, and after the clinical session.
Day 6: Feeding

To Prepare
For a day or two before this session, ensure that 24-Hour Feeding Charts are correctly kept on children in the ward. (See note on page 22.)

Brief staff in the ward that participants will assist with measuring and giving feeds. Confirm the feeding schedule so that you will know how to schedule the activities during the session.

Identify several children at different stages of feeding: feeding with an NG tube, ready to decrease frequency of feeds of F-75, not ready to decrease frequency, ready for F-100. Get a copy of yesterday’s 24-Hour Food Intake Chart, or fill in a 24-Hour Food Intake chart for each. Make copies of them to show participants (3-6 copies).

Obtain a supply of blank 24-Hour Food Intake Charts (3-4 per participant).

Participant Objectives

• Review 24-Hour Food Intake Charts and plan feeds for the next day
• Determine if child is ready for F-100
• Continue to practise measuring, giving, and recording feeds

Instructor Procedures

1. Review the objectives for the clinical session. Explain that the focus today will be about making decisions on the feeding plan for a child. Participants will also continue to practise feeding tasks.

2. With the group, go to the bedside of one of the children whose feeding you will discuss. Give a brief history of the child (how many days he has been in the hospital, admission weight, his clinical signs on admission, etc.). Distribute copies of the previous one or two days’ 24-Hour Food Intake Charts for the child. (Participants can share copies of the intake charts and then return them to you.) Ask participants questions about the child’s feeding, for example: What was he fed yesterday? How often was he fed? Did the amount increase during the day? Were there any problems?

Tell the participants the child’s weight today. (Weigh the child if necessary.) Ask participants what the child should be fed today (F-75 or F-100), how many feeds, how much, and by what means (NG or cup). Ask the participants to use their reference cards and then write down their answers at the top of a blank 24-Hour Feeding Chart. Discuss what participants decided and why.

Go to the bed of the next child selected and repeat this process.
3. At relevant points in the discussions, review concepts from the *Feeding* module by asking questions such as: How long should a child stay on 2-hourly feeds of F-75? 3-hourly feeds of F-75? What are the signs that NG tube feeding is needed? When is a child ready for transition? What happens each day during transition?

4. When it is feeding time, assign a participant to each child discussed. You may assign participants to other children as well. Without interfering with usual procedures, give participants an opportunity to measure the correct amount of feed for a particular child and feed the child. Watch and give feedback to participants on how they feed the child (holding the child closely and gently, encouraging the child to eat). *See Note A on page 24.* Be sure that participants correctly measure leftovers and record intake on the 24-Hour Food Intake Chart.

If possible, attach the 24-Hour Food Intake Charts to the beds and have participants from the next group record later feeds on the same charts. If possible, also have staff record other feeds during the day. Thus participants can see how the child is doing throughout the day. The day after, participants can decide what the appropriate feeding plan should be for these same children.

**At the end of the session**

Summarize the session with participants.

Answer any questions.
Day 7: Daily Care

To Prepare

Brief the staff on the objectives for the day. Get their ideas and cooperation for participants to work alongside them to carry out daily care tasks (listed below) for several children.

Select children for whom participants will help carry out daily care tasks during the day. Do not select children who are so critically ill that their care will be compromised by interactions with participants. For continuity, include some of the children fed yesterday if possible. Include at least one child who has been in the hospital for at least 3 days and has complete records of care, daily weights, etc. Preferably, this information has been kept on a CCP. If not, you may transcribe the information onto a CCP.

If you think that participants will have time to complete a monitoring checklist during the session, brief the staff. Explain that participants will be observing the ward and may ask some questions, all for the purpose of completing a monitoring checklist and becoming familiar with the ward procedures. Ask facilitators to be sure that participants bring their Monitoring and Problem Solving modules to the session.

Obtain a supply of CCPs (all pages) and 24-Hour Food Intake Charts (3 sets or more per participant).

Participant Objectives

- Keep CCPs on children observed and cared for. (*The focus in this session will be on the Daily Care page, the Monitoring Record, and the Weight Chart.*)
- Participate in daily care tasks, as feasible:
  - Measure respiratory rate, pulse rate and temperature
  - Administer eye drops, antibiotics, multivitamins; change eye bandages, etc.
  - Weigh child and record weight (on Daily Care page and on Weight Chart of CCP)
  - Observe and assist with bathing children
- Assist with feeding (continued practice)
- Monitor ward using checklist (if time allows)

Instructor Procedures

1. Review the objectives for the clinical session.
2. Go to the bedside of a child for whom you have fairly complete information for at least 3 days. Give each participant a CCP. Present information on the child and demonstrate monitoring the child while participants record on the CCP. (*For details, see Note A that follows.*)
3. Discuss whether participants see any progress or problems with the child’s care. Be sure that they look at the child (his appearance, attitude) as well as information that they have recorded. Discuss the child’s feeding plan and any changes that may be needed in his care.

