BASICS OF FEES

HISTORY OF FEES

• SAWASHIMA & HIROSE (1968) –NEW LARYNGOSCOPIC TECHNIQUE BY USE OF FIBER OPTICS JOURNAL OF THE ACOUSTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA J 43(1) 168 JAN;43(1):168-9

• LANGMORE SE, SCHATZ K, OLSEN N. FIBEROPTIC ENDOSCOPIC EXAMINATION OF SWALLOWING SAFETY: A NEW PROCEDURE. DYSPHAGIA. 1988;2(4):216-9. DOI: 10.1007/BF02414429. PMID: 3251697.

BENEFITS



FEES is one objective imaging study that can be used to assess for oropharyngeal dysphagia



Direct visualization of the pharynx and larynx during the assessment



Can be a stand-alone assessment or complimentary to a Modified Barium Swallow study



The most sensitive objective study for the assessment of post swallow residue



It can be used as a tool to identify and practice various postural changes and compensatory strategies with visual biofeedback



Generally, well tolerated to allow for a longer duration study. Can be used with a meal assessment



Frequency of use can highlight improvements in function over the course of therapy intervention



REQUIREMENTS

Clinical Competency

State Licensure rules

Patient's verbal consent

Patient's tolerance of the scope



INSTRUMENTATION

Flexible laryngoscope
Monitor
Recording
Various Consistencies
Food dye
+/- oxymetazoline, lidocaine, lubricating jelly



COLORING PO TRIALS

High Color Contrast with opacity Green and/or Blue dye Additional white dye for opacity



KNOW YOUR PATH



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NASAL PREPARATION

- 2% viscous lidocaine
- Lubrication jelly
- Oxymetazoline spray





NASAL PASSAGE



VELOPHARYNGEAL PORT







INSUFFICIENT VP CLOSURE



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BASE OF TONGUE RETRACTION





LATERAL WALL MOBILITY



LARYNX AND HYPOPHARYNX

- True Vocal Folds
- False Vocal Folds
- Arytenoids
- Interarytenoid
- Aryepiglottic Folds
- Epiglottis
- Pyriforms



SECRETIONS RATING





PO TRIALS SELECTION

- Single Sip of thins
- Serial Sip of thins
- Thickened liquids as needed
- Puree (thin vs thick)
- Semi-solid or minced/moist
- Solid
- Mixed Consistency



TIMELY SWALLOW



DELAYED SWALLOW



- Identify the location of the head of the bolus prior to swallow initiation
- Swallow timing can be dependent on bolus type and patient age
- Neurological Dx can impact swallow initiation
- Impairment of sensation can impact swallow initiation
- A delay in swallow without other findings is not a pathology

WHITE-OUT AT THE HEIGHT OF THE SWALLOW



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PENETRATION AND ASPIRATION







PHARYNGAL RESIDUE

- Vallecula = decreased tongue base retraction, impaired epiglottic inversion
- Pyriforms: Inadequate pharyngeal shortening, PES distention/duration
- Postcricoid region= Inadequate UES/PES opening
- Pharyngeal walls= reduced pharyngeal squeeze
- Laryngeal surface of the epiglottis or aryepiglottic foldrim= delayed/reduced epiglottic inversion
- In the larynx= Inadequate, late airway closure

RATING SCALES

- Yale Pharyngeal Residue Severity Rating Scale (YPRSRS)
- The Pooling Score
- Boston Residue and Clearance Scale (BRACS)
- Mansoura Flexible Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing Residue Rate Scale
- Penetration-Aspiration Scale (PAS)
- Dynamic Imaging Grade of Swallowing Toxicity (DIGEST-FEES)
- Visual Analysis of Swallowing Efficiency and Safety (VASES)

THERE IS A PLACE FOR FEES IN EVERY SETTING

- Acute Care
 - Post-intubation
 - o Stroke
 - Difficult to transport
- Rehab
 - o Meal assessment
 - o Repeated exam
 - Difficulty transporting out for MBS
- Outpatient
 - Pre/Post exams
 - Biofeedback during treatment

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