

# Yale Swallow Protocol - ED

The Yale Swallow Protocol is a highly sensitive aspiration risk screening tool and is replacing the current Barnes Jewish Stroke Dysphagia tool that is found in your ED assessment/activities column. The screening tools are similar, however the Yale has exclusionary criteria prior to moving on to the screen itself.

\*\*The same process/documentation for strokes as you in the past will occur using this tool.

## Three Steps:

### Step 1: Exclusion criteria (PASS/FAIL)

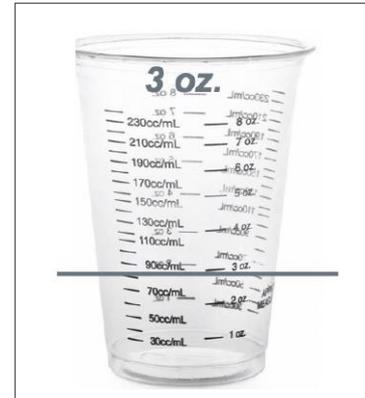
- ❑ Inability to remain alert, baseline modified diet, pre-existing tube feeding, HOB restrictions, trach, postoperative CV patient, NPO order (exclusion: potential stroke and doing initial swallow screen), Hx of head/neck cancer or intubated >48 hours - all indicate a pre-existing risk. Nursing screening is **deferred**, and patients should be referred to SLP

### Step 2: Cognitive screen & mechanical exam (Proceed to Step 3 after assessment)

- ❑ Patient states name, location, and year
- ❑ Stick out tongue, move it side to side, Smile/pucker, Close lips tight, puff up your cheeks with air and hold

### Step 3: 3-ounce water swallow challenge (PASS/FAIL)

- ❑ Sit patient upright at 80-90° (or as high as tolerated > 30°)
- ❑ Ask the patient to drink the entire 3 ounces (90mL) of water from a cup or with a straw, **in sequential swallows, and slow and steady but without stopping** (Note: Cup or straw can be held by staff or patient)
- ❑ Assess patient for coughing or choking during or immediately after drinking
- ❑ ANY signs of aspiration indicate a failure of the test (eg. Cough, throat clear, wet voice)



**Pass** (Successful uninterrupted drinking of water without signs of aspiration): **Inpatient diet, reassess as needed**  
**Fail** (Inability to drink the entire 3 ounces or overt signs of aspiration): **NPO**

For Questions, contact your unit educator

# Yale Swallow Protocol

## Cerner Update:

\*\*Yale Swallow Protocol will replace the current Stroke Dysphagia Tool

### Iview:

ED will have task triggered to Activities column for suspected stroke or as ordered. Double clicking task will take you to Yale Swallow Protocol OR you can go directly to “Acute Dysphagia Screen” section in Iview.

Swallow screen can be documented via the task or in the Iview Band (replaces current tool)

The image displays two screenshots from the Cerner Iview interface. The left screenshot shows a task list with a red circle '1' around the 'Acute Dysphagia Screen' task. A callout bubble points to this task with the text 'Select "Yes" to initiate screen'. The right screenshot shows the details of the 'Acute Dysphagia Screen' task. A red circle '2' is around the 'Initiate Dysphagia Screen' field, with a callout bubble saying 'Complete answers to questions'. A red circle '3' is around the 'Dysphagia Screening Pass/...' field, with a callout bubble saying 'Double click field to auto populate Pass/Fail'.

If the patient fails the swallow screen, keep patient NPO and contact provider.

Reference information for how to perform the screen has been attached to the swallow screening band in Iview. Previous reference materials in ordersets (eg. Stroke) will be retired.