4. Go together to the beds of children fed by participants yesterday. Describe the feedings that occurred since the participants last saw the child. Discuss what the feeding plan for the child should be today.

5. Assign each participant two children to monitor, care for, and feed when it is time today. Some of the children may be those who were fed by participants yesterday, and others may be new. Give the participant a CCP and 24-Hour Food Intake Chart for each child. Nurses will be caring for these children too. Participants should observe the nurses and assist with care as much as possible. They should complete (or add to) a CCP on each child. Watch to see that each participant is assisting with care and completing CCPs correctly. Step in to give guidance and feedback whenever needed.

6. Each participant should take respiratory and pulse rates and temperatures for his assigned children. Observe carefully. Compare with your own measurements, or have another participant take rates on the same child and compare the results. If the results differ significantly, more practice is needed.

7. If any child is identified with danger signs (increases in pulse and respiratory rate, increase/decrease in temperature), show the entire group. Ensure that the physician responsible for the child is alerted.

8. If children are being bathed, participants should observe and possibly assist. Emphasize that bathing is done gently and the child is quickly dried, re-covered, and warmed.

9. If practical, attach the CCPs completed by the first group to the beds of the children. The later groups can then continue with the same CCP for each child. *(This may not be practical if the forms are illegible. If not practical, later groups may start with new CCPs.)*

10. If time allows, have participants monitor the ward using checklists from the Monitoring and Problem Solving module. Assign portions of the checklists to pairs of participants. The participants may already know how to mark some items, based on their observations during the week, or they may need to observe or ask the staff some questions now. Ask them to be quiet when observing and non-offensive when asking questions of staff. Participants will discuss the results of monitoring when they return to the classroom.

**At end of the session**

Summarize the session with participants. Since this is the last day, review any points that need to be stressed with this group. Answer any questions. Commend participants for their hard work during the course.
Notes:

A. Recording on Daily Care page, Weight Chart, and Monitoring Record

Participants need not complete the entire Initial Management page, but you should tell the child’s length and weight and briefly describe clinical signs and initial management of the child. Also state what antibiotics were prescribed. (If any care given was contrary to course guidelines, discuss this.)

Ask participants to record on the Daily Care page as you describe what has happened each day of the child’s treatment. For example, state the date, the child’s weight, the extent of oedema, whether there was diarrhoea or vomiting, the type of feed given, the number of feeds etc. Participants may record their own initials to show when antibiotics and other treatments were given. (You do not have to start with Day 1; if you have information for Days 11 through 13, for example, participants may record in those columns.)

Complete recording for one day before going to the next. When you have completed the columns for 3 days, ask participants to graph the weights on the weight chart. Include the admission weight as well as the weights for the days just recorded. (If you know weights from any intervening days, you may ask participants to record those as well.)

Staying by this same child, have participants turn to the Monitoring Record. Note: If there is previous monitoring data on the child, dictate several recent pulse rates, respiratory rates, and temperatures to participants so that they will be able to record and observe any trend.

Demonstrate how to monitor the child’s pulse and respirations. If the child remains calm, have a participant try and see if he obtains the same rates. Ask another participant to take the child’s rectal temperature. Have all participants record these on the Monitoring Record of the CCP. Ask participants what danger signs they should look for related to pulse, respirations, and temperature. Refer to the back of the F-100 Reference Card for a list of danger signs.
Additional Objectives – Observation of a teaching session and a play session

To Prepare
Check the schedule to determine when each group will observe the teaching and play sessions. You will bring the group to the site of the teaching session or play session and introduce it to them. You or the small group’s facilitator could lead discussions of the sessions afterward.

If the small group facilitators will lead the discussions afterwards, give them copies of the discussion questions in the notes below.

Brief the staff that participants will observe some teaching sessions and play sessions and provide the schedule for this.

Participant Objectives
• Observe a teaching session with mothers
• Observe a play session

Instructor Procedures
1. Review with the participants the objectives for the teaching or play session. Ask them to observe closely and make notes on what is done well and any ideas for improvement.
2. Watch the teaching session or play session with participants, if possible.
3. After the session, lead a discussion of what was accomplished in the session and how. (See Notes “A” and “B” below.)

