What is MDTP (McNeill Dysphagia Therapy Program)?

MDTP is a systematic exercise-based approach to dysphagia therapy in adults. Rather than a specific technique, MDTP is a framework from which to provide individualized therapy to adult patients. This one day intermediate course introduces participants to the conceptual basis of MDTP, provides the results of initial clinical studies documenting functional and physiologic benefits from MDTP intervention, describes in detail the components of MDTP, and provides step by step instruction for the evaluation and treatment of patients receiving the MDTP approach.

What are the basic components of MDTP?

MDTP is based on exercise principles. These are reviewed and explained in this course. MDTP components include a structured and validated clinical and instrumental assessment, application of food hierarchy with clinical decision strategies, and specific recommendations for monitoring patient performance and advancing safe oral intake.

Are modalities used with MDTP?

Though we have used MDTP with NMES and sEMG biofeedback, MDTP is a stand alone clinical approach to dysphagia therapy in adults. While some patients might benefit from application of adjunctive modalities in dysphagia therapy, this course will not address the inclusion of adjunctive modalities.

Who benefits from MDTP?

Our clinical research to date has focused on adult patients who have chronic dysphagia (a minimum of 6 months) and who have "failed" at prior dysphagia interventions (no improvement in safe oral intake). We have used MDTP with patients who survived stroke, head/neck cancer treatment and traumatic brain injury. While not every patient has improved following MDTP intervention, our success rate is over 90% for increased safe oral intake and nearly 70% for removal of feeding tubes in these chronic, treatment refractory patients.

Will I be able to use the MDTP approach after this one-day course?

Yes, the one day course will provide you will all the basics that an experienced clinician needs to conduct MDTP therapy. If you have questions once you start using MDTP, the course instructors are available via email to respond to your questions.

Who is McNeill?

MDTP has been tested in clinical research since 2005. Hannibal McNeill was one of the first patients who volunteered to participate in this line of clinical research. Hannibal had survived both a brainstem stroke and treatment for head and neck cancer. He entered MDTP therapy on a thick liquid diet and left three weeks later eating his favorite foods...hamburger and french fries. Nearly two years after completion of therapy Hannibal died from a brain hemorrhage. With the permission of his family, we honored his memory by naming this therapy approach after him.
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Checks Payable To:
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Timed Agenda
7:00-8:00          Buffet Breakfast (included)
8:00 - 9:30am      MDTP - What is it? How does it differ from what we currently do? AND Current evidence supporting MDTP
9:30- 10:30 am     Exercise principles in MDTP part 1
10:30-10:45 am     Break
10:45-11:30 am     Exercise principles in MDTP part 2
11:30 - 12:00 noon The MDTP Food Hierarchy
12:00 - 1:00 pm    Lunch (on your own)
1:00 - 3:00 pm     Swallowing Assessment and Outcome Protocols for MDTP
3:00 - 3:15 pm     Break
3:15 - 5:45 pm     Step by Step Therapy Procedures for MDTP
5:45 - 6:00 pm     Questions and Answers

Objectives:
Upon completion of this course participants will be able to...
1. Describe the components of MDTP therapy and differentiate this approach from more traditional therapy.
2. Describe current clinical research supporting MDTP therapy.
3. Explain how MDTP uses exercise principles to improve swallow function.
4. Explain physiologic changes in swallowing that may result from various foods/liquids.
5. Use specific clinical tools in the evaluation of patients for participation in MDTP therapy.
6. Conduct MDTP therapy sessions and monitor patient progress and outcome.

This course is offered .85 ASHA CEUS
(Intermediate level, Professional area )

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