

FIBER-OPTIC EVALUATION OF SWALLOWING
Berlin Dysphagia Index – Swallowing Examination

Name: _____ Birth: _____	Label
Diagnosis:	
Date	

Question:

Feeding	Oral	PEG	Naso-Gastric	Parenteral
Tracheostomy Tube (TT)	None	Speaking Tube	Cuffed	De-Cuffed
	Eat de-cuffed		Eat cuffed	
Therapy	None	F.O.T.T.	Functional	Frequency:.../W
Anaesthesia	Nose	Pharynx	Larynx	
Way of examination	Nose R	Nose L	Oral	Tracheostoma
Posture	Sitting	Wheelchair	Bed	
Glasgow-Coma-Scale				

SWALLOWING EXAMINATION

Saliva

			Examination / Swallowing impossible		8	
Assistance	Spontaneous	0	With prompt	4	With facilitation	4

Pharynx

Leaking	No	0	Yes	1
Residues	R		L	
Pharyngeal Wall		0		
Valleculae		0		
Piriform sinus		1		
Re-Swallow	Yes	0	No	3

Penetration/Aspiration

Normal	0
Supraglottal with cough	1
Supraglottal without cough	3
Glottal with cough	3
Glottal without cough	6
Subglottal with cough	7
Subglottal without cough	8

FIBER-OPTIC EVALUATION OF SWALLOWING
Berlin Dysphagia Index – Swallowing Examination

Pureed Food

No Examination necessary		0	Examination / Swallowing not possible		8
Tool	Spoon				
Food	Jelly			Quantity	
Assistance	Spontaneous	0	With prompt	4	With facilitation 4

Pharynx

Leaking	No	0	Yes	1
Residues		R	L	
Pharyngeal Wall		0		
Valleculae		0		
Piriform sinus		1		
Re-Swallow	Yes	0	No	3

Penetration/Aspiration

Normal	0
Supraglottal with cough	1
Supraglottal without cough	3
Glottal with cough	3
Glottal without cough	6
Subglottal with cough	7
Subglottal without cough	8

Liquid

No Examination necessary		0	Examination / Swallowing not possible		8
Tool	Spoon		Cup		Straw
	Water		Mineralwater		Milk
Food	Blue dye				Quantity
Assistance	Spontaneous	0	With prompt	4	With facilitation 4

Pharynx

Leaking	No	0	Yes	1
Residues		R	L	
Pharyngeal Wall		0		
Valleculae		0		
Piriform sinus		1		
Re-Swallow	Yes	0	No	3

Penetration/Aspiration

Normal	0
Supraglottal with cough	1
Supraglottal without cough	3
Glottal with cough	3
Glottal without cough	6
Subglottal with cough	7
Subglottal without cough	8

Solid Food

No Examination necessary		0	Examination / Swallowing not possible		8
Tool	Spoon		Fork		
Food	Bread				Quantity
Assistance	Spontaneous	0	With prompt	4	With facilitation 4

Pharynx

Leaking	No	0	Yes	1
Residues		R	L	
Pharyngeal Wall		0		
Valleculae		0		
Piriform sinus		1		
Re-Swallow	Yes	0	No	3

Penetration/Aspiration

Normal	0
Supraglottal with cough	1
Supraglottal without cough	3
Glottal with cough	3
Glottal without cough	6
Subglottal with cough	7
Subglottal without cough	8

Score Swallowing capability	
Total	

PROTECTION OF THE RESPIRATORY TRACT

Coughing, clearing the throat, transport of secrete and cough and swallow are evaluated during the swallowing tests. The weighting of the swallowing capability is carried out separated for each consistency.

Result of Swallowing capability

Score	Significance	Weighting
0 <= 3	Normal to moderate reduction	Complete
4 < 8	Reduction needs therapy	Incomplete
>=8	Solid reduction, needs absolutely therapy	Impossible

Coughing/Clearing throat	Voluntary	0	Involuntary	0	Absent	2
Transport of Secrete	Productive	0	Limited	1	Absent	2
Cough and Swallow	Yes	0	Incomplete	1	No	2
Swallowing of Salvia	Complete	0	Incomplete	1	Impossible	2
Swallowing of Puree	Complete	0	Incomplete	1	Impossible	2
Swallowing of Liquid	Complete	0	Incomplete	1	Impossible	2
Swallowing of Solid Food	Complete	0	Incomplete	1	Impossible	2

Berliner Dysphagie Index

Score Protection	
Total	

Therapy recommendations

Check therapy recommendations

Score	Significance	Therapy
0	Normal	No therapy necessary, Tracheostomy Tube (TT) removable
<= 3	Moderate reduction	If necessary therapy
>=4	Coughing complete, Swallowing incomplete	Needs therapy, Decuffed TT with speaking valve possible, if necessary enteral feeding
>=6	Coughing incomplete, Swallowing complete	Needs therapy, if necessary tracheostomy, During therapy decuff TT if necessary, Needs enteral feeding
>=8	Coughing absent, Swallowing absent	Needs therapy and tracheostomy, Needs cuffed TT, Needs enteral feeding

Resume

Investigator: _____ Date: _____