

The road to Plant-Based Medical Nutrition



Green Deal Sustainable Care 3.0

*“For the ratio animal/plant-based proteins of the food offering for clients/patients, care providers make an effort to do that what is medically responsible.”**



Plant-based medical nutrition is still an underdeveloped area of research, especially for children. However, this could potentially significantly reduce hospitals’ emissions, especially on the PICU



Scientific proof → Regulative developments



The law currently only approves cow’s milk protein and soy protein in medical nutrition for children.** Scientific research could proof that other sources of plant-based protein are also adequate and influence legislation.

Managing the protein transition in healthcare

- Strong focus on interdisciplinary collaboration
- Trade off between costs & sustainability
- Knowledge sharing



Conclusion

- The protein transition in healthcare still has a long way to go
- Plant-based tube feeding for usage on the pediatric ICU still needs a lot of research
- The target group is relatively small, therefore relative carbon emissions mitigated would be quite low
- However, to achieve carbon neutral healthcare in 2050, this is essential



*<https://www.greendeals.nl/sites/default/files/2023-01/C-238%20Green%20Deal%20Samen%20werken%20aan%20duurzame%20zorg.pdf>

** <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R0609>