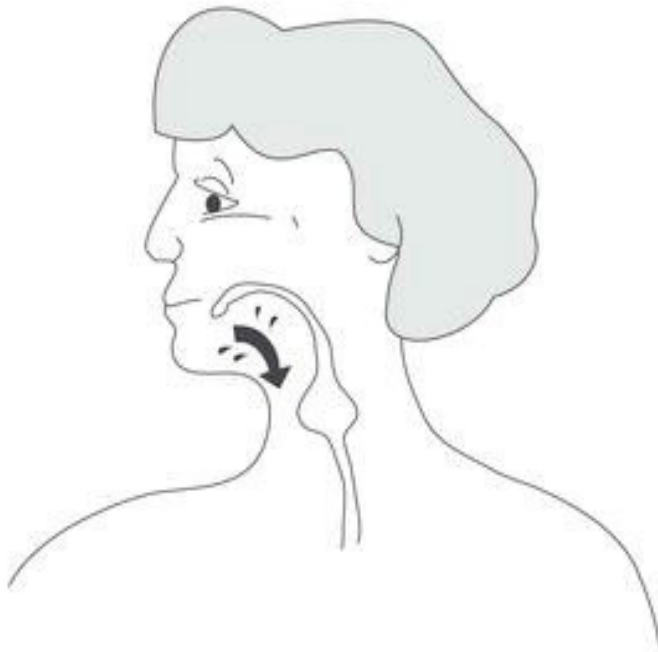


What is Dysphagia?

Dysphagia Overview

Dysphagia = Swallowing Problem

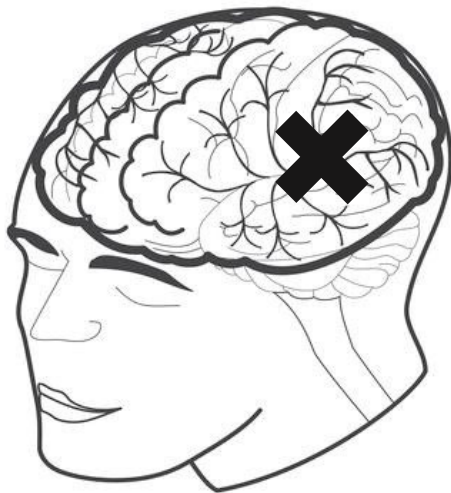
Muscles in the **mouth** and/or **throat**
are **not** working correctly



Causes of Dysphagia

Common causes of dysphagia:

- Stroke
- Head Injury
- Neurological disease (Parkinson's, ALS)
- Breathing Difficulty
- Obstruction in the throat
- Damage to the throat

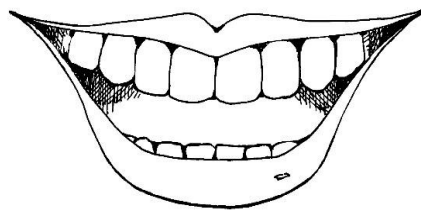


Dysphagia can lead to:

- Food and drinks falling into the airway
- Pneumonia
- Dehydration
- Lack of proper nutrients
- Pain or Discomfort

Dysphagia can occur in any or all of the three phases of swallowing:

