



July 31, 2019

### **Canadian IDDSI Expert Reference Group Update**

The International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative (IDDSI) was launched in Canada in January 2019. IDDSI is a system of global standardized terminology that was developed to improve client safety, with definitions to describe texture modified foods and thickened liquids used for individuals with dysphagia of all ages and in all care settings. Subsequent to our nationwide launch, the Canadian IDDSI Expert Reference Group (CIERG) has developed four working subgroups to support Canada-wide implementation. Each subgroup contains volunteers from across Canada from a variety of professional backgrounds and settings.

**Communications/Resources** is responsible for reviewing and adapting current IDDSI resources, as well as creating new tools and resources to meet needs and gaps identified by Canadian stakeholders. This group will also develop quarterly Canadian IDDSI newsletters to promote, support, advocate for and communicate recommendations for implementation of the IDDSI framework within Canadian organizations and industry. We are interested in receiving any resources that you are willing to share.

**Dissemination** is responsible to receive incoming communication and ensure that all stakeholders receive current information on IDDSI implementation in Canada, and are aware of resources and contacts available to assist them. Email us at: [canada@iddsi.org](mailto:canada@iddsi.org).

**CIERG/GRCEI Francophone** will translate selected IDDSI resources into Canadian French, assist with dissemination of IDDSI resources and promote collaboration for sharing new evidence and knowledge related to standardized terminologies in Francophone Canada.

**Registry/Survey** is responsible for creating and disseminating surveys as well as developing a registry of IDDSI stakeholders who are interested in receiving updates and publications from our CIERG/GRCEI group. This group has developed a survey to learn where Canadian stakeholders are in their IDDSI implementation journey, and to identify support and resource needs. We would ask that you please respond to this survey by September 30, 2019 and join our registry if you are interested in learning more about IDDSI implementation. Click here to complete the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5KDWMF8>.

We encourage you to visit the IDDSI website at [www.IDDSI.org](http://www.IDDSI.org) regularly as it is updated frequently with new information and resources. Download the IDDSI app for instant access to resources and tools. We are excited about this next phase of adopting IDDSI in Canada and look forward to collaborating with you.

*- The CIERG/GRCEI Team*

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