

# WHO call to action: what policymakers must do

In its 2023 call to action on DRM, the WHO outlined three clear expectations for national policymakers<sup>1</sup>

WHO/EURO:2023-8931-48703-72392

1

## Policy recognition

Recognise DRM as a strategic national health priority. In South Africa, this means formal acknowledgement within the Department of Health, NHI planning, and medical scheme benefit structures – including Prescribed Minimum Benefits.

2

## Comprehensive implementation

Implement optimal clinical nutrition care screening, intervention, and monitoring at every level of healthcare and through the entire patient care journey – from admission to discharge and into community care.

3

## Knowledge strengthening

Strengthen the insight and knowledge of DRM among healthcare professionals at all levels – from frontline nurses conducting screening to specialists initiating medical nutrition therapy.