



### Swallowing Disorders (Dysphagia)

- If Instrumental Assessments (i.e Modified Barium Swallow (MBS) or Fibre-optic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES)) required please refer to RGH Swallowing Disorders Clinic or NHS Speech Pathology Dept.
- For Joint Speech Pathology/Gastro assessment please refer to RGH Swallowing Disorders Clinic (see below)
- RGH and NHS offer clinical assessments and management of patients with swallowing disorders with various aetiologies:
  - Neurological disorders including CVA and progressive neurological disorders
  - Structural changes
  - Medical co-morbidities
  - Other e.g. psychological

#### Information Required

- Past Medical History
- List of current medications
- Dysphagia symptoms
- Previous Speech Pathology Interventions (including previous MBS/FEES reports)
- Previous Allied Health Interventions

#### Investigations Required

- Other relevant investigations e.g. ENT, Gastroenterology
- Previous CT or Chest X-ray results

#### Fax Referrals to

- RGH Speech Pathology      Fax: (08) 8275 1951
- NHS Speech Pathology      Fax: (08) 8384 9711

### Red Flags

Red flags should prompt immediate GP referral to **Emergency Department**

- Recurrent Aspiration Pneumonia
- Significant Choking episodes
- Significant unexplained weight loss

#### Suggested GP Management

- Close monitoring of patient to watch for significant change or deterioration of Swallowing Disorder

#### Clinical Resources

- National Stroke Foundation. Victoria. Swallowing problems after Stroke, Fact Sheet.  
[http://strokefoundation.com.au/site/media/FS15\\_Swallowing\\_web.pdf](http://strokefoundation.com.au/site/media/FS15_Swallowing_web.pdf)

General Information to assist with referrals and the and Referral templates for FMC and RGH are available to download from the SALHN Outpatient Services website [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNoutpatients](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHNoutpatients)

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1.0	October 2014	October 2016	Original