At end of the session
Summarize the session with participants.
Answer any questions.

Notes:
A. Discussion of teaching session for mothers

Below are questions to discuss with participants:

1. What were the main points that were being taught?
2. What teaching methods were used?
3. How did they give demonstrations/examples?
4. What materials were used?
5. Did the session hold the mothers’ attention?
6. Were mothers asked to contribute ideas?
7. Were they encouraged to ask questions?
8. Were there opportunities for mothers to practise?
9. Do you think they learned and will remember what was taught?
10. Describe the manner/attitude of the staff toward the mothers.
11. What was done well in this teaching session?
12. What could be improved?

B. Discussion of play session

Discuss the following questions:

1. What were the main purposes of the session?
2. What activities were carried out?
3. What materials/toys were used?
4. Were they appropriate for age/development of children?
5. Could they be made in homes?
6. Describe the manner of the staff toward the children.
7. Describe the manner of the staff toward the mothers.
8. Did the mothers learn and practise how to play with their children?
9. Do you think the mothers will play with their children in this way at home? Why or why not?
10. What was done well during the session?
11. What could be improved in the play session?
12. What could be improved in the ward related to stimulation and play?
# Chart for Scheduling Clinical Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Day 2</strong> Clinical Signs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Day 3</strong> Initial Mgm’t</td>
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<td><strong>Day 4</strong> Flexible half day, optional clinical practice</td>
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<td><strong>Day 5</strong> Initial Mgm’t and Feeding</td>
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<td>1.5 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Day 7</strong> Daily Care</td>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Observe teaching session for mothers</td>
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<tr>
<td>(occurs at _____ daily)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Observe play session</td>
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<tr>
<td>(occurs at _____ daily)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Equipment and Supplies for a Severe Malnutrition Ward

Ward Equipment/Supplies
Dextrostix
Running water
Thermometers (preferably rectal and low-reading)
Child weighing scales (must be functioning correctly)
   Items of known weight for checking scales
Board for measuring length
   Pole of known length for checking accuracy
Stadiometer (to measure standing height)
Haemoglobinometer
Supplies for IV:
   Scalp vein (butterfly) needles, gauge 21 or 23
   Heparin solution, 10-100 units/ml
   Poles or means of hanging bottles of IV fluid
   Tubing
   Bottles or bags
Paediatric nasogastric tubes
Sticky tape
Syringes (50 ml for feeds)
Syringes (2 ml for drugs, 5 ml for drawing blood, 10 ml)
Sterile needles
Eye pads
Bandages
Gauze
Supplies for blood transfusion:
   Blood packs
   Bottles
   Syringes and needles
   Other blood collecting materials
Blankets or wraps for warming children
Incandescent lamp or heater
Wash basin for bathing children
Safe, homemade toys
Clock
Calculator

For hygiene of mothers and staff:
Toilet and hand washing facilities
Soap for hand washing
Place for washing bedding and clothes
Method for trash disposal

For reference and record keeping:
Copy of Management of Severe Malnutrition: a manual for physicians and other senior health workers and relevant tables such as:
   Weight-for-height Reference Card
Suitable forms for record keeping, such as the CCP (Critical Care Pathway) or other forms requesting similar information (weight charts, monitoring records, etc.)

24-Hour Food Intake charts

**Kitchen Equipment/Supplies**
- Dietary scales able to weigh to 5 g
- Electric blender or manual whisks
- Large containers and spoons for mixing/cooking feed for the ward
- Method of cooking
- Feeding cups, saucers, spoons
- Measuring cylinders (or suitable utensils for measuring ingredients and leftovers)
- Jugs (1-litre and 2-litre)
- Refrigeration
  - For making F-75 and F-100:
    - Dried skimmed milk, whole dried milk, fresh whole milk, or long-life milk
    - Sugar
    - Cereal flour
    - Vegetable oil
    - Clean water supply
  - Foods similar to those used in homes (for teaching/use in transition to home foods)

