

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

**December 5, 2009**

Corpus Christi, Texas

A Round Table Discussion: Ethics and Clinical Decision Making in a Long Term Care Setting from the SLP and Physician Perspective

3 hours CEU. (This meets your ethics requirement for the state.)

**February 20, 2010**

Austin, Texas

Deciphering Dysphagia with E-Stim, Neuromuscular Re-education of the Submandibular Muscles to Increase Laryngeal elevation using any Class II NMES Device.

7.5 CEUs.

Please call 1-866-675-6277 to reserve a seat or download fliers for these conferences at

**mbsonline.com**

Upcoming conferences are listed on the left side near the bottom.

## Holiday Schedule

Professional Imaging typically does not run on the following dates:

**November 26-27-**

Thanksgiving

**December 25-**Christmas

**January 1-**New Year's Day

Please schedule your dysphagia consultations around these dates. All the staff at Professional Imaging wishes you very happy Thanksgiving Holiday!

## FOLLOW – UP CONSULTATIONS

As a responsible medical practice, Professional Imaging feels it is important to follow up with patients we diagnose with dysphagia difficulties. We feel that they could show improvement from tx or may need further evaluation as their disease process progresses.

Your facility will receive a follow-up reminder letter in 4-6 weeks for these particular patients. It is up to the treating therapist to determine if this is appropriate. But we do not want patients to “fall through the cracks,” especially if there are changes in staffing or rehabilitation companies.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your dysphagia team.

## SMILES ALL AROUND

*Faxing in all the appropriate paperwork when ordering a MBSS benefits everyone involved in the process – not only the scheduling and billing departments at Professional Imaging, but also the staff at your facility and, most importantly, the patient.*

Having the necessary information as soon as possible helps to ensure the MBSS will be scheduled as quickly and efficiently as possible. It allows our billing department to identify and address any potential issues with a patient's payer sources, and to submit requests for prior-authorizations when needed. Providing this information, which in many cases needs to be forwarded to a patient's insurance company, helps us to avoid claims being denied for lack of clinical information. This way we can eliminate the need to bill the patient or responsible party.

Here's what is needed:

### Intake Form

For your Medicare/Medicaid patients, please indicate who should be billed by circling Medicare A or Medicare B; Circle Medicaid if your patient has this as a secondary or primary insurance.

Please be sure to indicate the ordering physician's first *and last* name. This is necessary for having a completed medical record for your patient.

### Face Sheet

Please check to make sure the face sheet includes the patient's Social Security number, as well as member/policy ID numbers for the patient's insurances.

### Additional Information

Medicare Advantage and other private insurance plans often require prior-authorization and require “further clinical information” to approve the study. If you have completed a Dysphagia Screen or Evaluation, please submit this information with your order, as this will help us to secure an authorization.

We usually complete scheduling between 2-4pm on the day prior to the MBSS and will call to notify the contact person of the scheduled time. So please be sure the appropriate phone numbers are included on the paperwork.

Our staff affords extensive effort to making sure people are notified. However even the best attempts still result in miscommunications. Having a direct number where a designated person can be notified each time would minimize these miscommunications.

## ProImage at ASHA

Professional Imaging team, along with our sister practices, MassTex Imaging (Massachusetts), LA Imaging (Louisiana), and Midwest Dysphagia Consultants (Illinois) will be at the ASHA Conference in New Orleans – November 19-21. The mobile clinic will be set up at the convention for touring.

Please come by and meet our team. We look forward to seeing you there!

