



Ice Cream for People Living with Dysphagia

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Frozen Dessert Center Conference 2025

Disclosures

- None

Swallow – to move material from the mouth through the esophagus into the stomach by a series of muscular actions

Dysphagia – a swallowing disorder characterized by difficulty moving...

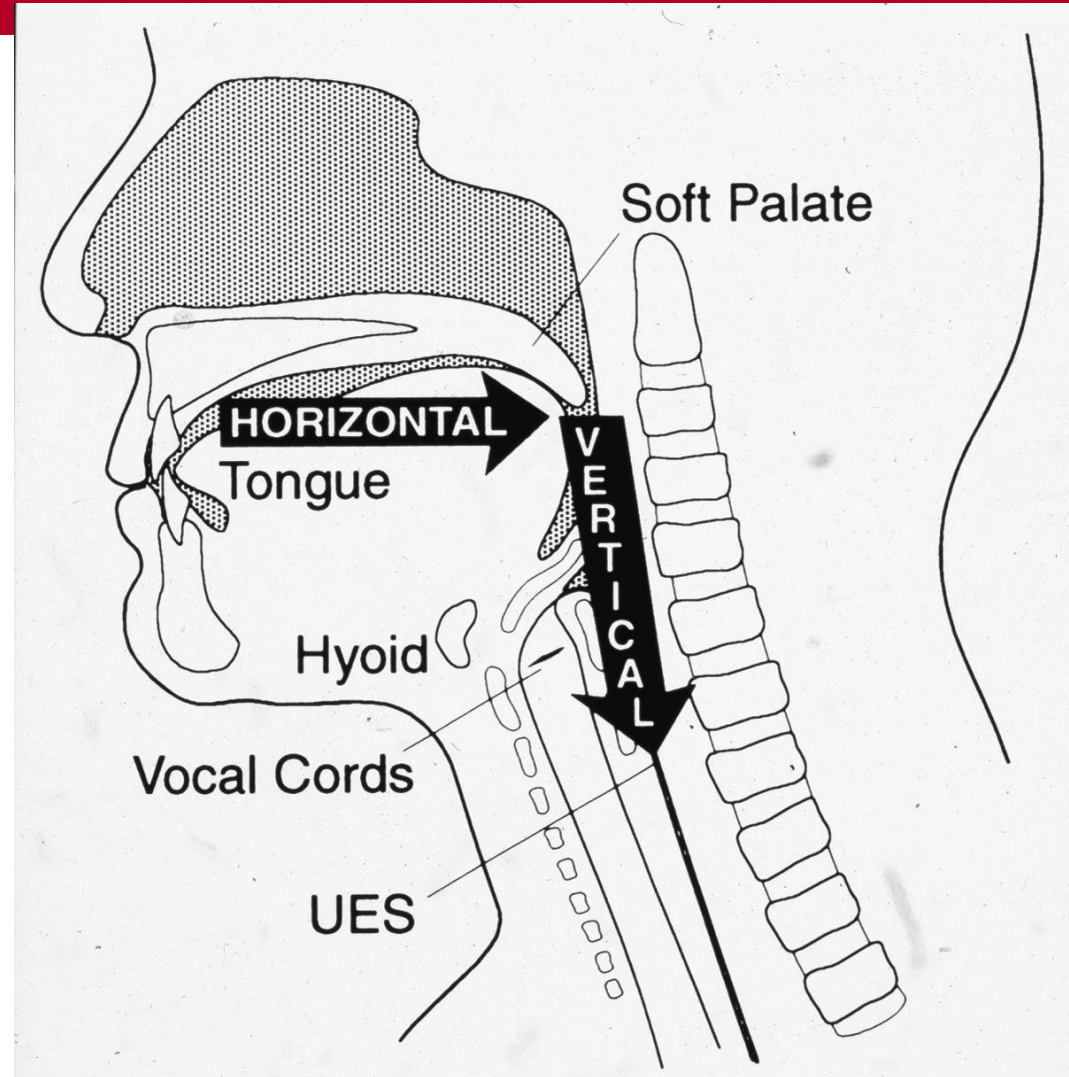
- food
- liquid
- secretions
- medications



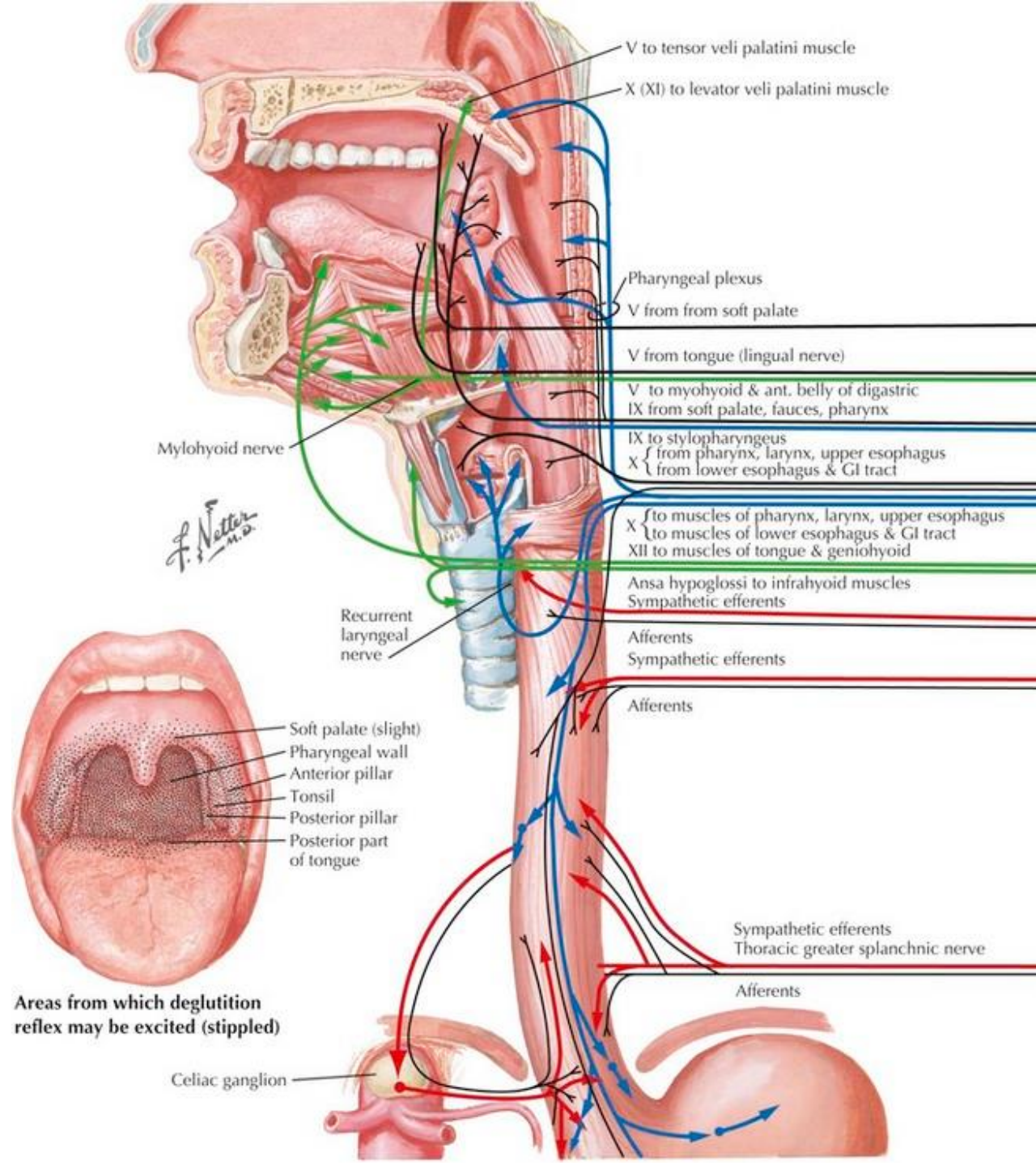
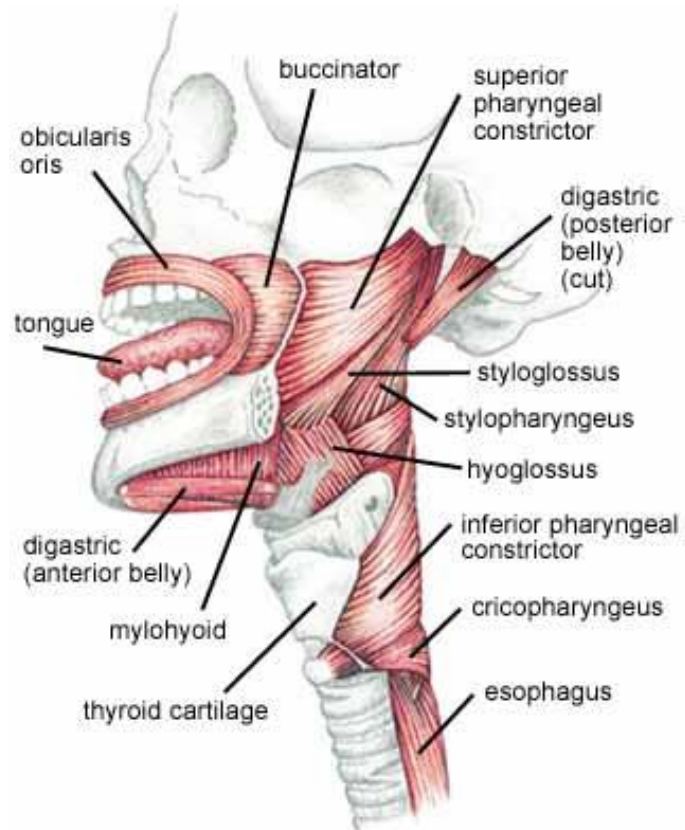
Normal Swallow- Young Adult



Physiology/Biomechanics - Stages



Complex swallowing process involves precise coordination of 50 muscle pairs and 6 cranial nerves



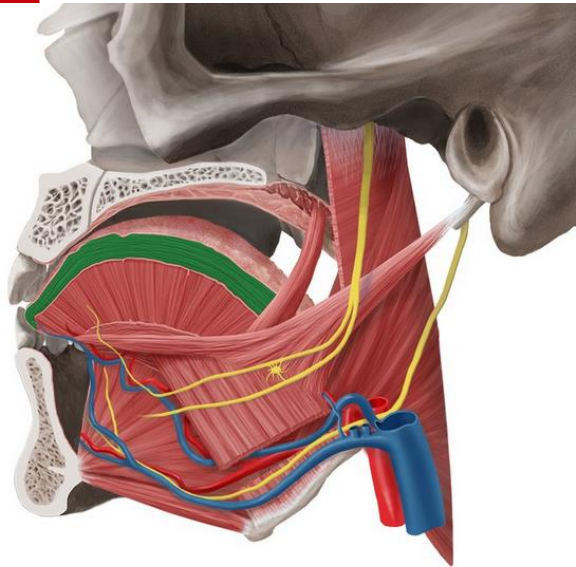
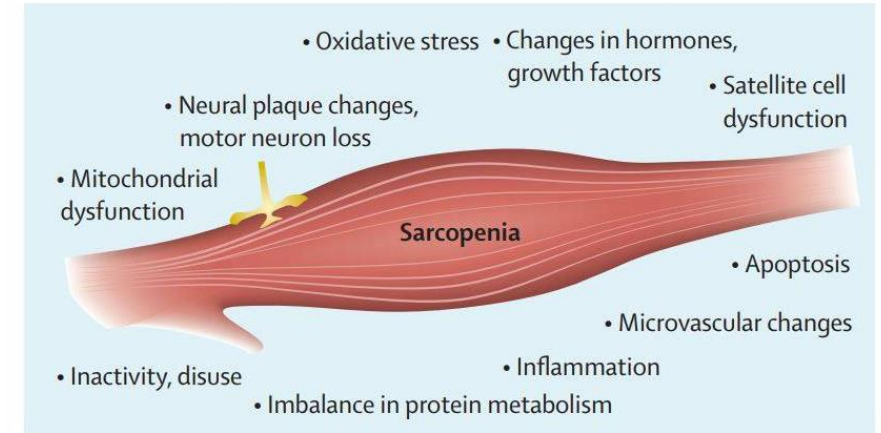
Diffuse swallowing neural network



