

Dysphagia Service Delivery Considerations in Health Care Settings During COVID-19

Free webinar hosted by ASHA SIG 13 (Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders) | April 8, 2020

SLPs in health care face unique challenges related to clinical decision-making and service delivery for individuals with dysphagia during COVID-19.

A panel of swallowing experts and representatives from ASHA SIG 13 (Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders), ASHA SIG 15 (Gerontology), the American Board of Swallowing and Swallowing Disorders (ABSSD), and the Dysphagia Research Society (DRS), who represent a variety of healthcare settings, including acute care, skilled nursing/long-term care, inpatient rehabilitation and outpatient responded to member questions about dysphagia services in the recorded web chat.

You can view the recording at:

[Dysphagia Service Delivery Considerations in Health Care Settings During COVID-19](#)

Panelists:

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Editor, Perspectives of the Special Interest Groups (SIG 13)

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Associate Coordinator, SIG 13 Coordinating Committee

Member, ASHA Alternative Payment Models Committee

Co-chair, Dysphagia Research Society's Communications and Public Relations Committee

ASHA Resources:

- <https://www.asha.org/About/Coronavirus-Updates/>
- <https://www.asha.org/About/Telepractice-Resources-During-COVID-19/>
- <https://www.asha.org/Practice/reimbursement/Payment-and-Coverage-Considerations-for-Telepractice-Services-During-Coronavirus/>

- <https://www.asha.org/SLP/healthcare/SLP-Service-Delivery-Considerations-in-Health-Care-During-Coronavirus/>

Position Statements and Guidelines:

- [American Speech-Language-Hearing Association](#)
- [The American Academy of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery \(AAO-HNS\)](#)
- [Royal College of Speech & Language Therapists](#)
- [American Association for Respiratory Care](#)
- [Dysphagia Research Society](#)
- [Speech Pathology Australia](#)

Resources related to AGPs (Aerosol Generating Procedures), Infection Control and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment):

- <https://www.asha.org/SLP/healthcare/ASHA-Guidance-to-SLPs-Regarding-Aerosol-Generating-Procedures/>
- <https://www.rcslt.org/learning/covid-19/rcslt-guidance> (see section on PPE and COVID-19)
- [CDC guidance on aerosol generating procedures](#)
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/index.html>
- <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covid-19-infection-control-training>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hcwcontrols/recommendedguidanceextuse.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>
- <https://stealeswallowinglab.ca/srri/guidance-for-slps-during-covid-19-v-apr-2-2020/>
- https://www.ahcancal.org/facility_operations/disaster_planning/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx
- https://www.ahcancal.org/facility_operations/disaster_planning/Documents/Therapy-Personnel-Guidance-COVID19.pdf

Additional Guidance and COVID-19 Resources:

- http://www.apta.org/uploadedFiles/APTAorg/News_and_Publications/Latest_News/News_Items/2020/Physiotherapy_Guideline_COVID-19.pdf
- <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0003999320301532>
- <https://www.entnet.org/content/tracheotomy-recommendations-during-covid-19-pandemic>
- <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/>

Resources related to Telepractice:

- ASHA Telepractice Resource Page related to COVID-19:
<https://www.asha.org/About/Telepractice-Resources-During-COVID-19/>
- [Speech Pathology Australia FREE online telehealth courses](#)

Journal articles related to telepractice and dysphagia management:

- Burns, C. L., Ward, E. C., Hill, A. J., Kularatna, S., Byrnes, J., & Kenny, L. M. (2017). Randomized controlled trial of a multisite speech pathology telepractice service providing swallowing and communication intervention to patients with head and neck cancer: Evaluation of service outcomes. *Head & neck*, 39(5), 932-939. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28225567>

- Burns, C. L., & Wall, L. R. (2017). Using Telepractice to Support the Management of Head and Neck Cancer: Key Considerations for Speech-Language Pathology Service Planning, Establishment, and Evaluation. *Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups*, 2(13), 139-146. <https://pubs.asha.org/doi/10.1044/persp2.SIG13.139>
- Cassel, S. G. (2016). Trial Dysphagia Interventions Conducted via Telehealth. *International journal of telerehabilitation*, 8(2), 71. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5536731/>
- Coyle, J. (2012). Tele-dysphagia management: An opportunity for prevention, cost-savings and advanced training. *International Journal of Telerehabilitation*, 4(1), 37. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4296812/>
- Kantarcigil, C., Sheppard, J. J., Gordon, A. M., Friel, K. M., & Malandraki, G. A. (2016). A telehealth approach to conducting clinical swallowing evaluations in children with cerebral palsy. *Research in developmental disabilities*, 55, 207-217. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27132060>
- Malandraki, G. A., McCullough, G., He, X., McWeeny, E., & Perlman, A. L. (2011). Teledynamic evaluation of oropharyngeal swallowing. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22052284>
- Malandraki, G. A., Markaki, V., Georgopoulos, V. C., Bauer, J. L., Kalogeropoulos, I., & Nanas, S. (2013). An international pilot study of asynchronous teleconsultation for oropharyngeal dysphagia. *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*, 19(2), 75-79. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23470448>
- Mashima, P. A., & Brown, J. E. (2011). Remote management of voice and swallowing disorders. *Otolaryngologic Clinics of North America*, 44(6), 1305-1316. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22032484>
- Raatz, M., Ward, E. C., Marshall, J., & Burns, C. L. (2019). Developing the system architecture for conducting synchronous paediatric feeding assessments via telepractice. *Journal of telemedicine and telecare*, 25(9), 552-558. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1357633X19872091>
- Sharma, S., Ward, E. C., Burns, C., Theodoros, D., & Russell, T. (2011). Assessing swallowing disorders online: a pilot telerehabilitation study. *Telemedicine and e-Health*, 17(9), 688-695. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21882996>
- Sharma, S., Ward, E. C., Burns, C., Theodoros, D., & Russell, T. (2013). Assessing dysphagia via telerehabilitation: patient perceptions and satisfaction. *International journal of speech-language pathology*, 15(2), 176-183. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22663016>
- Ward, E. C., Sharma, S., Burns, C., Theodoros, D., & Russell, T. (2012). Validity of conducting clinical dysphagia assessments for patients with normal to mild cognitive impairment via telerehabilitation. *Dysphagia*, 27(4), 460-472. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22271284>
- Ward, E. C., Burns, C. L., Theodoros, D. G., & Russell, T. G. (2013). Evaluation of a clinical service model for dysphagia assessment via telerehabilitation. *International journal of telemedicine and applications*, 2013. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3870655/>
- Ward, E. C., & Burns, C. L. (2014). Dysphagia management via telerehabilitation: A review of the current evidence. *Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Research*, 3(5), 1088-1094. <http://www.ghrnet.org/index.php/joghr/article/view/699/815>

