

## List of Medications that May Impact Swallow Function:

Information obtained from “Drugs and Dysphagia” published through ASHA by Lynette Carl and Peter Johnson, 2008

### Medications impacting Motor Function

- Anticonvulsants
- Antipsychotics
- Antidepressants
- Anti-anxiety Agents

“These medications all affect the function of neurotransmitters in the central nervous system” (Carl L., Johnson P., 2008). Basically, this has the potential to impact motor function as it relates to the coordination and triggering of the swallow. It was also reported, some of the side effects of antipsychotics and anti-Parkinson’s medications may cause reduced oropharyngeal function resulting in aspiration and choking.

### Medications impacting Lubrication

- Antihistamines
- Antipsychotics
- Antidepressants

These medications may cause Xerostomia (dry mouth) which may impact oral preparatory stage and oral stage of the swallow, which in turn, may interfere with bolus manipulation and AP transit.

### Medications impacting Gastrointestinal Motility

- Antihistamines
- Antipsychotics
- Antidepressants
- Pain Medications such as Narcotics

These medications may result in reduced PO intake, a reduction in appetite, pain, constipation, and vomiting.

“There are also medications that affect the lower esophageal sphincter tone and can contribute to backward-flow or reflux of stomach contents into the esophagus. These include **antidepressants, barbiturates, antihistamines, antipsychotics, benzodiazepines, calcium channel blockers, theophylline, ethanol, nicotine, estrogen replacement medications, medications related to nitroglycerin, and muscle relaxants such as baclofen**” (Carl L., Johnson P., 2008).

Medications that may cause **Stomatitis** and **Mucositis**:

- Medications that are used in cancer treatment
- Chemotherapy Medications

- Medications such as aspirin and aspirin-like products called nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)
- Tetracyclines
- Rimantadine
- Antiviral medications used in treatment of HIV disease
- Antivirals Foscavir and Cytovene

**Medications Impacting Taste and Smell:**

- Amoxicillin
- Tetracyclines
- Gentamicin
- Neomycin
- Streptomycin
- Floxin
- Rimantidine
- Pentamidine
- Anti-infective medications such as:
  - Amphotericin B
  - Ampicillin
  - Cephalosporins
  - Quinolone antibiotics like Cipro and Levaquin
  - Biaxin, ethambutol
  - Antivirals to treat HIV infection
  - Lamisil
  - Flagyl
  - Sulfa antibiotics.
- Diuretics (water pills)
- Amiodarone
- ACE inhibitors
- Calcium channel blockers
- Tambocor
- Persantine
- Methyldopa
- Beta blockers
- Anticonvulsant medications such as Dilantin and Tegretol
- Benzodiazepines such as Valium
- Muscle relaxants such as baclofen, Flexeril and Dantrium
- NSAID products such as ibuprofen
- The antipsychotic Risperdal
- Chemotherapy agents
- Antacids
- Anti-spasmodics
- Calcitonin (used to treat osteoporosis)

- Neupogen (used in cancer patients to increase the white blood cell count)