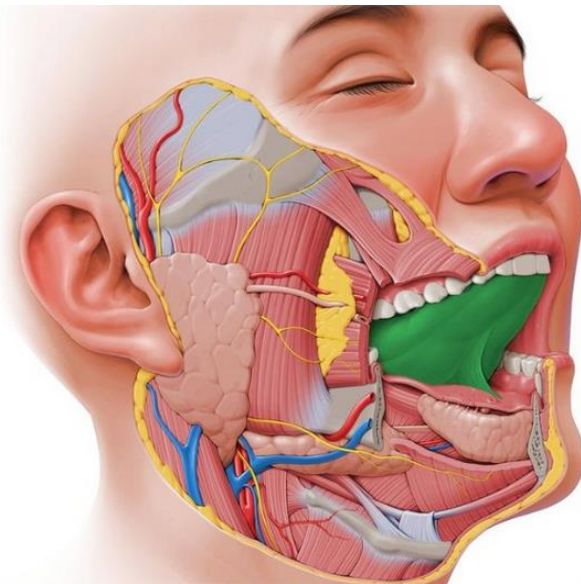
Patterned response- not traditional reflex

Sarcopenia- Head and Neck Muscles

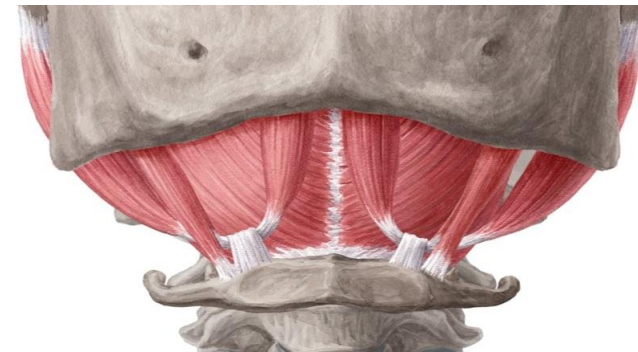
- Skeletal muscles of head and neck affected by systemic factors leading to sarcopenia
- Swallowing-related skeletal muscles



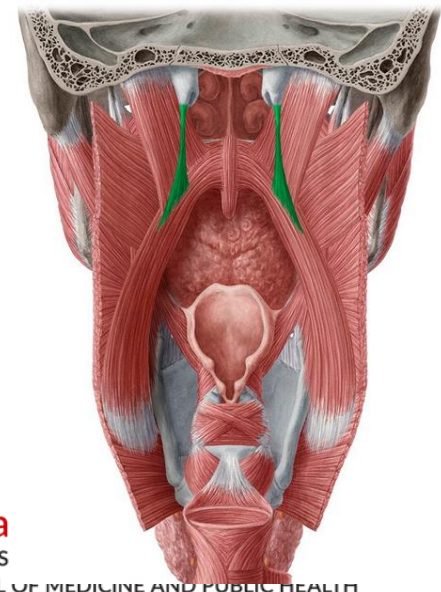
Intrinsic and Extrinsic Tongue Muscle



Muscles of Mastication



Suprahyoid Muscles



Pharyngeal and Laryngeal Muscles



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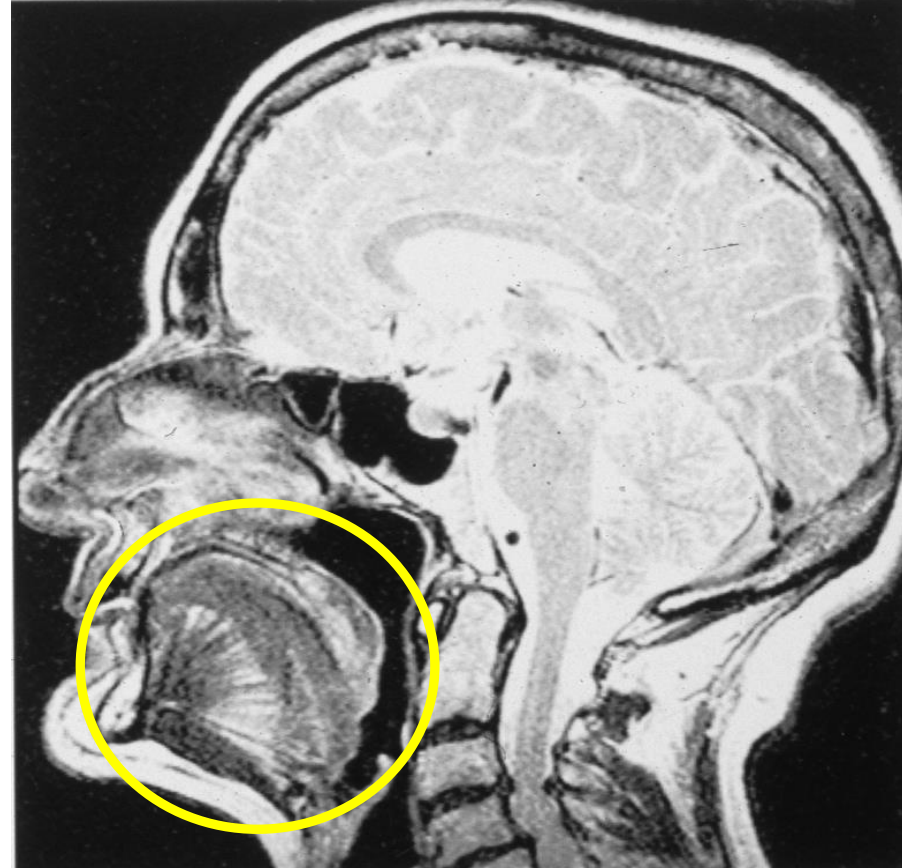
Sarcopenia- Head and Neck Muscles

