

**Creation of a 13-Item Bedside Dysphagia Screening Test** 

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## Abstract

Dysphagia is a common problem that affects people with many health conditions and that can have serious complications. Various dysphagia screening tests exist; however, their creation was associated with certain weaknesses, e.g. none of them used "objective" instrumental tests (e.g., videofluoroscopy or flexible endoscopic examination of swallowing, FEES) in all patients to verify the results. In addition, most dysphagia screening tests were developed for stroke patients. The purpose of this study was to fill this gap. Our research included not only patients with stroke but also patients with other neurological and otorhinolaryngologic conditions. We tested 33 physical examination items in 44 patients and analyzed the results by comparing them to FEES results. Our study is the first one that performed this kind of comparison in all the patients enrolled in the study. Data mining was used to create a 13-item dysphagia screening test that has 88.2% sensitivity.

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