

## Paediatric Dysphagia Management Summary - UHDB

Reference No: CH CLIN NUTRI 01

### **Summary Guideline**

This is a clinical guideline summary for the management of paediatric dysphagia.

### **Introduction**

Dysphagia is the medical term used to describe disordered eating and drinking. Dysphagia specifically refers to difficulties with eating and drinking/feeding relating to an underlying disruption to the swallowing process.

Dysphagia is a serious risk to health because of the associated risks of aspiration, pneumonia, malnutrition, dehydration and airway obstruction (choking).

Patients at Derby Children's Hospital, Neonatal Intensive Care at the Royal Derby Hospital and Neonatal Unit at Queen's Hospital Burton can experience difficulties with feeding, eating, drinking and swallowing to varying degrees of impairment. These difficulties can affect either one, some or all the oral, pharyngeal or oesophageal stages of swallowing.

### **Disclaimer**

See full guideline for further information.

### Speech & Language Therapy - Acute Paediatric Pathway

