Fiberoptic Examination of Swallowing in the Breastfeeding Infant

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ABSTRACT

The goal of this study is to describe the utility applicability of Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES) in identifying the risk for aspiration and describing the swallowing physiology of those patients that are primarily breastfed.

Breastfeeding is considered the optimum method for feeding a neonate.

The benefits and limitations of the FEES exam and VFSS have been described and are outlined in Table 5.

The majority of patients included in the normal and structural diagnostic categories were allowed to continue to breastfeed with some added feeding modifications.

Based on the demonstrated ease and safety of the FEES exam, we suggest that any breastfeeding infant experiencing feeding difficulties or noisy breathing during feeding, would benefit from direct visualization of the airway with the simultaneous evaluation of swallowing function via a FEES exam in Table 4.

REFERENCES


