

# Adults with Learning Disabilities: Choking Prompts

In the last 18 months there have been preventable deaths of adults with a learning disability in Hampshire:

- All died from choking.
- All were known to have dysphagia.
- All had eating and drinking guidelines in place which were not being followed by paid carers.

Please provide two minutes of your consultation to prevent a death...

## What do you need to do?

**Flag the patient records** when you receive details from the community learning disability service that they have **dysphagia**.

**At each consultation ask the following three questions of carers:**

1. Are you aware the patient is at increased risk of choking and aspiration and has specific speech and language recommendations for eating and drinking?
2. Are you and your team following these eating and drinking guidelines?
3. Has there been a change in the patient's ability to eat and drink?

If the answer to the first two is **NO**, please discuss with the carers the need to follow the recommendations and then follow your safeguarding processes.

Please refer to your local Learning Disability Health Team if you have any concerns, or if the answer to the last question is **YES**.

## Your Local Teams

### North Hampshire Learning Disability Team

Winchester Team

019 6276 4560

Basingstoke Team

012 5677 6151

hp-tr.bldt@nhs.net

### West Hampshire Learning Disability Team

Totton and Waterside/West New Forest

023 8038 3444

Romsey/Eastleigh and Andover

013 2931 6226

hp-tr.whcld@nhs.net

### East Hampshire Learning Disability Team

Fareham and Gosport

013 2931 6350

Havant and East Hants

023 9244 1417

hp-tr.easthantsldadminteam@nhs.net

### Southampton Learning Disability Team

023 8231 0300

hp-rt.scltdt@nhs.net