- Ward, E. C., Burns, C. L., Theodoros, D. G., & Russell, T. G. (2014). Impact of dysphagia severity on clinical decision making via telerehabilitation. *Telemedicine and e-Health*, 20(4), 296-303. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24443927>
- Ward, E., Crombie, J., Trickey, M., Hill, A., Theodoros, D., & Russell, T. (2009). Assessment of communication and swallowing post-laryngectomy: a telerehabilitation trial. *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*, 15(5), 232-237. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19590028>

Journal articles related to dysphagia service delivery across settings:

- Brodsky, M. B., Gellar, J. E., Dinglas, V. D., Colantuoni, E., Mendez-Tellez, P. A., Shanholtz, C., . . . Needham, D. M. (2014a). Duration of oral endotracheal intubation is associated with dysphagia symptoms in acute lung injury patients. *Journal of Critical Care*, 29, 574–579. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrc.2014.02.015>
- Brodsky, M.B., Levy, M.J., Jedlanek, E., Pandian, V., Blackford, B., Price, C., et al. (2018). Laryngeal injury and upper airway symptoms after oral endotracheal intubation with mechanical ventilation during critical care: A systematic review. *Critical Care Medicine*, DOI: 10.1097/CCM.0000000000003368 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30096101>
- Brodsky, M.B., Pandian, V. & Needham, D.M. (2020). Post-extubation dysphagia: a problem needing multidisciplinary efforts. *Intensive Care Med*, 46, 93–96. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00134-019-05865-x>
- Cichero, J. A. (2013). Thickening agents used for dysphagia management: effect on bioavailability of water, medication and feelings of satiety. *Nutrition journal*, 12(1), 1.
- Goldsmith T. (2000). Evaluation and treatment of swallowing disorders following endotracheal intubation and tracheostomy. *Int Anesthesiol Clin.*, 38(3), 219–242. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/10984854>
- Langmore SE, Terpenning MS, Schork A, Chen Y, Murray JT, Lopatin D, Loesche WJ. Predictors of aspiration pneumonia: how important is dysphagia? *Dysphagia*. 1998;13:69–81.
- Leder, S. B., Warner, H. L., Suiter, D. M., Young, N. O., Bhattacharya, B., Siner, J. M., ... Schuster, K. M. (2019). Evaluation of Swallow Function Post-Extubation: Is It Necessary to Wait 24 Hours? *Annals of Otolaryngology, Rhinology & Laryngology*, 128(7), 619–624. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0003489419836115> <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30841709>
- Marvin, S., Thibeault, S. & Ehlenbach, W.J. Post-extubation Dysphagia: Does Timing of Evaluation Matter? *Dysphagia*, 34, 210–219 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00455-018-9926-3>
- McCoy Yvette M, Varindani DR. Presbyphagia versus dysphagia: identifying age-related changes in swallow function. *Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups*. 2018;3(15):15–21. <https://doi.org/10.1044/persp3.SIG15.15>.
- Molfenter SM, Lenell C, Lazarus, CL (2018). Volumetric changes to the pharynx in healthy aging: Consequence for pharyngeal swallow mechanics and function. *Dysphagia*.
- Namasivayam-MacDonald, A., Riquelme, L.F. (2019). Presbyphagia to Dysphagia: Multiple perspectives and strategies for quality care in older adults. Invited manuscript to special edition, *Seminars in Speech & Language*, 40(3).
- Namasivayam-MacDonald, A., Riquelme, L.F. (2019). Quantifying airway invasion and pharyngeal residue in patients with dementia. *Geriatrics* 4(1):13, 1-10.

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 - Poston JT, Patel BK, Davis AM. Management of Critically Ill Adults with COVID-19. *JAMA*. Published online March 26, 2020.
 - Rangarathnam B, McCullough GH. Utility of a Clinical Swallowing Exam for Understanding Swallowing Physiology. *Dysphagia* 2016;31:491–7.
 - Riquelme, L.F. (February 2015). Clinical Swallow Examination (CSE): Can We Talk? *Perspectives on Swallowing & Swallowing Disorders*, 24(1): 34-39. (see related references on CSE)
 - Zuercher, P., Moret, C.S., Dziewas, R., Schefold, J.C. (2019). Dysphagia in the intensive care unit: Epidemiology, mechanisms, and clinical management. *Critical Care*, 23:103.
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