1. Mouth



2. Throat



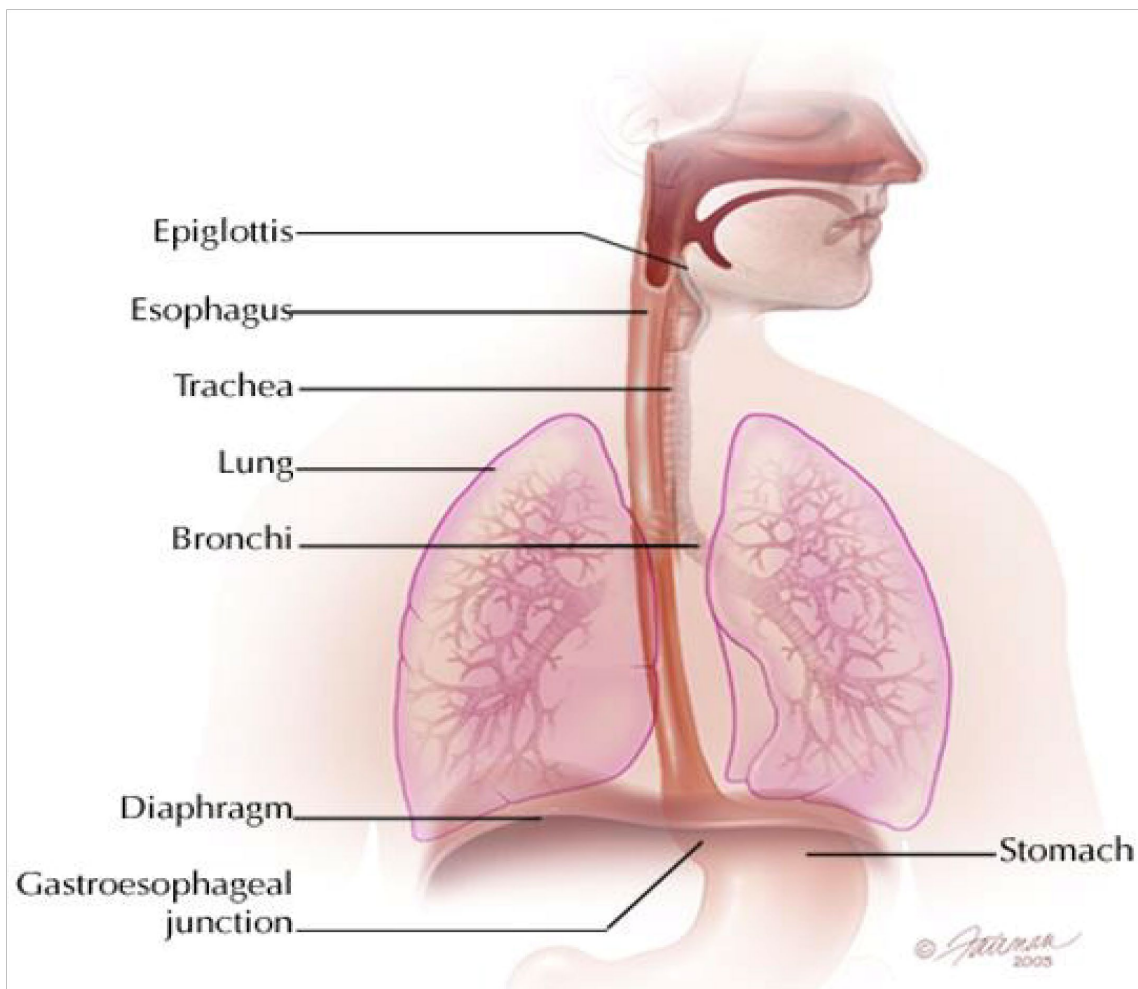
3. Stomach



Signs and Symptoms of Dysphagia

- Coughing or choking when eating
- Coughing or choking when drinking
- Wet/gurgly voice
- Drooling and increased saliva
- Holding food in mouth and not swallowing
- Multiple swallows for one bite or sip
- Feeling like food/liquid is stuck in throat
- Pneumonia

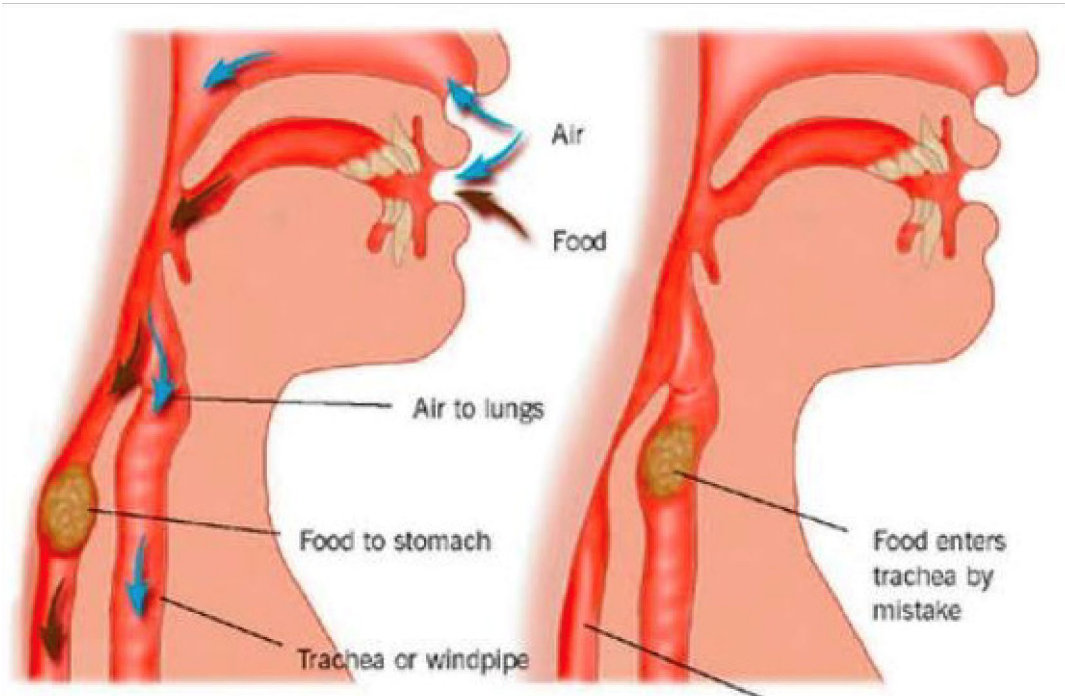
Your body has two pipes.
One pipe goes to the
stomach. One pipe goes to
the lungs.