- Reduction in tongue muscle fiber diameter

Nakayama et al., 1991

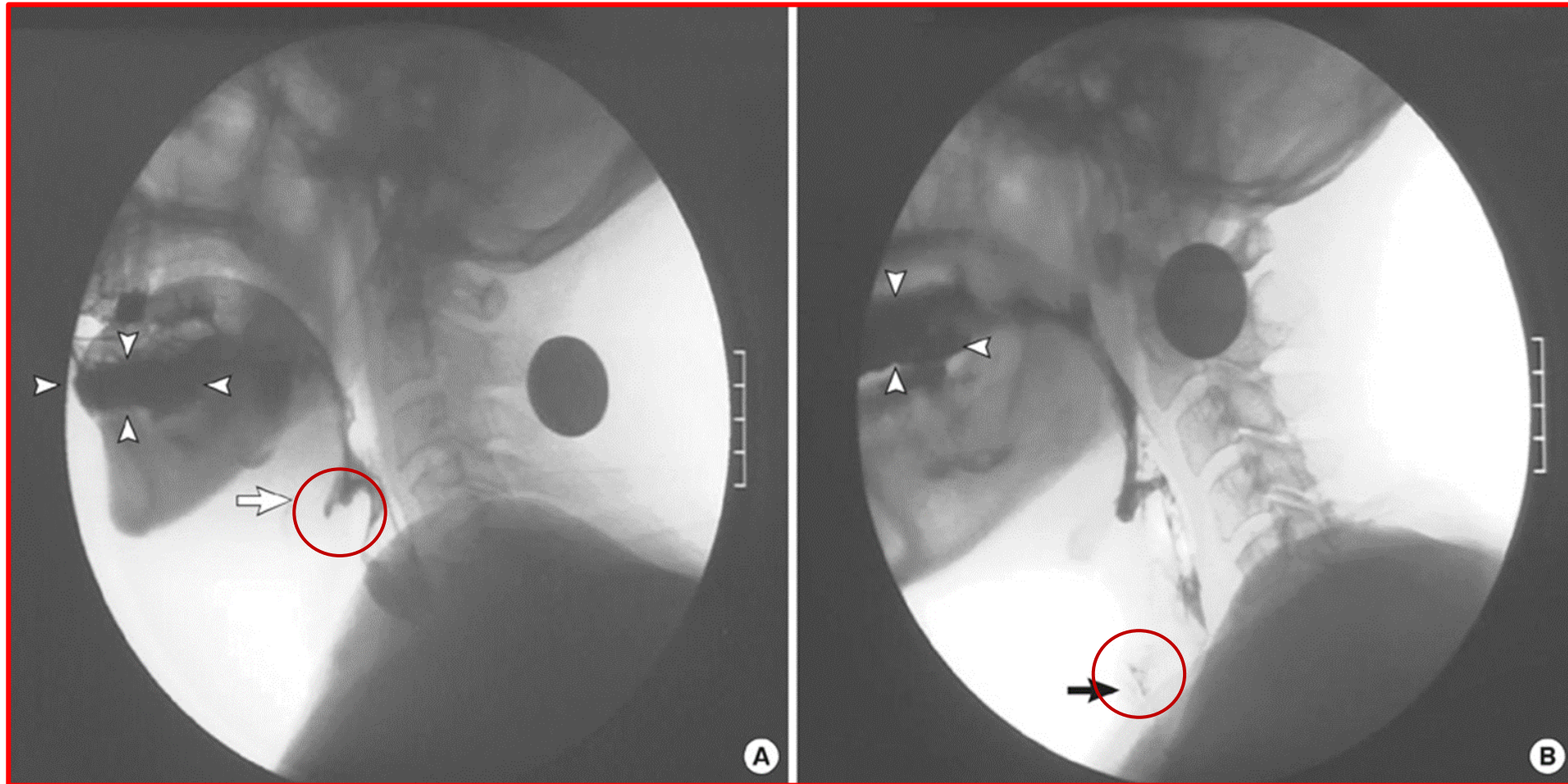


38 Yr Old Female



81 Yr Old Female

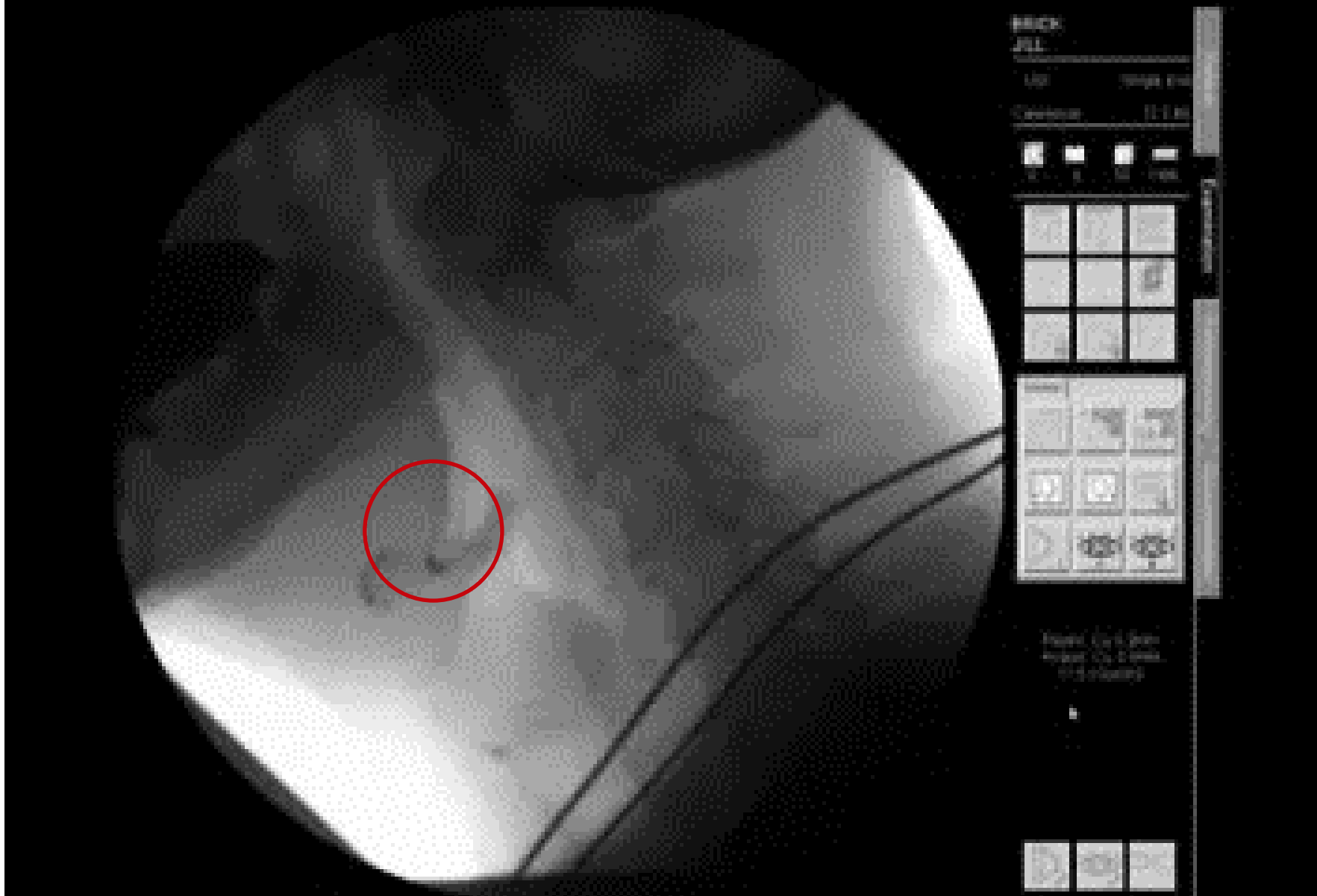
Safety- Airway Invasion



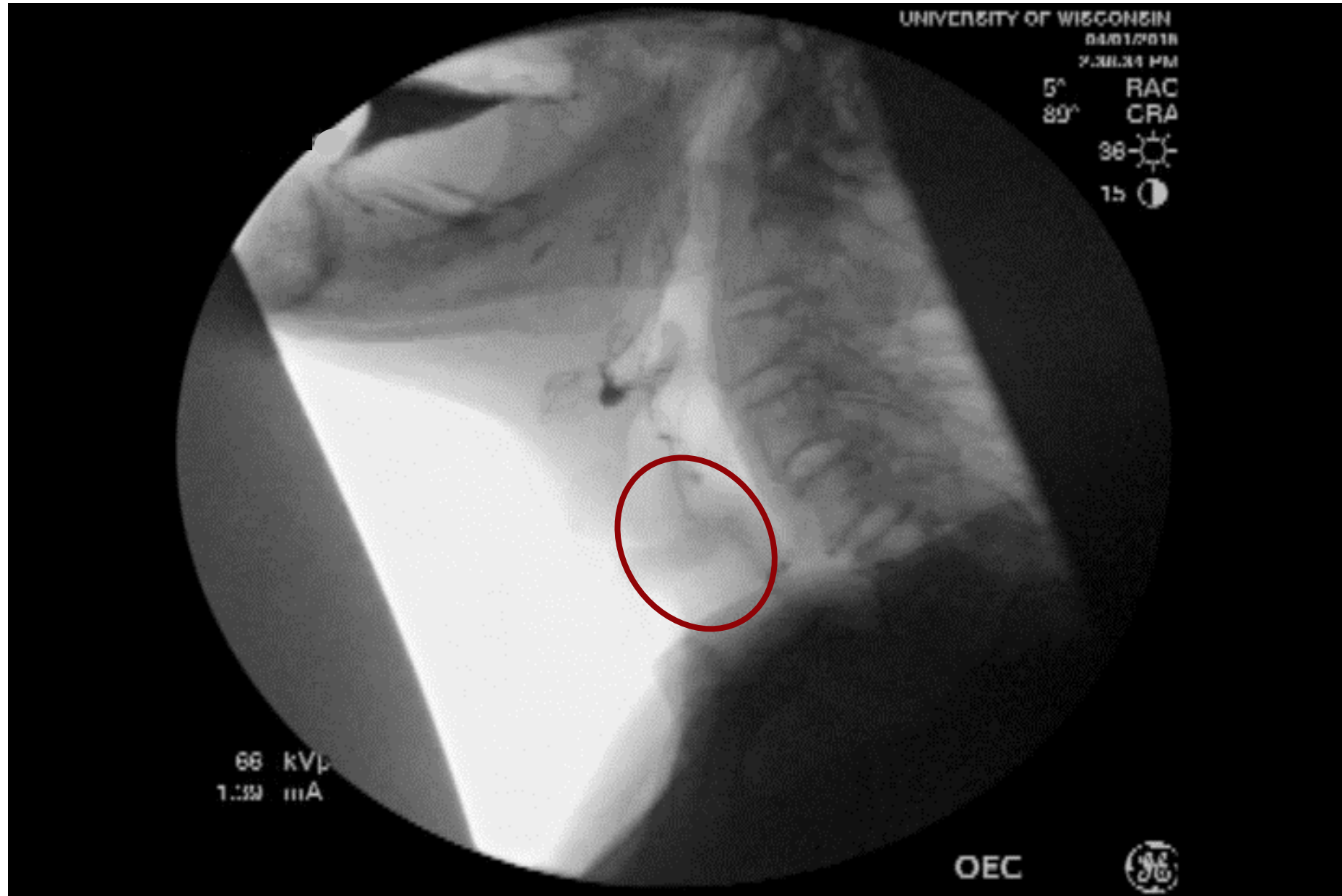
Efficiency- Oropharyngeal Residue



Normal Swallow- Older Adult



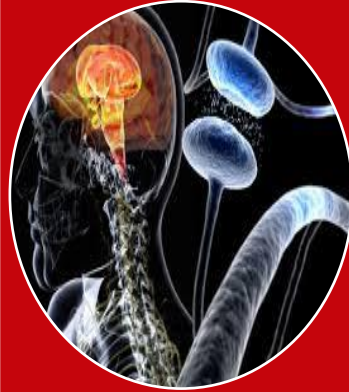
Abnormal Swallow



Medical Etiologies Associated with Dysphagia



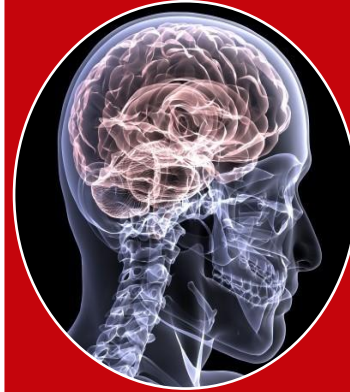
Stroke



Progressive
Neurologic
Disease



Dementia



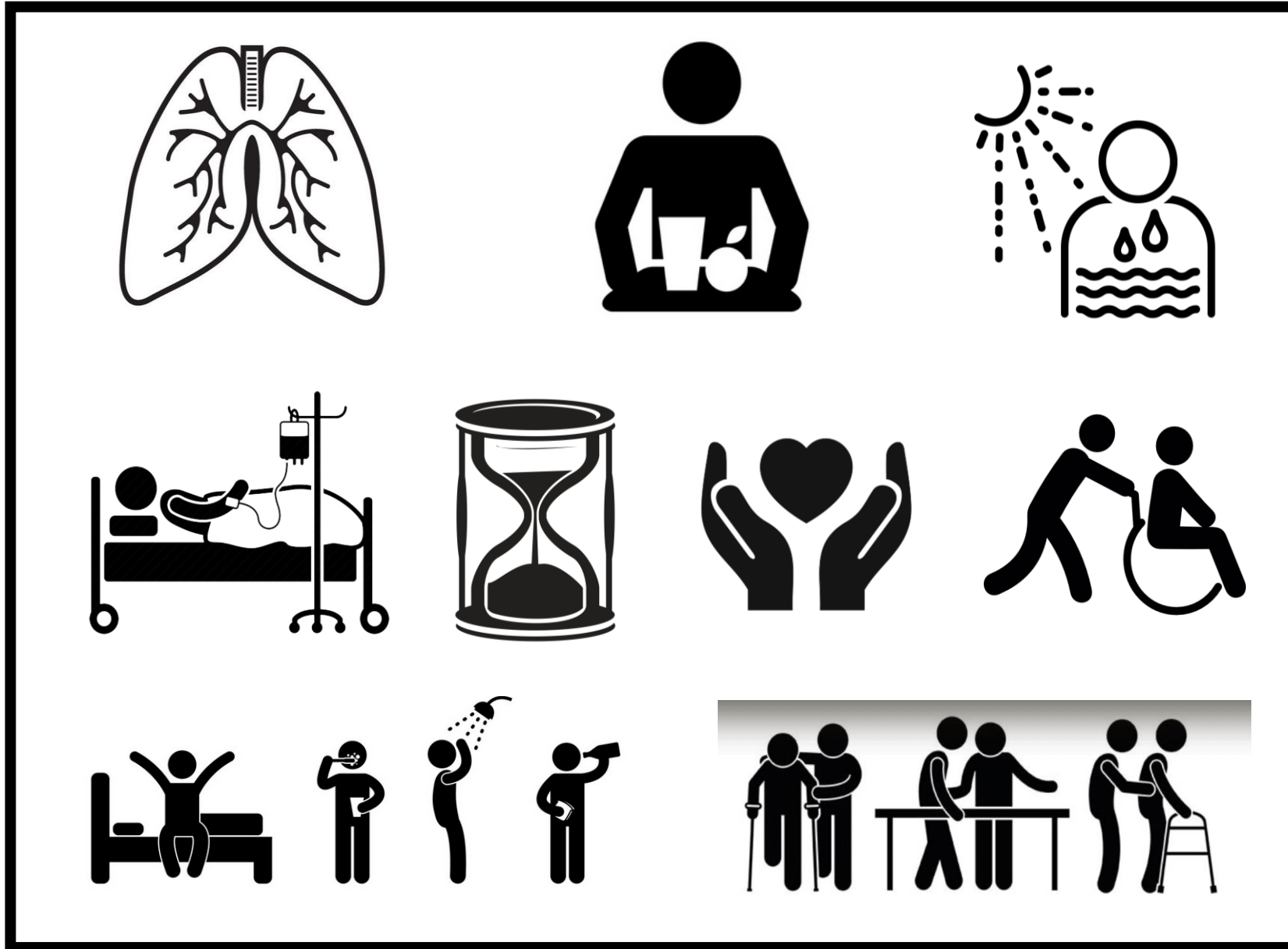
Traumatic
Brain Injury



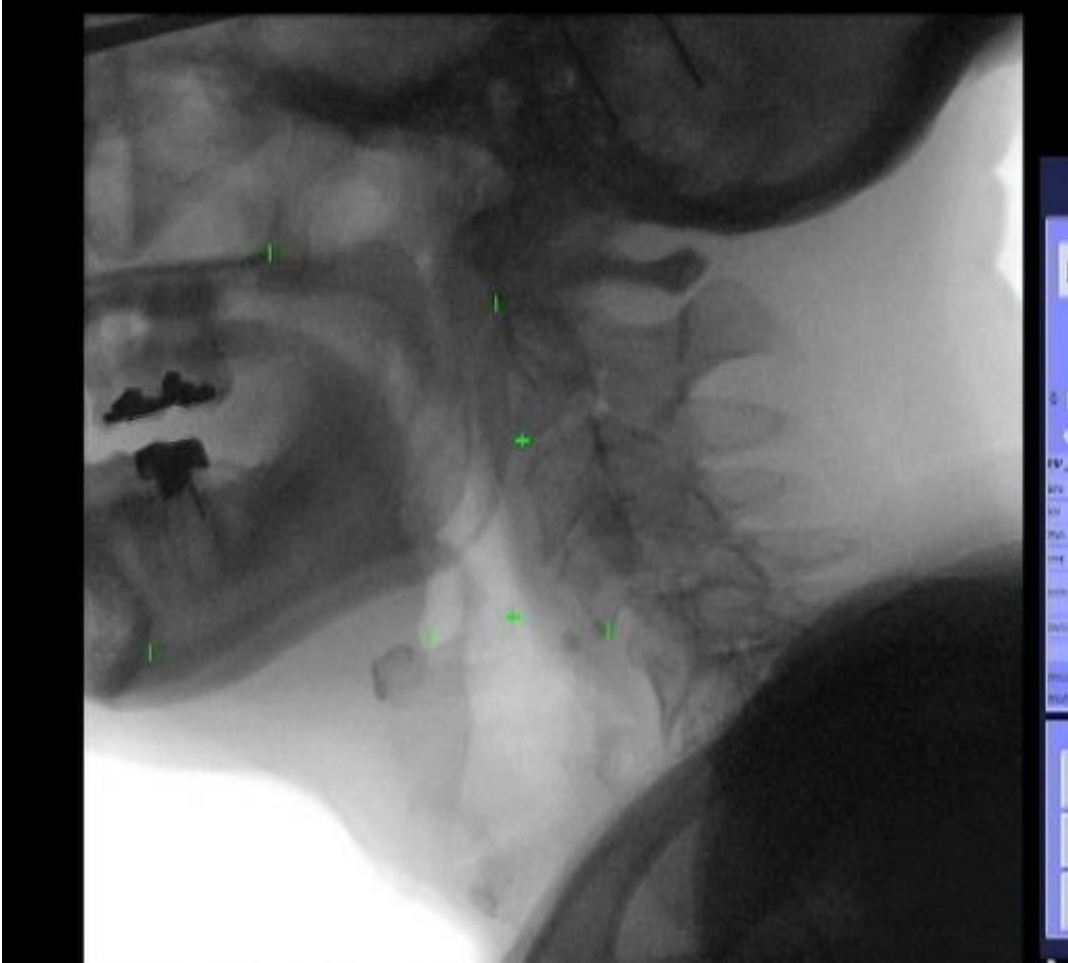
Head and
Neck
Cancer

Dysphagia

Dysphagia-Related Consequences



Imaging for Swallowing



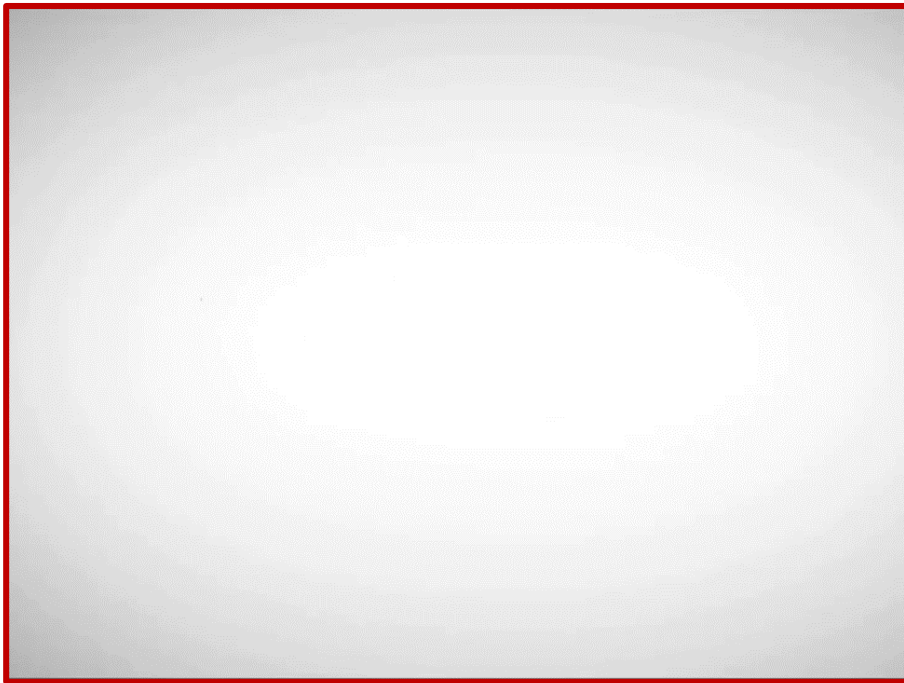
Videofluoroscopy



**Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation
of Swallowing (FEES)**

