
Learning Objectives

MedBridge Education
Pharyngo-Esophageal Relationships
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Course Description

This course explores the complex relationship between the pharynx and lower esophageal regions. The participant will be introduced to esophageal disorders that may impact the evaluation procedures for disorders of the upper esophageal sphincter (UES). The participant will also develop the skills to differentiate between esophageal disorders that can affect the UES, and apply their knowledge in an interactive case activity.

Chapter 1: UES Anatomy and Mechanics

The participant will:

- Learn the basics of the upper esophageal sphincter (UES) and its mechanics
- Understand how the stages of swallow interact and why they should be thought of interdependent stages
- Demonstrate the close relationship between apnic period, laryngeal closure, and UES opening

Chapter 2: Disorders of the UES

The participant will:

- Apply the basics of esophageal-based disorders towards an application of how they might affect their evaluation procedures of disorders of the upper esophageal sphincter
- Differentiate between disorders above, within, and below the upper esophageal sphincter that may be causative underlying symptoms of dysphagia