CRRN review

Dysphagia and

Communication Disorders

Presented by:
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(based on slides from Lisa Stanley, M.A., CCC-SLP from Tampa General Hospital)

- 1. Complications of the oral phase of swallowing include:
 - a) Inability to adequately chew food.
 - b) Failure to form the food into a bolus in the middle of the mouth.
 - c) Inability to move the bolus from the front of the mouth.
 - d) All of the above.

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 - d) All of the above.
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- 2. For a patient without problems in the oral phase of swallowing, this phase of swallowing usually takes:
 - a) 1. 5-10 seconds
 - b) 2. 10-20 seconds
 - c) 3. 5-30 seconds
 - d) 4. 10-40 seconds

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 - A. 5-10 seconds

- 3. The pharyngeal phase is the second phase of swallowing. Which of the following is a successful outcome of this phase?
 - a) Oral regurgitation
 - b) Moving the bolus of food into the esophagus
 - c) Constriction of the pharynx
 - d) Trapping the food in the valleculae to prevent aspiration

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 - B. Moving the bolus of food into the esphagus

- 4. During the second phase of swallowing, the role of the epiglottis is to protect:
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 - b) Opening into the oral cavity
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 - C. Trachea

5. The normal duration of the pharyngeal phase of swallowing is

- a) 1 second
- b) 5 seconds
- c) 10 seconds
- d) 15 seconds

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A. 1 second

- 6. If a swallowing problem is suspected, what interventions can nurses use?
 - a) Hyper-elevate chin when swallowing.
 - b) Sit upright for meals and meds.
 - c) Place food in affected side of mouth.
 - d) Avoid thickened liquids.

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 - B. Sit upright for meals and meds

- 7. A patient with swallowing dysfunction may have "silent aspiration". This means that the patient might aspirate
 - a) After coughing and gagging.
 - b) Without coughing and gagging.
 - c) In spite of coughing and gagging.
 - d) None of the above.

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 - c) In spite of coughing and gagging.
 - d) None of the above.
 - B. Without coughing and gagging

- 8. Which of the following substances is MOST likely to cause coughing or choking on initial feeding trials?
 - a) Water
 - b) Milkshake
 - c) Pudding
 - d) Baked potato

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 - B. Milkshake

Mrs. Y has dysarthric speech as a result of a stroke. Dysarthria occurs due to neurological damage to (select all that apply):

- a) The left frontal lobe.
- b) The left occipital lobe.
- c) The brainstem and/or cranial nerves.
- d) The right frontal lobe.
- e) The right temporal lobe.

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A, C & D

Mr. T has impaired verbal communication as a result of a left hemisphere stroke. A therapeutic nursing intervention to assist Mr. T with communication is to:

- a) Increase voice volume when speaking.
- b) Finish sentences when he is unable to do so.
- c) Use short simple sentences.
- d) Encourage him to slow his speaking rate and over articulate.

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C and D

P.T. is just emerging from coma following a brain injury. Which of the following interventions is MOST appropriate to begin establishing communication with P.T.?

- a) Use communication or alphabet board.
- b) Use a head nod or eye blink to communicate.
- c) Use a voice activated computer system.
- d) Talk to him frequently to facilitate communication.

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Mr. D has recently had a left hemisphere stroke. He has right sided weakness and Broca's Aphasia. This type of aphasia is characterized by:

- a) Fluent speech with many mispronounced words.
- b) Slow, effortful speech with long pauses between words.
- c) Speech that alternates between clear and not understandable.
- d) Nasal voice quality and problems with voice loudness and pitch.

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- B. Slow, effortful speech with long pauses between words

The primary communication deficit experienced by a person with Wernicke's aphasia is:

- a) Inability to understand verbal or written language.
- b) Problems with forming and articulating words.
- c) Problems with using correct grammar.
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A. Inability to understand verbal or written language

Which of the following instructions would be MOST appropriate for a person with Wernicke's aphasia?

- a) "Show me where you're having pain."
- b) "Tell me what the doctor said to you."
- c) "Sit down."
- d) "Stand up and walk to the door."

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C. Sit down

Which of the following interventions would be least helpful in communicating with a patient who has Wernicke's aphasia?

- a) Gesturing.
- b) Pantomiming.
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- D. Using word repetition