



# Sydney Swallowing

## DIAGNOSTICS

### FLEXIBLE ENDOSCOPIC EVALUATION OF SWALLOWING COURSE

#### Learning Objectives:

##### Day 1

- Understand the history of a speech pathology-led FEES and the relevance of this service model to evidence-based management of oropharyngeal dysphagia.
- Identify pharyngeal and laryngeal anatomy as seen in FEES.
- Identify events and features of oropharyngeal dysphagia that can be visualised using FEES.
- Understand the differences between FEES and VFSS and appropriate client selection.
- Understand procedures and protocols for conducting FEES.
- Understand rating scales for FEES including a secretion rating scale, residue rating scale and the penetration-aspiration scale.
- Understand the use of swallowing strategies and positions in FEES and what clients they are appropriate for.
- Understand and be able to manage risk in FEES.
- Understand problem-solving techniques for clients with dysphagia e.g., copious secretions, optimal positioning in clients with significant residue, and scope cleaning techniques.
- Review, score (using rating scales) and write a report for a FEES with supervision.

##### Day 2

- Understand the components of different FEES systems available in Australia.
- Understand and perform cleaning of FEES equipment using the Tristel system.
- Insert a nasendoscope. Obtain 3 views. Complete FEES procedure with a scope in situ.
- Use physical skills in manipulating a scope in situ to optimise assessment of swallowing.
- Complete an examination on knowledge obtained from the course.

#### Assumed Pre-requisite Knowledge:

1. Experienced in working independently with dysphagic patients including knowledge of treatment strategies, positions, techniques, equipment etc to manage dysphagia.
2. Advanced, comprehensive clinical knowledge of normal and disordered anatomy, physiology, and neurology of swallowing, including swallowing changes over the lifespan.
3. Knowledge of the use of and research in FEES.
4. Experience in VFSS (ideally VFSS competent if relevant).
5. Current and regularly updated dysphagia knowledge.