

Patient Information: Male, Age 89

Diagnosis: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease / Pneumonia

History: This gentleman was referred to the facility for rehabilitation due to complications of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and chronic bronchitis. Although he was admitted without restrictions for eating or drinking, his diet was modified to include thickened liquids due to having difficulty safely swallowing water and other thin liquids.

Pre-Therapy Status:

- Swallow Endurance: Signs of muscle fatigue were noted after 7 repetitions of typical swallows.
- Functional Oral Intake Scale (FOIS) Score: 5, indicating oral diet with one modification.
- Diet Modification: Nectar thick liquids.

Therapy Information:

- Modality/Equipment: OMNI^sEMG™.
- Frequency: 5x per week.
- Protocol: sEMG-aided assessment, strengthening, and neuromuscular re-education exercises via typical swallows and effortful swallows.
- Duration: Two and a half weeks.
- Other Therapy Services Provided: Diet texture trials with different liquid consistencies and safe swallowing education.

Outcome:

- Swallow Endurance: Improved. Able to perform 25 repetitions of effortful swallows prior to onset of fatigue.
- Functional Oral Intake Scale (FOIS) Score: 7, indicating an unrestricted oral diet.
- Diet Modification: None. Unrestricted diet for solids and liquids.

The Speech Language Pathologist is thrilled with the progress this gentleman made in his swallow performance after only seven treatments of OMNI^sEMG-adjuncted speech therapy. The gentleman reports he enjoyed using sEMG to assist with his speech therapy exercises. He is excited to drink his favorite soda without any thickener and is thrilled to be back home and able to enjoy his meals without restrictions.

