Nutrition and Counseling Considerations for Older Adults With Dysphagia

FACULTY

Mary L. Casper, MA, CCC-SLP, is currently the corporate rehabilitation consultant for speech pathology with HCR ManorCare. In her more than 25 years in the profession, Casper has focused clinically on swallowing disorders in the geriatric population and communication intervention for individuals with dementia. Casper served as coordinator of ASHA’s Special Interest Group 15 (Gerontology) from 2008-2013, was the ASHA Convention Swallowing Program Topic Chair for 2013 and 2014, and the Business, Management, Ethics & Professional Issues Topic Chair for 2015 and 2016. She is the SLP co-chair of the ASHA Convention in 2017. She represents the Maryland Speech-Language-Hearing Association as the StAMP (State Advocates for Medicare Policy) liaison.

Financial Disclosures:
- Corporate rehabilitation consultant at HCR ManorCare
- Financial compensation from ASHA for this presentation

Nonfinancial Disclosures:
- No nonfinancial relationships to the content of this presentation

Michelle McDonagh, RD, CD, is the registered dietitian for the outpatient Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Cystic Fibrosis and General Internal Medicine Clinics at Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. McDonagh earned a bachelor of science degree in human nutrition with a diploma in area studies from the University of Ulster, Northern Ireland. She holds a post-baccalaureate certificate in dietetics from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee.

Financial Disclosures:
- Registered dietitian at Froedtert Hospital
- Financial compensation from ASHA for this presentation

Nonfinancial Disclosures:
- No nonfinancial relationships to the content of this presentation

Nicole Rogus-Pulia, PhD, CCC-SLP, is an assistant professor in the departments of Medicine and Surgery and affiliate faculty in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Additionally, she is the director of the Swallowing Research Program in the Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) at the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital as well as director of the multi-site Veteran Health Administration’s (VHA) Swallow STRONG clinical program. The goal of Rogus-Pulia’s research program is to systematically identify and characterize factors underlying dysphagia in older adults and translate these findings into novel, evidence-based treatments for prevention of pneumonia onset. Her specific research interests include the effects of tongue strengthening on swallow function and health status, the impact of altered salivary production on swallowing, and the design of interventional studies for dysphagia in patients with dementia. Rogus-Pulia has grant funding from the VHA, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation, and the Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC) to support this work.

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Nonfinancial Disclosures:
- Member of and has served on committees for ASHA and the Dysphagia Research Society

Erin Scott, MD, is a general internist who received fellowship training in geriatric medicine at Summa Health System and in palliative medicine at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. Her clinical interests focus on improving communication between physicians and their patients and families when faced with a life-threatening illness, understanding patient and caregiver needs, and translating these communication skills to training physicians in medical education.

Financial Disclosures:
- General internist at Massachusetts General Hospital
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- No nonfinancial relationships to the content of this presentation