Reduction of preventable aspiration pneumonia in hospitalized patients with dysphagia. A quality improvement project at department of Neurology at Slagelse Hospital in Denmark

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Slagelse Hospital
Background

- Every 10\textsuperscript{th} day a patient was diagnosed with a preventable aspiration pneumonia at the neurological ward at Slagelse Hospital

- 60 \% likely do to food and liquid restrictions was not respected

- Main cause was lack of knowledge and communication in the interdisciplinary corporation
Purpose

- To reduce preventable aspiration pneumonias in the neurological ward at Slagelse Hospital
- To reduce mortality caused by preventable aspiration pneumonias
- Focus on the interdisciplinary cooperation and communication between occupational therapists, nurses, patients and relatives

100 days without any aspiration pneumonias
Methods

Warning circle by patient bed
"Contact the staff"

Positioning of patients in bed (30°)
Folder for nurses to measure the angle of the headboard
Methods

Colourmarking of patient ID band (red, yellow and green)

- No food or liquid allowed
- Restrictions on food and liquids, look at the instruction
- No restrictions on food and liquids

Information for staff, patients and relatives
Results

- By May 1st 2017 we reached 151 days without any aspiration pneumonias in the neurological ward at Slagelse hospital.

- Elements from the project is now a workflow in the neurological ward at Slagelse hospital.
  - The aim is to implement parts of the projekt to other hospital wards in the region.
Feedback

Suddenly it makes sense, I now know why I’m doing it and what the consequences can be.

Focus on problems and how we as a group can solve it.

When we work together, we make a difference.

Increased focus on what’s best for our patients.

Doctors  Nurses  OT’s
Conclusion

- By including all professions in the process and working together, the project made sense.

- Simple adjustments in our daily routines can make a big difference.

- By interdisciplinary teamwork we reached 100 days without any aspiration pneumonias.
Thank you!

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