For Questions, contact your unit educator

Updated: 11/2024

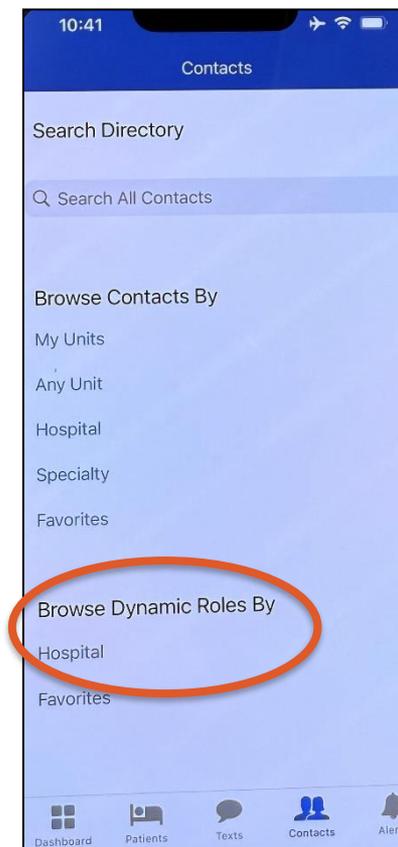
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# Communicating with Imaging Departments



**When communicating with Imaging Departments (CT, X-Ray, MRI, Nuc Med, Ultrasound) nurses should use iMobile.**

- ❑ Do **not** call the department desk phone. Staff are not stationed at this phone.
- ❑ All imaging departments will show up in iMobile when searching imaging.
  - ❑ **Contacts- Dynamic Role Hospital- Search Imaging**
- ❑ Search Imaging Services Coordinator only for escalation needs. There is someone logged into this role 24x7.
  - ❑ **Contacts- Dynamic Role Hospital- Imaging Services Coordinator**



Updated: 5/22/25

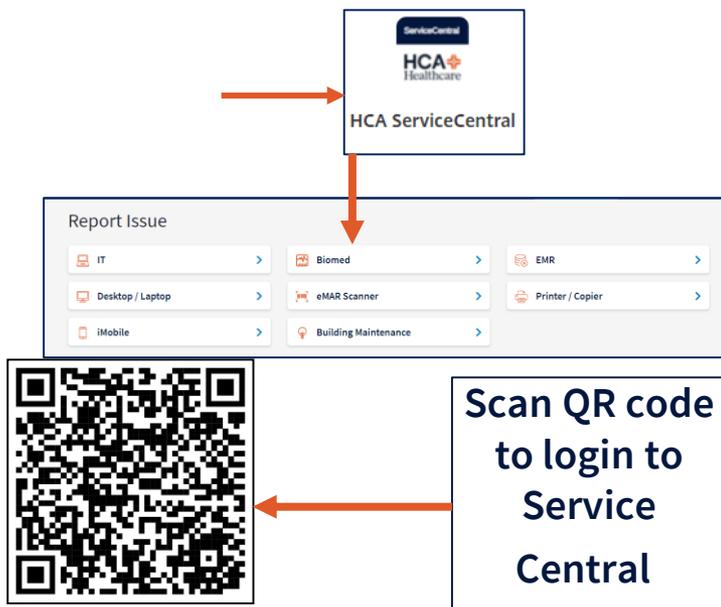
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# Entering a BioMed Ticket

Broken equipment should always be taken out of service, cleaned, tagged, and a Biomed Ticket should be entered in Service Central.

❑ To enter a ticket via Service Central for broken equipment follow these steps:

1. Login to Service Central
2. Select Biomed
3. Complete all the required fields
4. Add the hospital where the equipment is located
5. Add contact information: Use Main Unit #
6. **Enter the GE Healthcare control number**
  - If unknow, describe why it is not present (e.g. new equipment)
7. Describe the issue: include where the equipment is located
8. Select if the issue is impacting a patient
9. Add other pertinent information and be specific (e.g. "SPO2 not working" or error code message receive)
  - Do not just add "broken"



MISSION HOSPITAL

\* Enter the GE Healthcare Number (Control Number) ?

This is the number located on the affected device. If "Unknown" click the box below.

GE Healthcare Non-Facility Owned Equipment SAMPLE 180000000

GE Healthcare Non-Facility Owned Equipment SAMPLE 600000082

GE Healthcare Non-Facility Owned Equipment SAMPLE 180000000

For the most prompt response, enter the correct control number. Requests route based on control number and/or facility.

If "Unknown" click this box.

\* Describe the issue

Enter details of the problem

Did this issue impact a patient?

Yes No

Additional Comments

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