SLT Referral Flowchart

**Signs of Dysphagia Risk**
- Frequent coughing on foods & drink
- Gurgly or wet voice after swallowing
- Difficulty chewing
- Drooling
- Weight loss
- Recurrent chest infections

**Is the resident experiencing swallowing difficulties?**

- No
- Yes

  **Has the resident’s medication changed recently that may be impacting the swallow?**
  - No
  - Yes

  **Swallowing abilities can be temporarily affected by acute illness.**
  **Refer to ‘Referrer Dysphagia Advice Leaflet’ to manage symptoms in the short-term.**
  - Can the medication be changed?

  - No
  - Yes

  **Review medication w/ the GP or Pharmacist to seek alternative/advice.**
  **Refer to ‘Referrer Dysphagia Advice Leaflet’ to manage symptoms in the short-term.**
  - Are the signs of risk still observed?

  - Yes
  - No

  **Refer to ‘Referrer Dysphagia Advice Leaflet’ & implement as appropriate.**

**No, Referral IS NOT Appropriate**

- It does not appear that a referral is appropriate. Keep monitoring resident & ring us if you are unsure

**Yes, Referral IS Appropriate**

- It appears that a referral is appropriate. Fully complete the referral form by clicking [here](#).

**Does the resident have an acute change to their health?**
- e.g. UTI

  **No**
  - Yes
  - Unsere

  **Swallowing abilities can be temporarily affected by acute illness.**
  **Refer to ‘Referrer Dysphagia Advice Leaflet’ to manage symptoms in the short-term.**
  - Once the acute illness has passed, has the resident returned to their baseline?

  - Yes
  - No

**Can the medication be changed?**

  **Change medication as directed by GP/Pharmacist.**
  **Does the resident’s swallow return to baseline?**

  - Yes
  - No

If the resident needs an emergency referral please contact the GP or your HSE/Hospital