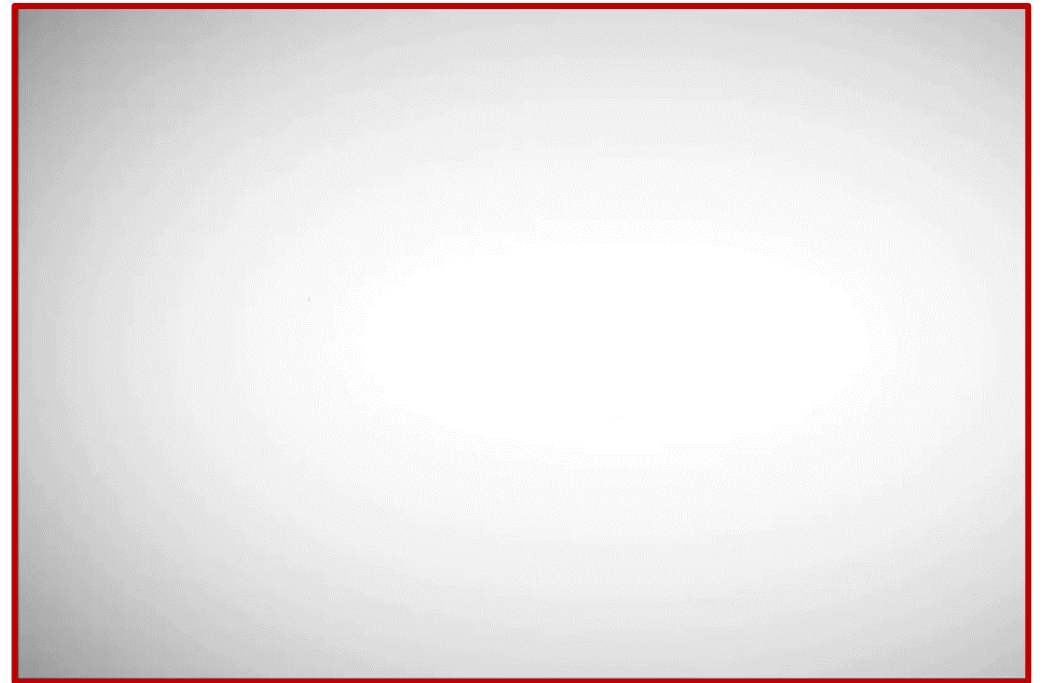
Intervention: Rehabilitative Approaches

- Strength and Skill Based Exercise Approaches
 - Target function of the muscles active during swallowing
 - Swallowing maneuvers used as exercise



Effortful swallow

Therapedia YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wKmJdCe7aKs>

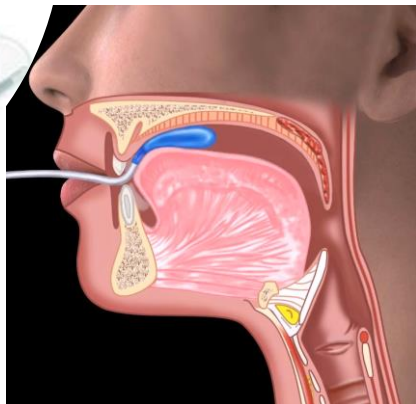


Super supraglottic swallow

Therapedia YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ga5ijAKn9SI>

Intervention: Rehabilitative Approaches

- Device-facilitated interventions



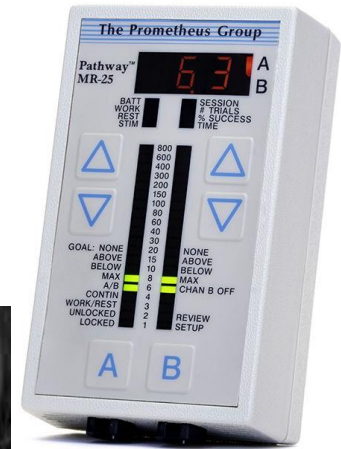
Lingual Strengthening



Expiratory Muscle Strength Training



Surface Electromyography as Biofeedback

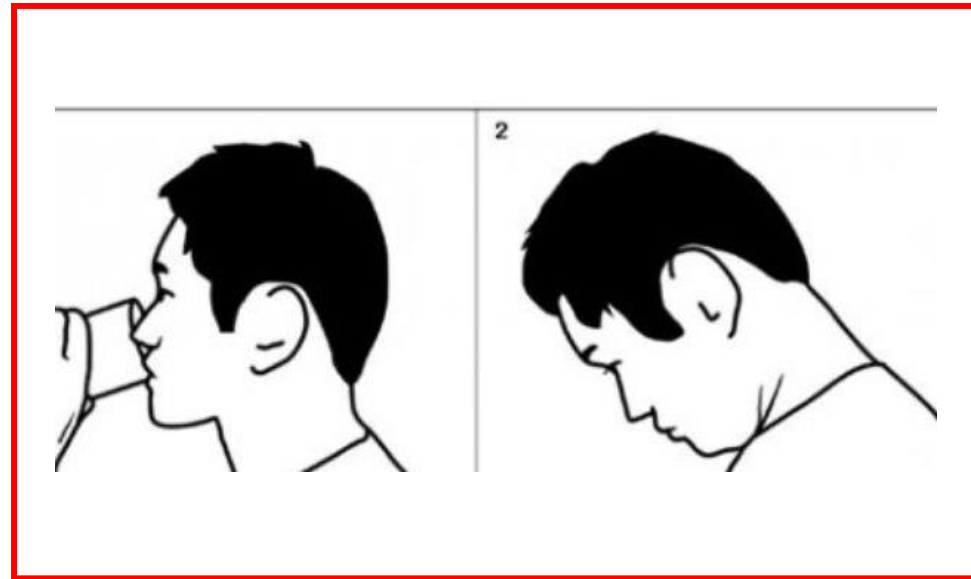


Intervention: Compensatory Approaches

- Compensate for abnormalities in swallowing biomechanics
 - Improve safety and efficiency but no lasting change in physiology



