Digital technology to promote inclusion and quality nutrition care for children with disabilities

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Zeina Makhoul, PhD, RDN
There are 291 million children and adolescents with developmental disabilities worldwide.
Children living with disabilities face many barriers.

- Stigma
- Restricted access to mainstream nutrition services
- Low availability of disability-specific services
- Lack of data and accountability
- A policy environment that does not ensure their right to thrive
Children with disabilities are highly vulnerable to malnutrition.

- Children with disabilities are three times more likely to be malnourished and twice as likely to die from malnutrition.
- Up to 85% of children with developmental disabilities experience feeding difficulties.

Adapted from Groce et al, 2014
Intersection of nutrition, disability, and technology

Two important trends in the SDG era:
• increased focus on ‘leave no one behind’
• increased use of digital technology to achieve SDG targets

How much have these come together for children with disabilities?
mHealth strengthens healthcare delivery for children with disabilities

**Count Me In** facilitates:

- Simple clinical tasks
- Individualized care plans
- Data-based clinical decision making
- Training support
- Real-time data and reporting

www.spoonfoundation.org/count-me-in
eLearning fills the knowledge and skill gaps of the existing workforce

We strive for:

- Foundational knowledge for a wide audience
- Hands-on practice
- Flexible delivery model
- Multi-sector collaboration
- Do-no-harm approach
mHealth and eLearning fill data and evidence gaps

Data can be used for:

- Understanding equity gaps
- Program planning
- Resource allocation
- Setting realistic targets
- Measuring progress
- Advocacy
Technology success depends on

- Policy
- Investment
- Workforce & services
- Data & accountability

... and equity in all areas
Thank you.

www.spoonfoundation.org
zeina@spoonfoundation.org