



Consultants in Dysphagia Diagnosis and Management

523 N Sam Houston Pkwy E, Ste 125
Houston, Texas 77060-4011
Phone: (281)272-MBSS or 1-866-675-MBSS
Fax: (281)272-6281 or 1-877-676-MBSS

Modified Barium Swallow Studies
Prolmage Review January 2011

MEDICARE GUIDELINE CHANGES

ORDERS MUST NOW BE WRITTEN ACCORDING TO THEIR GUIDELINES AND SUBMITTED WITH YOUR INTAKE FORM AND FACE SHEET

Professional Imaging has always provided a Dysphagia consultation including the MBSS based on the qualifying symptoms of a patient with Dysphagia. This consultation by the Professional Imaging standard of care has always included our physician assessment of the patient, the MBSS, an esophageal scan, and a vocal cord assessment.

New Medicare guidelines now require all of our orders to list which assessments are indicated, and the medical reason for that request. Therefore, we will be expecting you to send the order along with your intake form.

As you will see in the included intake form there is list of symptoms that will help you decide which assessments you need to specify in the order. If you are referring a new patient or an established patient who now has new symptoms, it is always appropriate to order a complete consultation with all four elements because we have to evaluate the whole patient to determine the diagnosis, contributing factors and whether our strategies are likely to be effective.

Please remember that the physician does not have to sign the order to schedule the study, it just needs to be the telephone order signed by the person taking it. After faxing a copy to us to schedule the study, include it in the patients chart for signature when the physician comes to the facility.

Please see table 1.1 below for an example written order for a new patient who has not had a previous swallowing study who has coughing as an identifying symptom.

Reason for Consult: s/s of dysphagia: coughing choking difficulty swallowing follow-up eval
 weight loss pneumonia respiratory Distress wet/gurgly phonation pocketing/oral hold
 diet upgrade pretx diagnostic evaluation of swallow suspect reflux suspect silent aspiration
 feeding difficulties feeding evaluation determine least restrictive diet determine safest diet
 food/pills getting stuck history of GERD breathing difficulty with food/liquid intake change in status

This is a guideline for what the order would need to look like:

"MBSS, Esophageal, Vocal Cord, and Physician assessment due to coughing."

**If you order something that is not medically necessary, or vice versa, we as a responsible medical practice will or will not perform that portion depending on the medical necessity. This will be a learning process and transition time for us all and we will continue to provide evaluations that your patients need and can benefit from as well as education to you and your physician about the changes. **

EXAMPLE TABLE 1.1

SAMPLE

Form 989P © PHACO, Inc. Norman, IA 52056 (800) 337-2343 PHYSICIAN'S TELEPHONE ORDERS	Facility Name Nursing home			Address 100 Somewhere Blvd		
	Family Name Doe		First Name Jane	Admission Number 000	Room Number 000	Attending Physician DR. somebody
	Date Ordered 2/2/2011	Date Discontinued	ORDERS			
	Dysphagia consultation including MBSS, vocal cord, esophageal, and physician eval due to coughing/choking. John Doe, MA, CCCSLP					
Signature of Nurse Receiving Order [Signature]		Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal Orders Read Back	Signature of Physician		Date
ORIGINAL COPY - Physician Please Sign and Return						

The office or van team will call and assist you with correcting your order if it does not match the intake form. This will take some transition time learning how to write these the "new way". But I am certain that after only a few you will have the hang of it! Thanks for your continued support as we learn and grow together!

NEW MEDICAL RECORD FOR THE MBSS

Professional Imaging will be changing our reports in all regions of Texas to follow the new Medicare guidelines. We will be showing our thought process for the medical necessity behind each portion of the study that we do and how the overall diagnosis, prognosis, patient wishes, and x-ray results lead to the complex decision making and recommendations that are made for that individual patient. All the components that you are familiar with will be there, just in a different format and hopefully you will notice without all the redundancy! Professional Imaging will be using an interim report which is the first step in making our way toward an all electronic medical record which Medicare is requiring for all medical settings in 2011. Please be patient with us as we make this transition and if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions that the mobile SLP/Physician team cannot help you with please call me/email me directly. Piper Harris Cell: 832-563-7464 or email me at piperharris@gmail.com.

NEW GUIDELINES FOR ORDERS AND REPORTING PROCEDURE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED STARTING JANUARY 10th, 2011. OUR TEAM IS HAPPY TO HELP YOU LEARN THE NEW PROCESS. WE WILL ALL BE WORKING AS A TEAM TO HELP DURING THIS TRANSITION! THANK YOU.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

FEBRUARY 5

DECIPHERING DYSPHAGIA WITH ESTIM

Springhill Suites by Marriott at the Airport. San Antonio, Texas. Cost \$295 for people using PI or \$325 for people not currently using PI services. Please call 1-866-675-6277 to reserve a seat and/or get more information. Credit Card payments are accepted. If you have not yet received the flier by email, please call and give your email address to Michael or Tamara.