Dietary Modifications



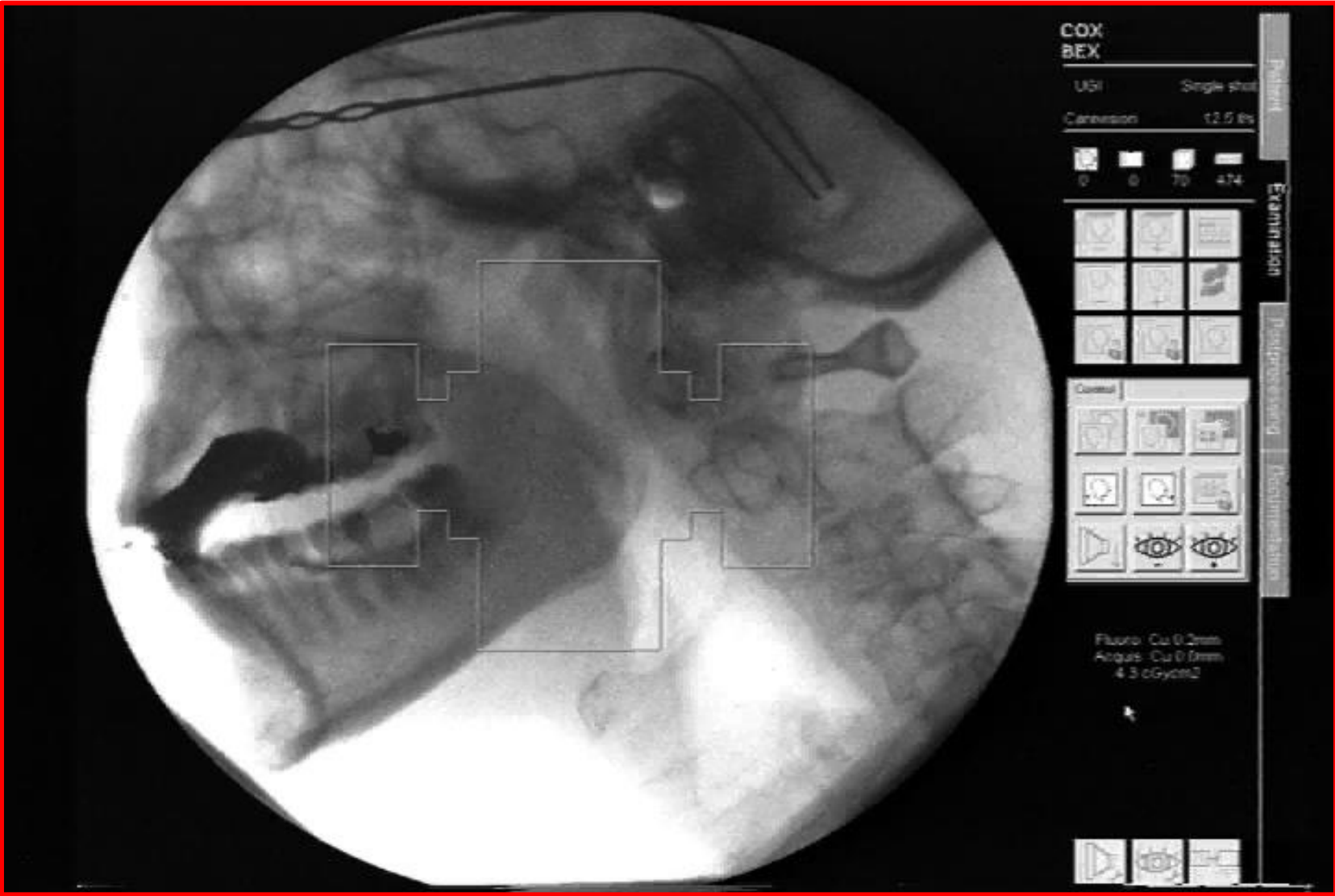
Postural Adjustments



Eating Strategies



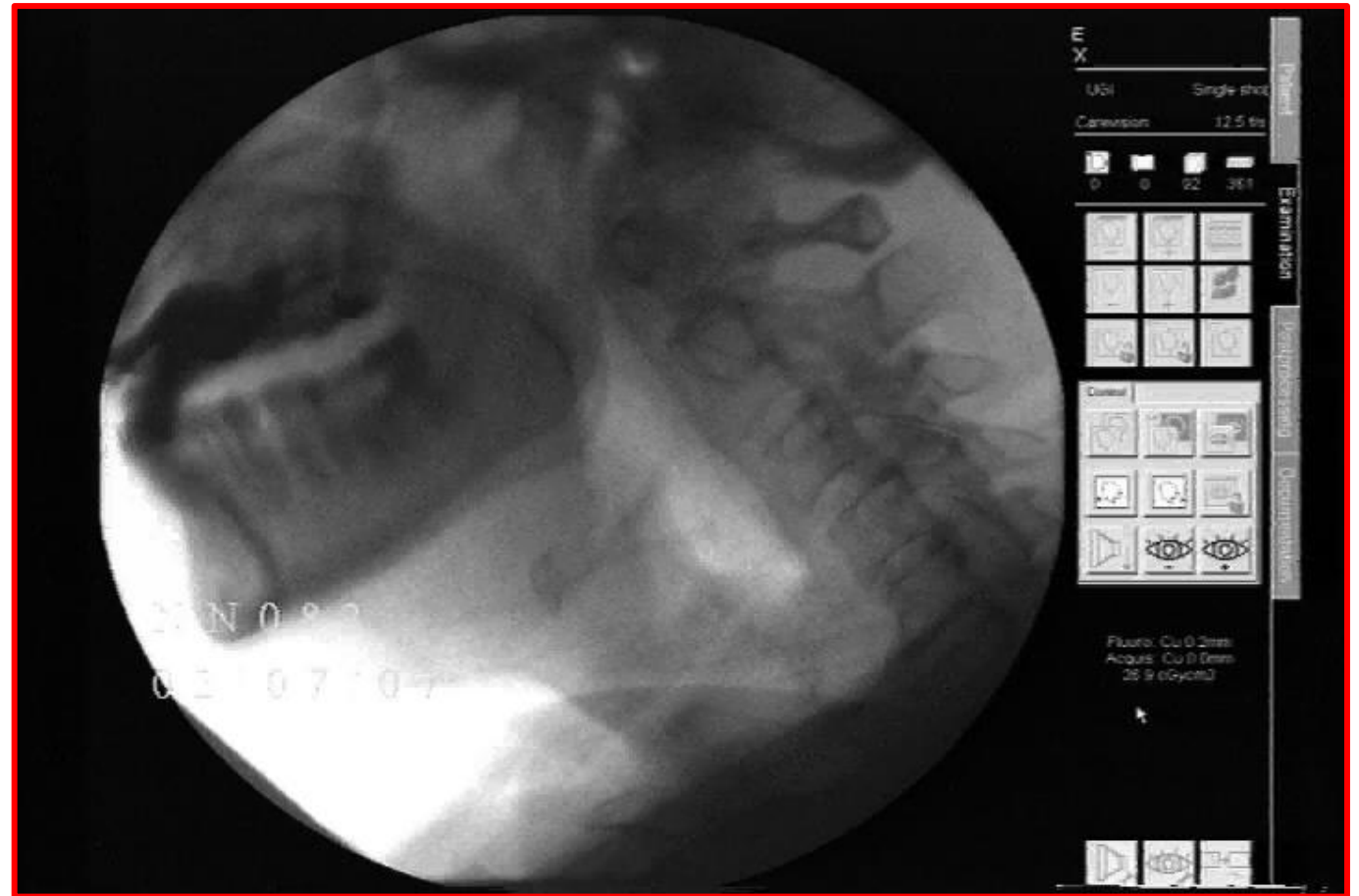
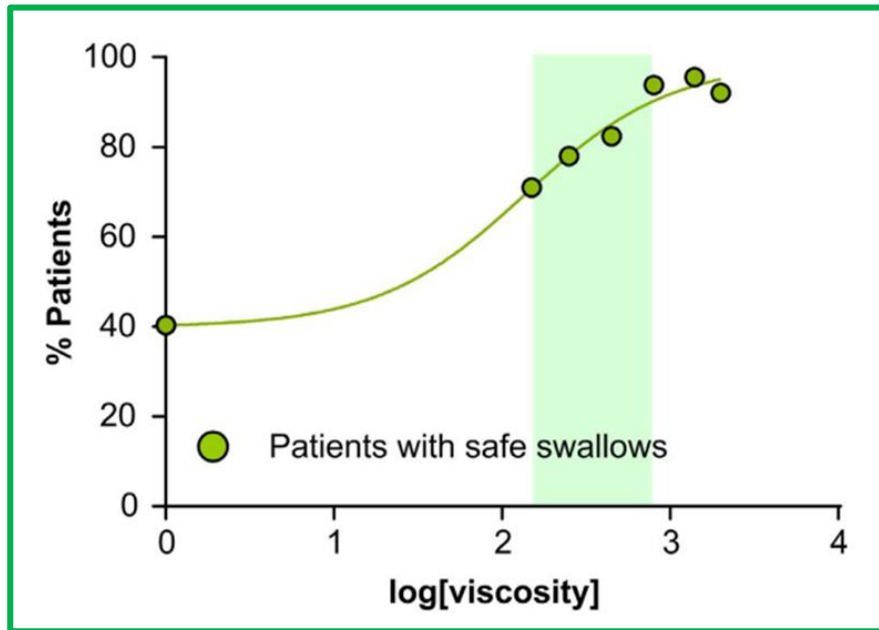
Thin Liquid



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Thickened Liquids

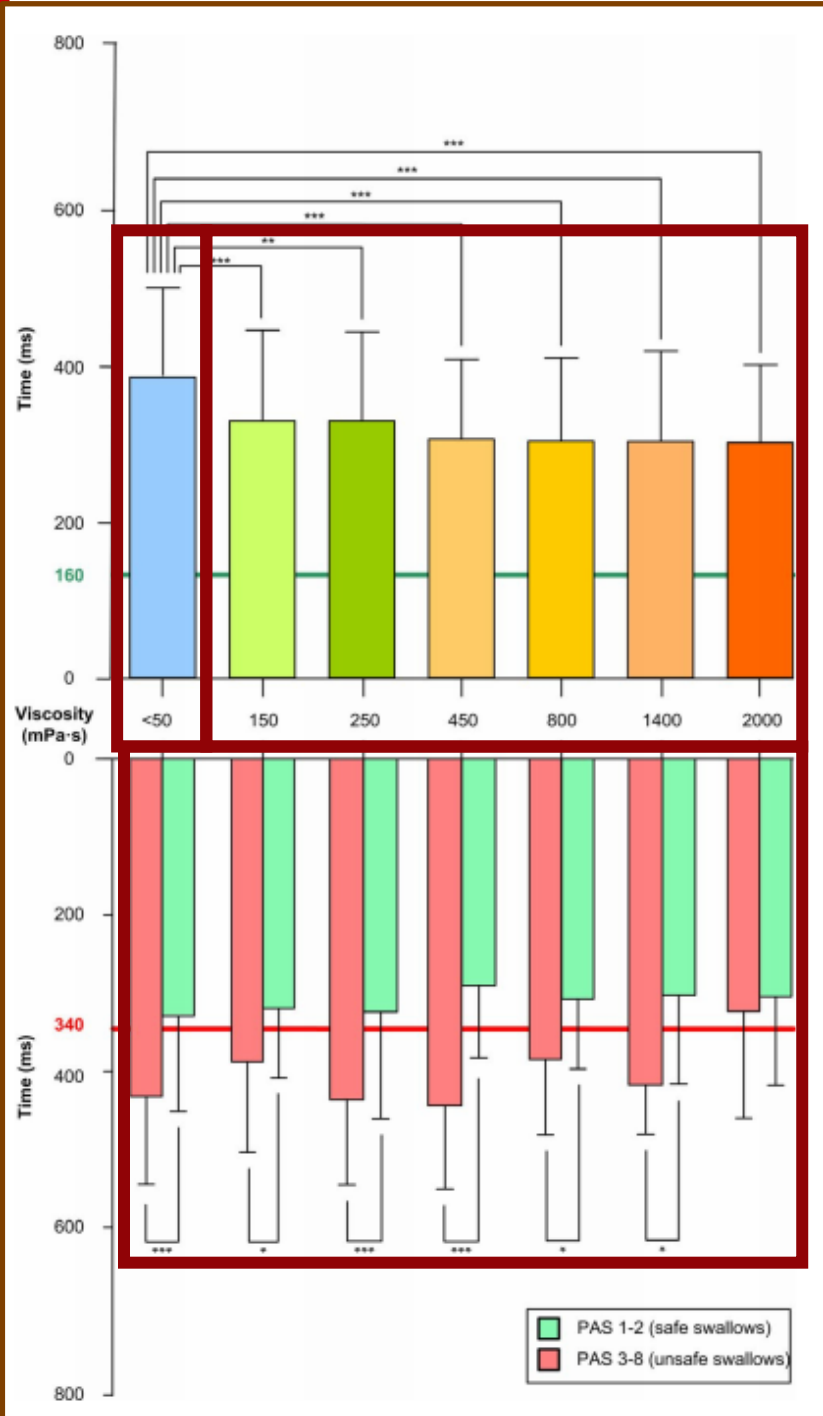


ORIGINAL ARTICLE WILEY

Effect of a gum-based thickener on the safety of swallowing in patients with poststroke oropharyngeal dysphagia