Safety

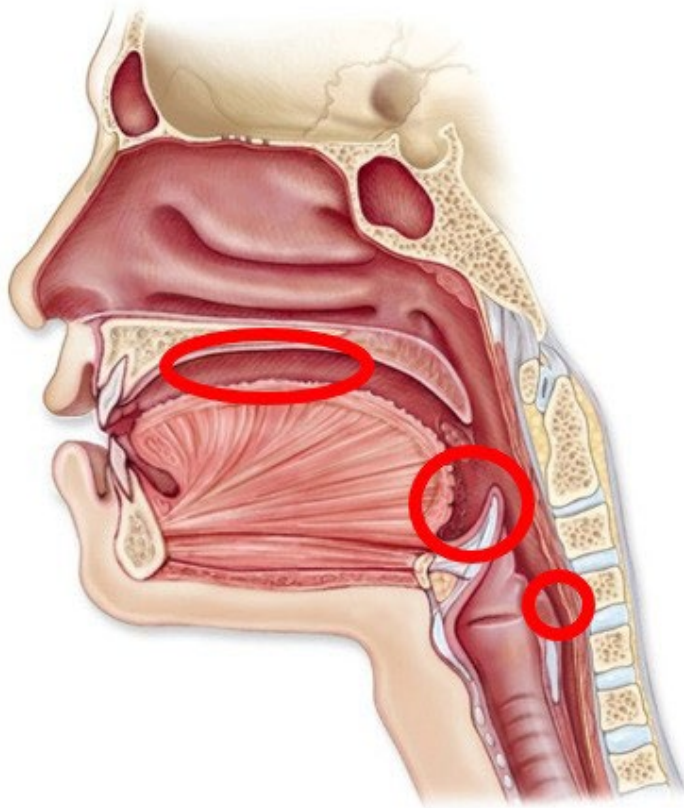
Aspiration = when food or liquid falls into your airway

In photo below: Airway = Trachea



Efficiency

Residue = when food or liquid stays in your throat



If there is a swallowing problem, **then** your speech pathologist will recommend an **instrumental swallow study**.

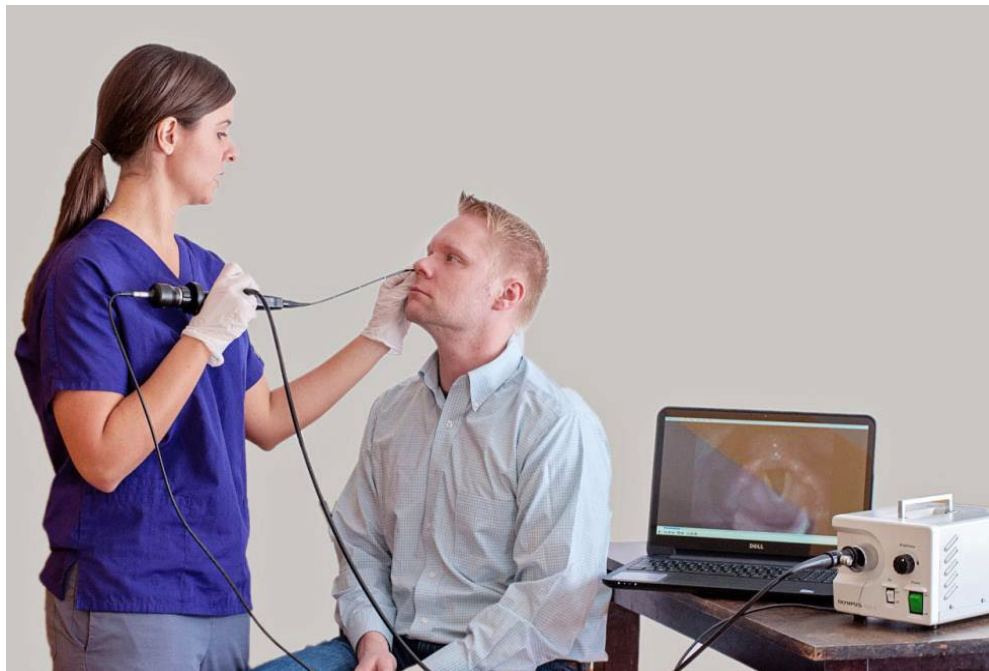
An **instrumental swallow study** looks inside your **throat** with either...

1. An **XRAY** called Modified Barium Swallow Study (MBSS)



<https://www.nm.org/conditions-and-care-areas/rehabilitation-services/rehabilitation-specialty-programs/swallowing-and-voice-center>

2. A **Camera** called Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES)



<http://wearefeesable.com/what-is-fees/>

If you **need** one of these tests, you will be **given more information**.



<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-medicine/otolaryngology/about-the-department/subspecialties/voice-and-swallowdisorders/swallowing-disorders.html>