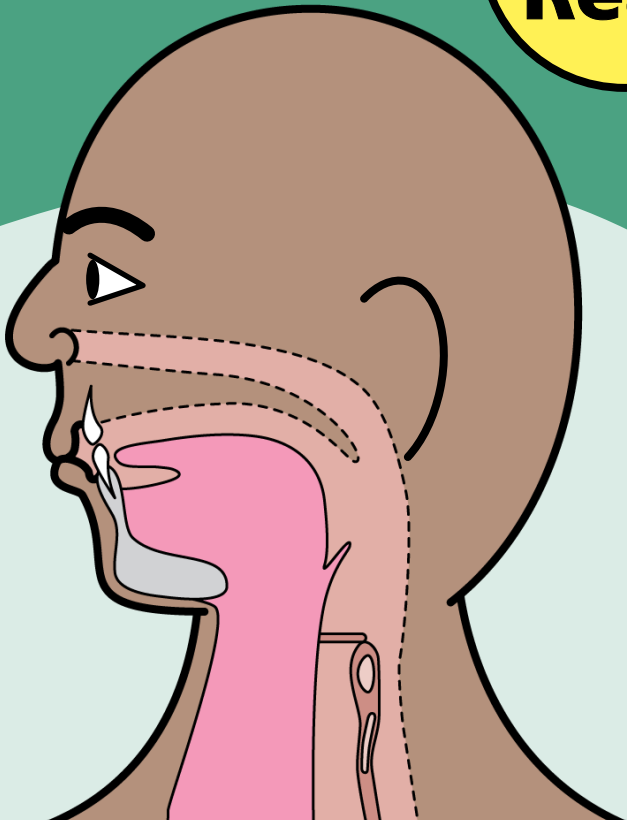


What is Dysphagia?

Information for patients,
carers and relatives

**Easy
Read**



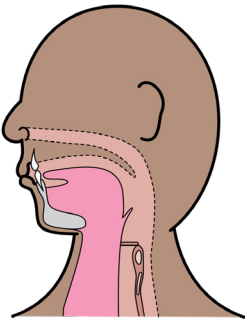
easy read



This booklet uses easy words and pictures.

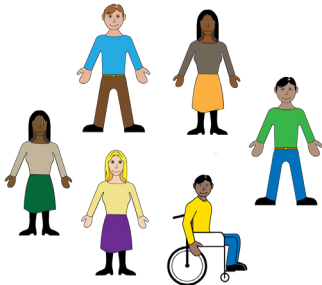
You might want to ask someone to help you read it.

dysphagia



Swallowing problems are also called dysphagia.

different reasons



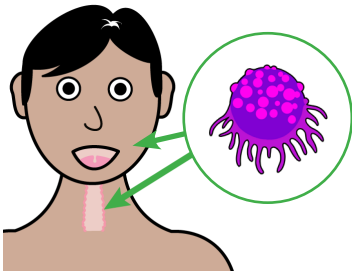
They happen for different reasons for different people.

stroke



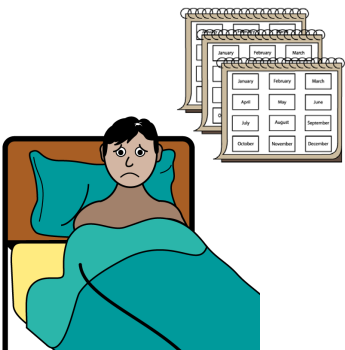
A stroke can cause swallowing problems.

cancers



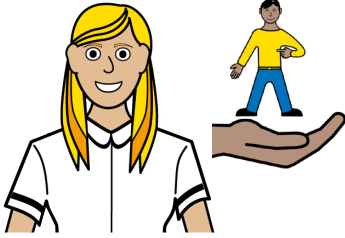
Head and neck cancers can cause swallowing problems.

long term condition

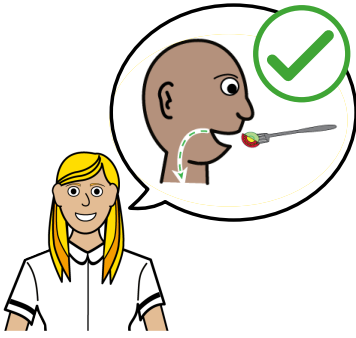


And some long term conditions can cause swallowing problems.

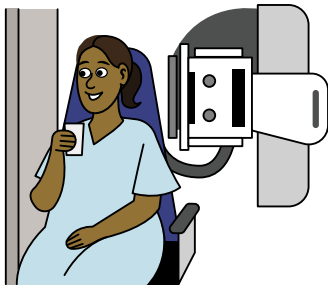
Speech and Language Therapist



check swallow



tests or scans



A Speech and Language Therapist will help and support if you have dysphagia.

They can check your swallow.

You may need some tests or scans in hospital to see what is happening.

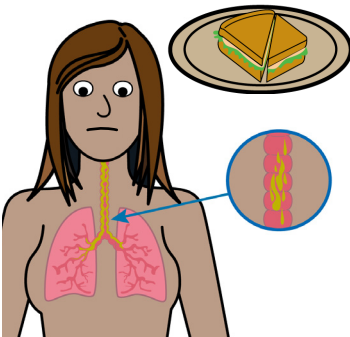
Dysphagia risks



choking



Aspirating

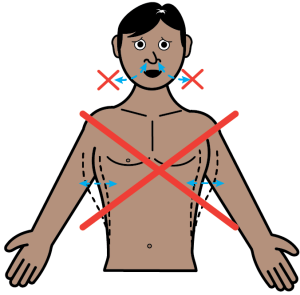


**Dysphagia has risks,
such as:**

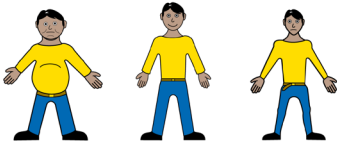
Choking.

Aspirating - this is when
food, drink and saliva
go into your lungs.

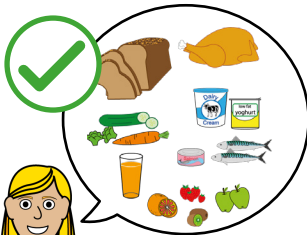
breathing problems



weight loss



advice on what to eat



Sometimes aspirating can cause a lung infection and breathing problems called pneumonia.

Or weight loss and dehydration.

This can also make you unwell.

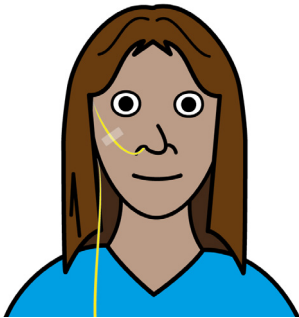
The therapist may suggest different types of food to reduce these risks.

thicker drinks



The therapist may also suggest thicker drinks.

tube feeding



They may suggest artificial (tube) feeding.

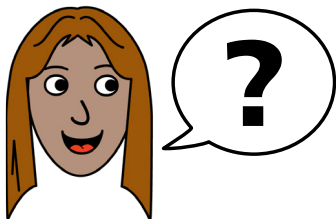
We have another Easy Read leaflet to explain this.

talk about options



You will be able to talk through all the options with your therapist, doctor and nurses.

ask staff



If you have any questions, you can ask the staff.

hospital passport



If you have a Learning Disability or Autism diagnosis please complete a Health Passport and return it to the Learning Disability and Autism team on:

leedsth-tr.lidautism@nhs.net



What did you think of your care?

Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/nhsleedsfft

Your views matter