Mireia Bolivar-Prados¹ | Laia Rofes² | Viridiana Arreola¹ | Sonia Guida³ |
Weslania V. Nascimento¹ | Alberto Martin¹ | Natàlia Vilardell¹ |
Omar Ortega Fernández¹ | Dina Ripken³ | Mirian Lansink³ | Pere Clavé^{1,2}

Swallowing Kinematics



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry | WILEY

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Time to Laryngeal Vestibule Closure

Delay with thin liquids

Time significantly decreased with all thickened liquids compared to thin liquid

Longer time with unsafe swallows regardless of consistency



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Texture-Modified Fluids and Foods



NHS Cambridge
University Hospitals

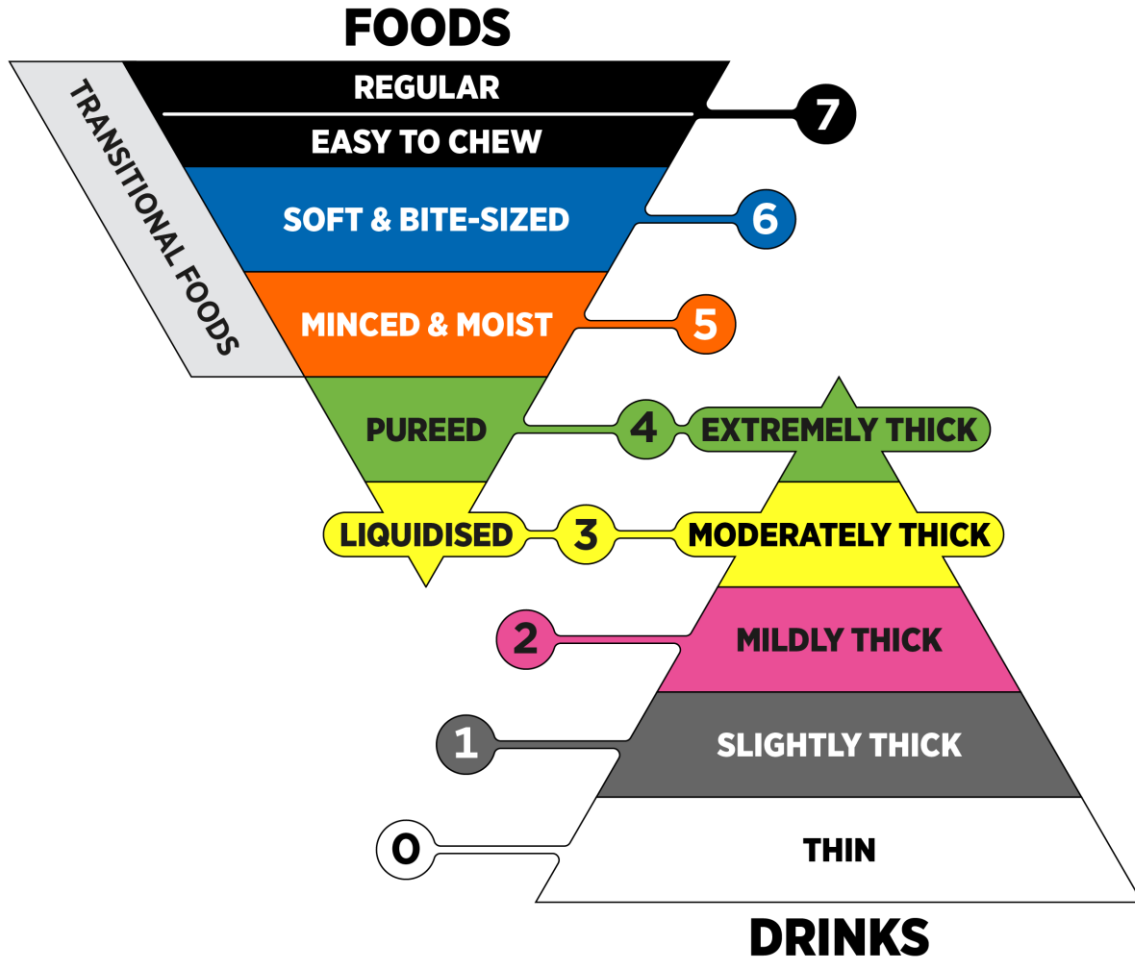


Miles et al., 2019



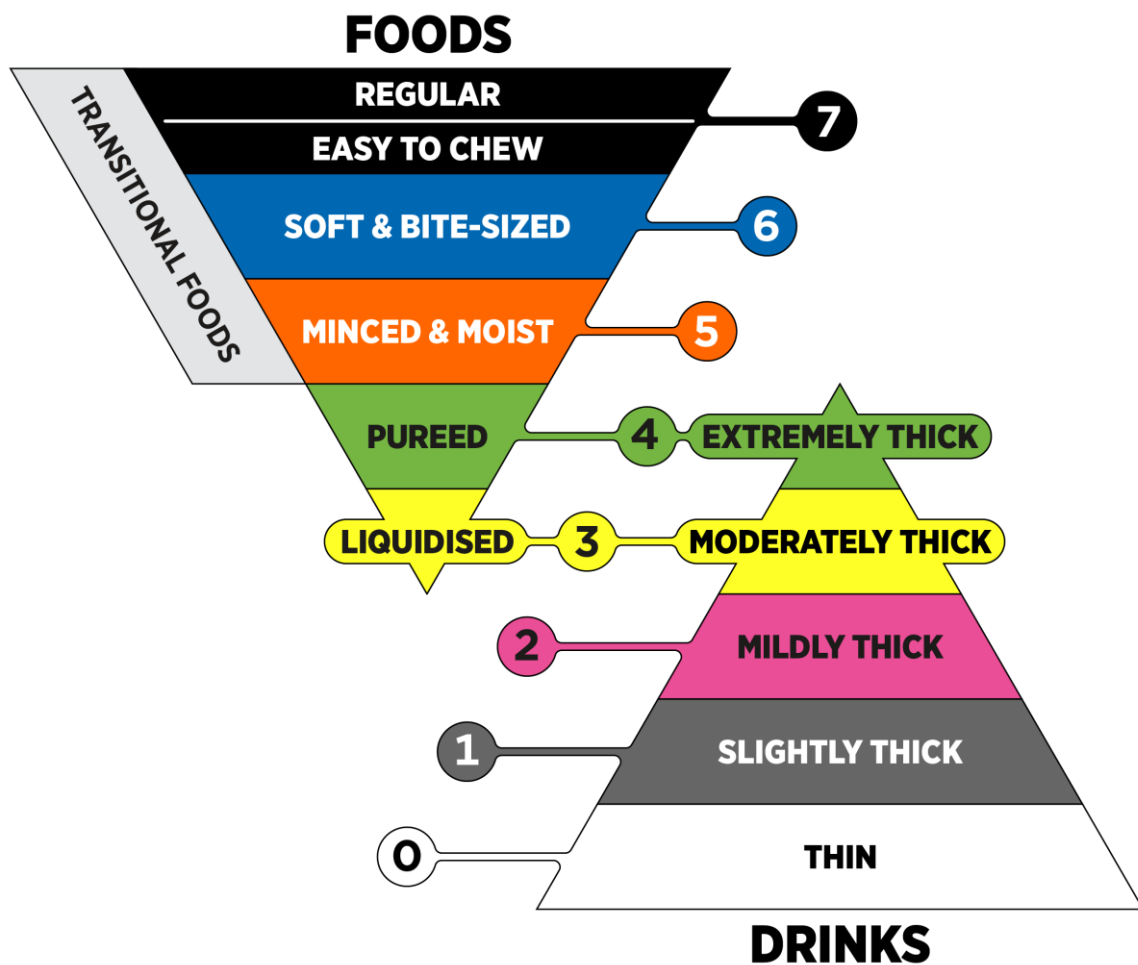


1. Remove the plunger from the syringe



- 1 SLIGHTLY THICK
- 2 MILDLY THICK
- 3 MODERATELY THICK
- 3 LIQUIDISED

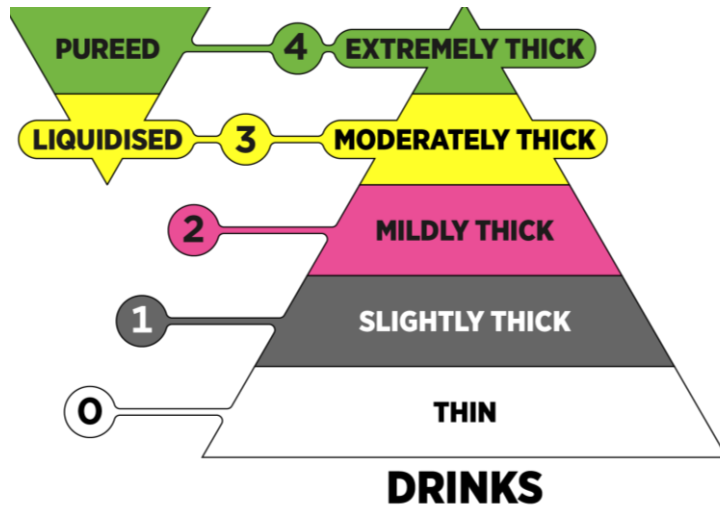




