

DYSPHAGIA EVALUATION: A LITERATURE REVIEW

Maryam Aizuddin

ABSTRACT

The area of dysphagia studies in Malaysia is still new. This study reviews past literature on recent development of dysphagia evaluation procedures around the world and related issues. The objectives of this study were (1) to identify the best assessment procedure in assessing patients with swallowing problems, (2) to discuss the positive and negative effects of each assessment procedure and to recommend potential areas of study in swallowing disorders. Assessment or evaluation procedures or tools of dysphagia included were Bedside Evaluation, Videofluoroscopic Swallowing Studies (VFSS), Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES), cervical auscultation and scintigraphy. Each of them has its positive and negative aspects. Literature reviewed showed that VFSS is the best dysphagia evaluation procedure. It is also recommended that future research in Malaysia should be optimized by conducting a thorough and detailed Bedside Evaluation to detect aspiration. Future research also should focus on determining the ability of VFSS and FEES in detecting aspiration in the paediatric and adult population in Malaysia. In summary, dysphagia and evaluation procedures should be reviewed and should be improved to increase the quality of health among Malaysian citizens.

Aizuddin, M. 2006. *Dysphagia Evaluation: A Literature Review*. Bachelor of Speech Science Thesis. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.