
Learning Objectives

MedBridge

The Instrumental Swallowing Evaluation in Patients with Stroke

Stephanie Daniels, PhD, CCC-SLP, F-ASHA

Course Description:

The purpose of this course, with Stephanie Daniels, is to review the instrumental swallowing evaluation in patients with stroke. The primary focus will be on the videofluoroscopic swallowing study (VFSS), however, the videoendoscopic swallowing study (VEES) will also be reviewed. Protocol and assessment of compensatory strategies will be addressed, and demonstrated through a patient case example.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, learners will be able to:

- Identify the purpose of the Clinical Swallowing Evaluation (CSE) and discuss strengths and limitations of the VFSS and VESS
- Discuss the importance of a standard VFSS protocol and describe the protocol
- Describe signs of dysphagia that are visible via instrumental assessment and review compensatory strategies based on these signs
- Discuss the necessity of determining the underlying biomechanic dysfunction and review how to subjectively assess structural movement and pair it with visible signs

Chapter 1: Introduction to Instrumental Evaluation

Dr. Stephanie Daniels will review the purpose of the instrumental assessment, describe and distinguish the available types of instrumental assessment, and explain where instrumental assessment fits with screening and swallowing evaluation procedures.

Chapter 2: VFSS Protocol

In the second chapter of this course, Dr. Daniels will discuss the importance of using a standard protocol, and describe a standard protocol, including the details of its administration.

Chapter 3: VFSS Interpretation

In this chapter, Dr. Daniels will describe the signs of dysphagia that can be illuminated via instrumental assessment, and detail compensatory strategies that can be suggested by specific signs.

Chapter 4: VFSS Compensation

In the final chapter of this course, Dr. Daniels applies course concepts by walking through a real VFSS-based case example, and challenging the participant to correctly identify signs of dysphagia.