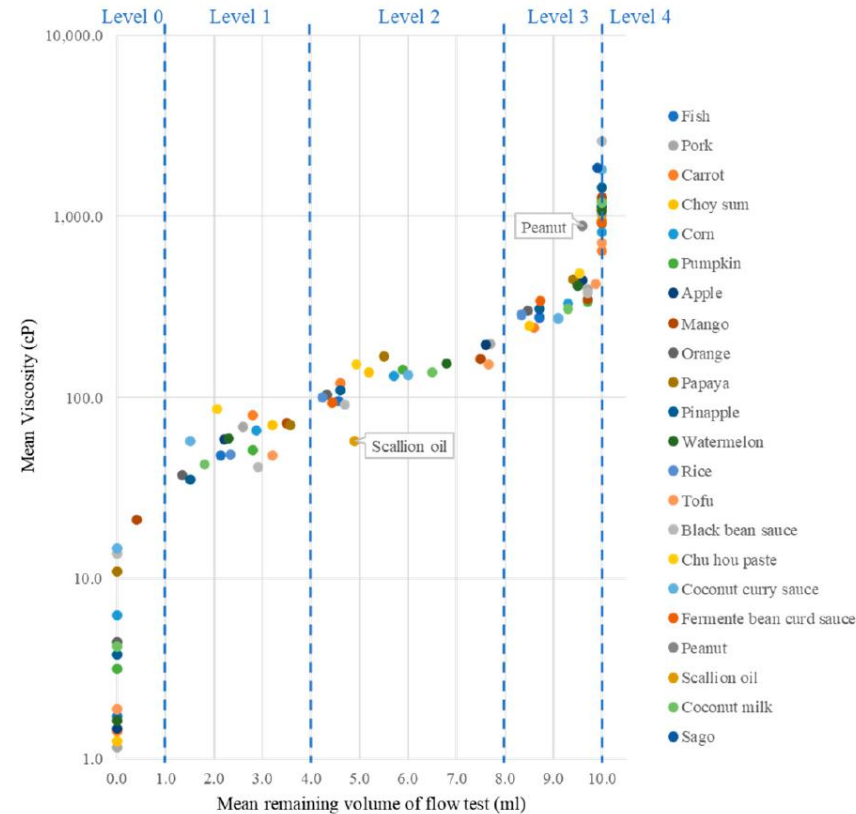
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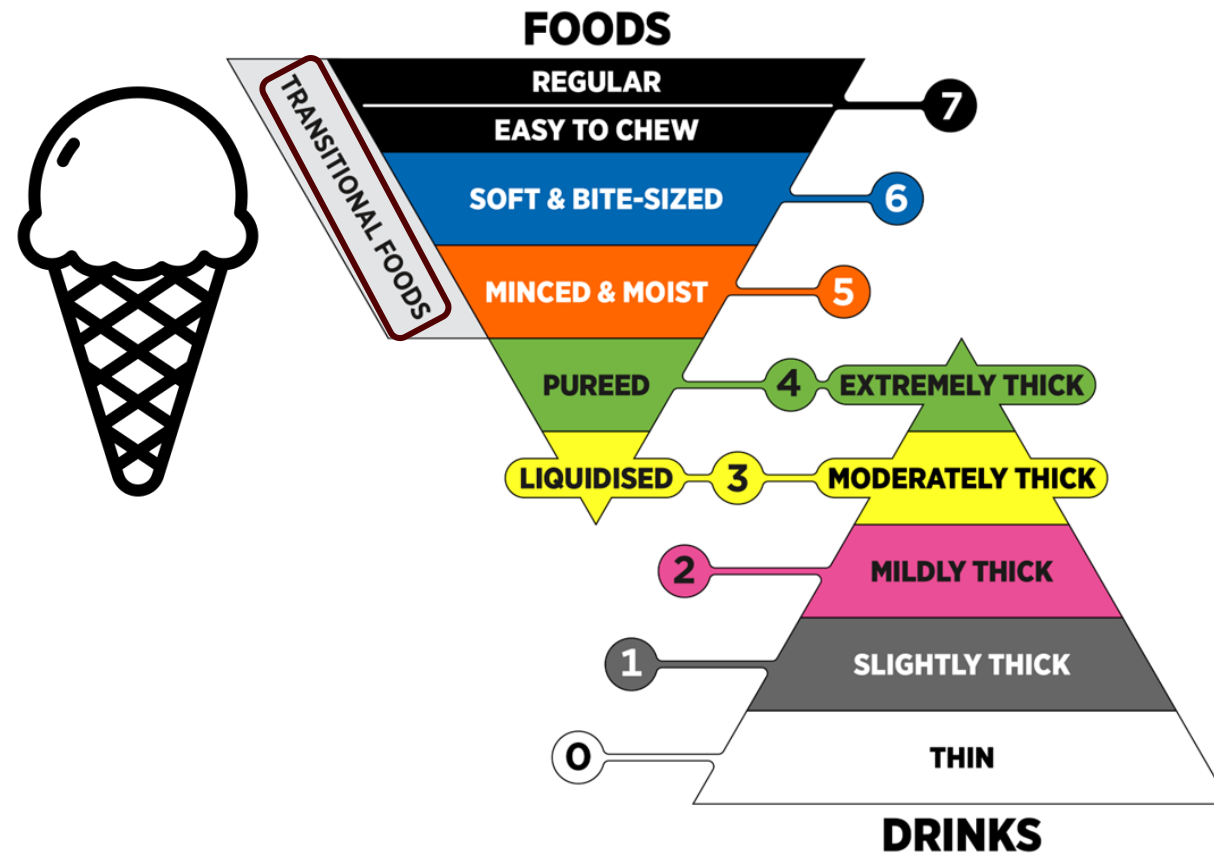
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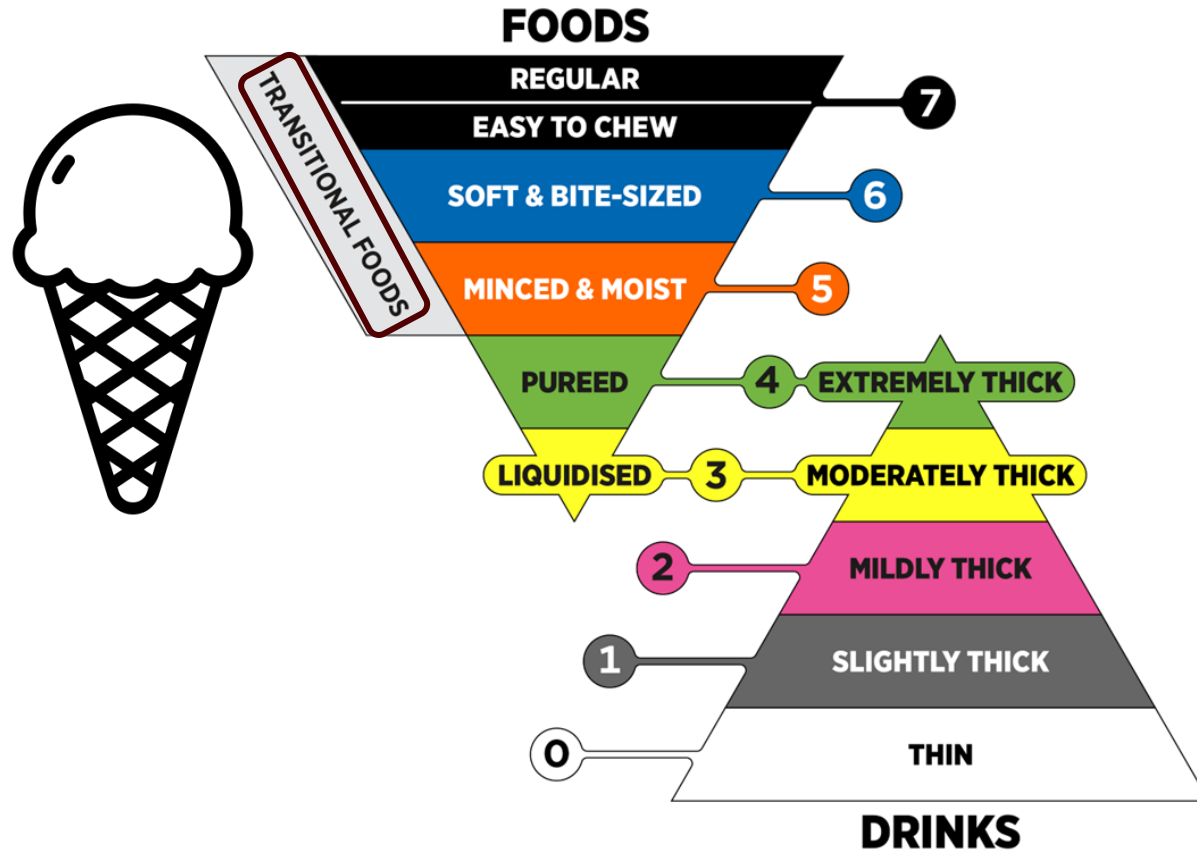
IDDSI Level	Viscosity Ranges (cP)			
	This Study		NDD	JSDR
	Thickened by Thick & Easy TM Clear	Thickened by Corn Starch		
4 (Extremely thick)	645.5–1440.0	929.6–2625.3	>1750	>500
3 (Moderately thick)	244.0–446.7	274.3–483.3	351–1750	300–500
2 (Mildly thick)	95.8–198.1	91.7–153.8	51–350	150–300
1 (Slightly thick)	35.4–79.9	41.6–86.9	50–150	50–150
0 (Thin)	1.2–21.2	13.6–14.6	<50	<50



Where Does Ice Cream Fit in IDDSI?



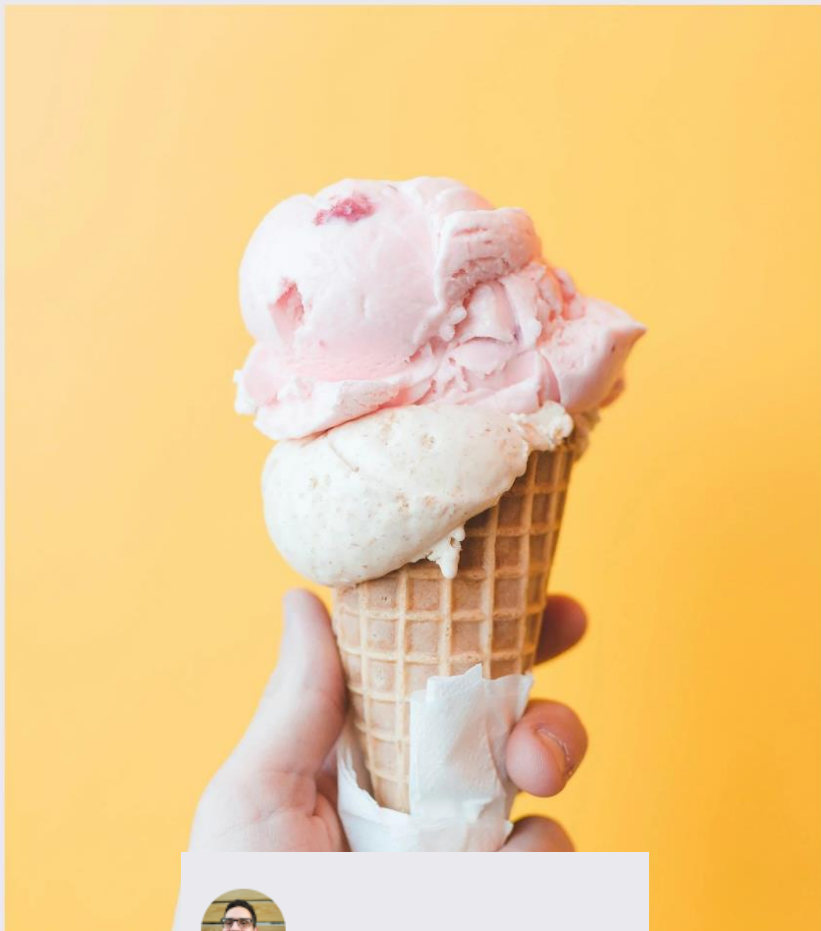
Where Does Ice Cream Fit in IDDSI?



Transitional Food= changes consistency when moisture is added or temperature changes.

- Ice cream starts as firm, solid food but melts quickly in mouth turning into a liquid.

We All Scream for Ice Cream: But does that include patients on thickened liquids?



