Aspiration Pneumonia Prevention: The Importance of Oral Care

INTRODUCTION

This course focuses on emerging research and changing practices in the management of dysphagia as it relates to aspiration pneumonia prevention and oral care. The presenters review the contribution of oral biofilms to bacterial aspiration pneumonia and systemic health, and discuss the genesis and treatments for aspiration pneumonia. The course describes the national VA deployment of a pneumonia prevention initiative and provides practical instruction in the development of an oral care program participants can use to implement a program in their own facility.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:
- discuss the association between aspiration pneumonia and dysphagia
- list the contributions of cytokines to the development of oral colonization of pathogens
- describe methods for reducing the risk of aspiration pneumonia in older adults in long-term care facilities
- name three modifiable risk factors associated with non-ventilator associated hospital-acquired pneumonia (NV-HAP)
- identify opportunities for interprofessional and patient/family collaboration in NV-HAP prevention
- determine the steps to implement oral care as a best practice in prevention of NV-HAP

PROGRAM HISTORY and IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Original recording date: April 12, 2020
End date: June 17, 2025

To earn continuing education credit, you must complete and submit the learning assessment on or before June 17, 2025.

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