Physiologic Changes and Interactions with Disease in Older Adults

INTRODUCTION

Aging produces predictable and specific changes to the human respiratory and digestive systems and predisposes older people to more severe effects of—and more protracted limitations secondary to—diseases and surgical procedures. This session provides much-needed, clinically translatable information about aging-related respiratory and digestive system changes and how they affect swallowing diagnosis and treatment. The session also reviews the systemic inflammatory response syndrome (sepsis) as a model of an atypical dysphagia-producing illness.

This course is a recorded session from the 2017 online conference “Dysphagia in Older Adults.”

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:
• describe three changes in pulmonary function that naturally occur in normal aging and apply them to dysphagia assessment observations of older patients
• describe three changes in digestive system function that naturally occur in normal aging and apply them to dysphagia assessment observations of older patients
• identify the predicted effects of sepsis in observations of patient performance after recovery, and use this information to make better predictions during dysphagia assessment of older patients

PROGRAM HISTORY AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Recording length: 66 minutes
End date: May 5, 2025

To earn continuing education credit, you must complete the learning assessment on or before May 5, 2025.

This course is offered for 0.1 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area).