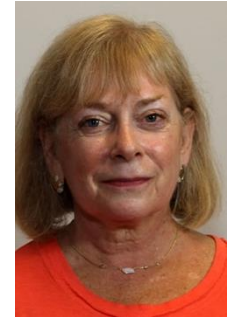
George Barnes MS, CCC-SLP, BCS-S

- The way ice cream melts depends on several variables- its content, processing methods, freezing and serving temperature, serving method
- Caroline Brindo (US Sales Manager, Dysphagia Specialist Bracco Diagnostics)
 - IDDSI flow test on range of ice cream brands after 30-second mouth hold
 - Ice cream brands ranged from IDDSI 3 to 4
 - Some brands melted to 0 and 1 after sitting out 2-6 hours-risk higher with more expensive brands



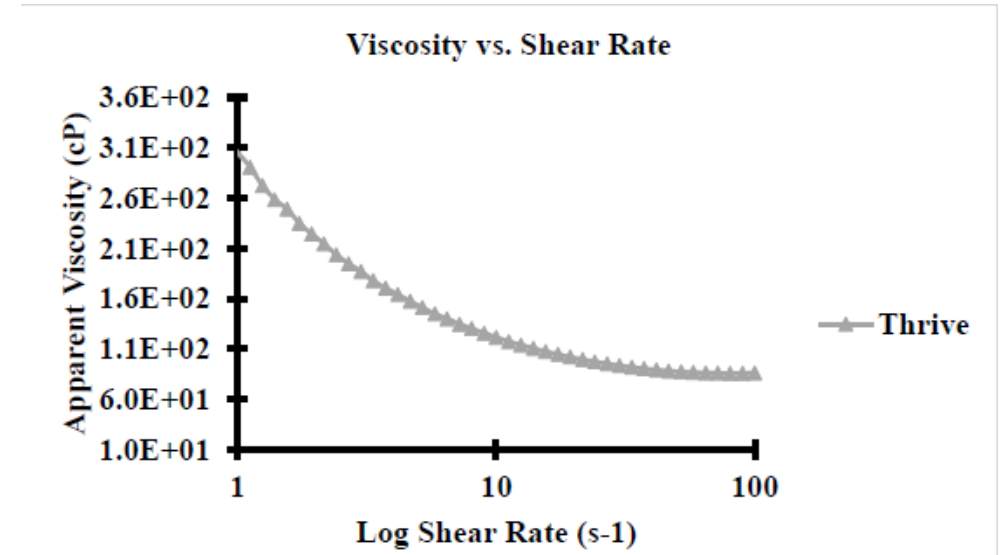
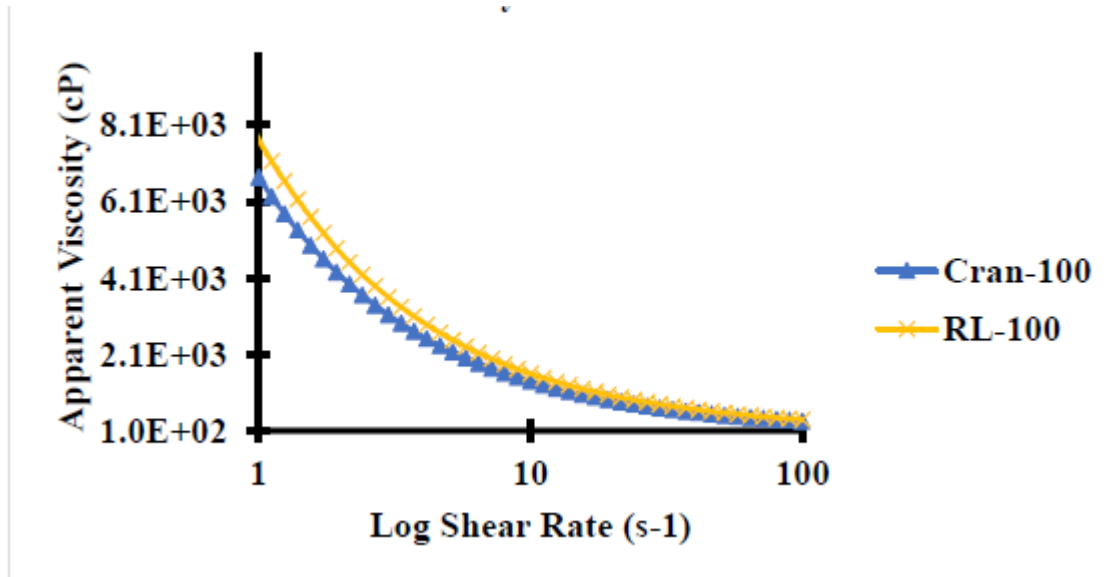
UW-Madison Frozen Dessert Center testing

Cranberry, Raspberry Lemon, Mango Thickened Frozen Dessert Products



	Stress Pa	Shear rate 1/s	Viscosity Pa.s	Viscosity at 30 (1/s) cP
RL-100	20.89	30	0.698	698
Cran-100	23.69	30	0.791	791

	Stress Pa	Shear rate 1/s	Viscosity Pa.s	Viscosity at 30 (1/s) cP
Thrive	2.80	30	0.093	93



UW-Madison Frozen Dessert Center Testing

Cranberry and Raspberry Lemon Thickened Frozen Dessert Products

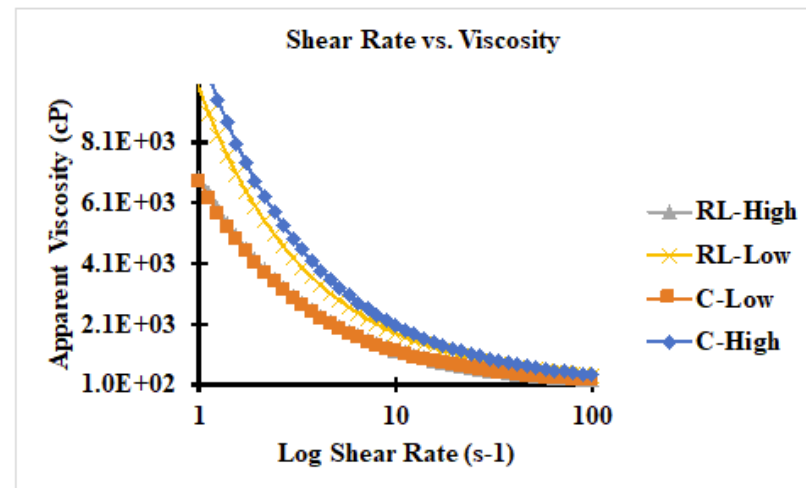


- Two batches of frozen protein produce were made- both frozen on continuous freezer at a high and low overrun setting.
- Product collected into four-ounce cups and placed in hardening freezer
- Rheometer used to conduct sweep test on melted product of all four samples

Measured viscosity at a shear rate of 30 s⁻¹


	Overrun %	Stress Pa	Shear rate 1/s	Viscosity Pa.s	Viscosity cP
RL-Low	50%	16.96	29.94	0.567	567
RL-High	124%	25.1	29.94	0.838	838
C-Low	44%	16.22	29.94	0.542	542
C-High	151%	28.37	29.94	0.948	948

Shear Rate (logarithmic) versus Apparent Viscosity

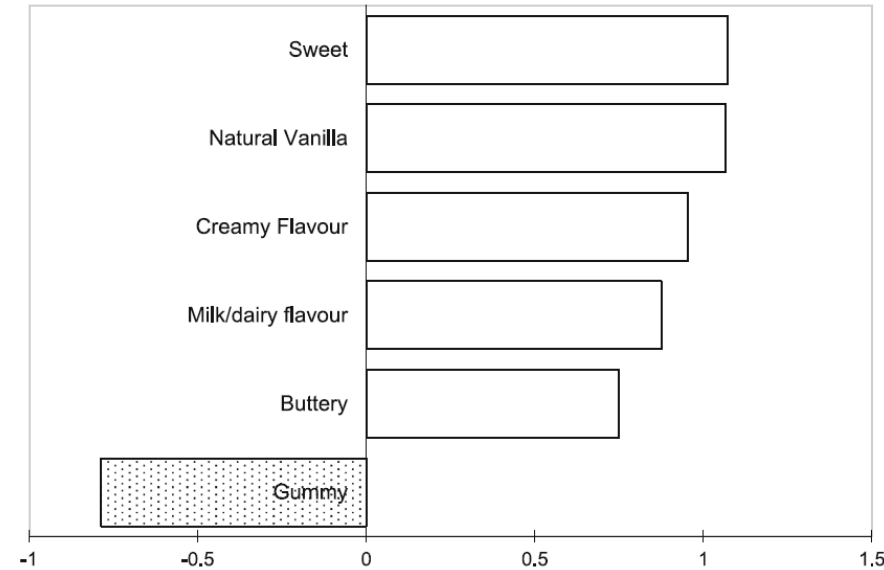


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Acceptability of thickened and protein-enhanced ice cream for use in long-term care facilities

Taylor K. McDowell | Judith Lowe | Matthew B. McSweeney 

- Whey protein sample: thickened and protein-enhanced
- Control: thickened but without whey protein
- Ice cream melted, protein & thickener added, and then placed in freezer for 24 hours until completely frozen
- Left for 30 minutes at room temperature
- Participant evaluation



		Control	Whey protein
Appearance	Mean ± standard deviation	6.5a ^{a,b,c} ± 1.7	6.6a ± 1.6
Flavor	Mean ± standard deviation	5.8a ^{a,b,c} ± 1.9	6.2a ^{a,b,c} ± 1.8
Texture	Mean ± standard deviation	3.9a ^{a,b,c} ± 1.8	4.1a ^{a,b,c} ± 1.9
Overall liking	Mean ± standard deviation	4.9a ^{a,b,c} ± 1.7	5.1a ^{a,b,c} ± 1.6

^an = 56.

^bMeans in the same row, with the same letter, are not significantly different at $\alpha = .05$.

^cData input on the 9-point hedonic scale, where 1 = Dislike extremely and 9 = Like Extremely.





Ingredients

Measurement

Ice Cream	4 Cups
SimplyThick® EasyMix™	1 Bulk Packet (48g) ▲ Mildly Thick Packet OR 8 Individual Packets (6g each) ▲ Mildly Thick Packet OR 8 Strokes from Bottle & Pump

Special Equipment Needed: Food Processor



No Melt Vanilla Flavoured Ice Cream - More than 3.2kcal/mL

The Precise Ready-To-Eat No Melt Vanilla Flavoured Ice Cream is a high energy vanilla flavoured shelf stable, freeze-thaw stable ice cream. The Precise No Melt Ice Cream makes for the perfect ready-to-eat snack or dessert for those with swallowing difficulties or needing a high energy diet. It is suitable for those at home, in hospital or in Aged Care settings.



Category: [Desserts](#) | SKU: N/A Brand: [Magic Cup®](#)

Magic Cup® Frozen Desserts

MAGIC CUP® frozen dessert is like ice cream when frozen but is a pudding after thawing. It's a great option for adding calories and protein for those experiencing involuntary weight loss. Enhanced with skim milk and milk protein concentrate, MAGIC CUP® is rich in branched-chain amino acids, notably leucine, which has been associated with muscle growth. MAGIC CUP® desserts are a truly a secret weapon to fight malnutrition for clinicians and caregivers.

Future Directions & Discussion

- Influence of ice cream properties, freezing approaches, and melting time on viscosity (IDDSI level) and swallowing safety/efficiency
- Influence of thickener types on ice cream properties and viscosity
- Testing of products on the market
- Other ideas?



Acknowledgments

Swallowing and Salivary Bioscience Lab

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Laure Bihannic, PhD
Ryan Burdick, MS
Ella Aldridge, BS
Nicole Schaeen-Heacock, PhD
Eva Moffett



Clinical Swallow Service



Home Team



Food Science & Engineering Collaborators



Thank you
for your
time and
attention!