**Pharmacy Equipment/Supplies**
- Pharmaceutical scales
- WHO ORS for use in making ReSoMal (or commercial ReSoMal)
- Mineral mix (prepared as in Appendix 4, page 53 of manual) or Combined Mineral Vitamin Mix (CMV)
- Electrolytes and minerals:
  - Potassium chloride
  - Tripotassium citrate
  - Magnesium chloride
  - Zinc acetate
  - Copper sulphate
- Iron syrup (e.g., ferrous fumarate)
- Multivitamin without iron
- Folic acid
- Vitamin A (high potency syrup or 100,000 / 200,000 IU capsules)
- Glucose (or sucrose)
- IV fluids – one of the following, listed in order of preference:
  - Half-strength Darrow’s solution with 5% glucose (dextrose)
  - Ringer’s lactate solution with 5% glucose*
  - 0.45% (half-normal) saline with 5% glucose*
  - 0.9% saline (for soaking eye pads)
  - Sterile water for diluting
- Vaccines (BCG, OPV, DPT, and Measles)
Drugs (See formulations listed on Antibiotics Reference Card)
Amoxicillin
Ampicillin
Benzylpenicillin
Chloramphenicol
Cotrimoxazole
Gentamicin
Metronidazole
Nalidixic acid

Mebendazole, albendazole and/or other drugs for treatment of worms
(as on page 32 – 33 of manual)

Tetracycline or chloramphenicol eye drops
Atropine eye drops

For skin
Gentian violet
Potassium permanganate
Zinc-boric ointment
Petroleum jelly ointment
Nystatin ointment or cream (for Candidiasis)
Paraffin gauze (tulle gras)

Laboratory resources accessible if needed
TB tests (x-ray, culture of sputum, Mantoux)
Urinalysis
Stool culture
Blood culture
Cerebrospinal fluid culture
**Tally Sheets for Clinical Sessions**

The tally sheet for each clinical session can help you to keep track of the objectives accomplished with each group. It will also help you to report to the Course Director and facilitators at the end of each day about what was accomplished in the clinical sessions.

Complete the tally during or immediately after your work with each group in the ward. To use the tally:

1. Record any identifying information about the group at the top of the column. You may want to record the time of the session, the number of participants in the group, or other identifying information.

2. Mark on the tally sheet for each objective accomplished by the group. Make notes to indicate how many participants practised the task (perhaps by putting a tally mark or initial for each). Also note if the participants had problems accomplishing the task.

   You can use letters or numbers to annotate the problems and write notes on the bottom or back of the sheet. The problems noted will help you when you discuss participants' performance at the facilitator meeting. (Problems in understanding could be addressed by the facilitator the next day in the classroom.) These notes will also help you keep track of the skills that need further practice.

3. Some objectives may not be feasible because of lack of patients, or time, or for whatever reason. Discuss these with the Course Director. Perhaps they can be accomplished on another day, or if you have assistance. Some may just not be practical to achieve.
## Tally Sheets for Clinical Sessions

### Day 1: Tour of Ward

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observe the admissions area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Observe emergency treatment area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Observe how severe malnutrition ward or area is organized</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Observe kitchen area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Observe any special areas for play, health education, etc.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Day 2: Clinical Signs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observe children with clinical signs of severe malnutrition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Look for signs of severe malnutrition</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Weigh and measure children</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Look up weight-for-height SD scores</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify children who are severely malnourished</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Day 3: Initial Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observe initial management of severely malnourished children</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify clinical signs of:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ severe malnutrition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ hypoglycaemia</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ hypothermia</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‣ shock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ dehydration</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Practise using dextrostix</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practise filling a CCP during initial management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist in initial management, such as:</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Taking rectal temperature</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Giving bolus of glucose for hypoglycaemia</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Warming child</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Giving first feed</td>
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</table>

### Day 4: Flexible half day, optional clinical practice

This time could be used to provide extra practice or to observe a teaching or play session. (See additional objectives listed at end.)
### Day 5: Initial Management and Feeding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observe and assist in doing initial management, including:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Identify signs of possible dehydration</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Measure and give ReSoMal</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Monitor a child on ReSoMal</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Determine antibiotics and dosages</td>
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<tr>
<td>Observe nurses measuring and giving feeds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practise measuring, giving, and recording feeds</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Day 6: Feeding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review 24-Hour Food Intake Charts and plan feeds for next day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Determine if child is ready for F-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continue to practise measuring, giving, and recording feeds</td>
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</table>
Day 7: Daily Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Keep CCPs on children observed and cared for</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participate in daily care tasks, as feasible:</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Measure respiratory rate, pulse rate and temperature</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Administer eye drops, antibiotics, multivitamins; change eye bandages, etc</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Weigh child and record weight</td>
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<tr>
<td>‣ Observe/assist with bathing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist with feeding (continued practice)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitor ward using checklist (if time allows)</td>
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</table>

Additional objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Group C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observe teaching session with mothers</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Observe play session</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
For further information, please contact:

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World Health Organization
20, Avenue Appia
CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
Fax: +41 22 791 4156
Website: http://www.who.int/nut/publications