

RD's In Practice: Advancing Practice in Pediatric Nutrition
Management of Eosinophilic Esophagitis in Pediatrics
1.22.2015

Roundtable Discussion: Feeding Difficulties & EoE

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Rehabilitation Department

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Objectives

1. Identify characteristics of feeding dysfunction seen in children who have EoE.
2. Identify feeding strategies used to facilitate improved mealtimes and acceptance of foods when working with problem feeders.
3. Understand when and how to refer a problem feeder to a feeding therapist.

Presentation of Feeding Difficulties in children with EoE

- EoE presents differently at different pediatric ages
 - Pediatric Feeding Disorder in Toddler's
 - Vomiting in School Age Children
 - Abdominal Pain and Dysphagia in early Adolescence
 - Food Impaction in later Adolescence/Young Adults
- Signs of Feeding Disorder in young children
 - Failure to Thrive
 - Restricted food variety
 - Immature oral mechanics/utensil/vessel usage
 - Maladaptive behaviors
 - Food Refusal
 - Extended Meal Time
 - Limited volumes
 - Spitting food from mouth
 - Crying/turning away from food
 - Poor response to sensation of food

How Can a Feeding Therapist Help?

Once GI disorder has been medically managed, feeding disorder may still persist.

- Sensory behavioral feeding therapy
- Facilitation of food introduction and variety expansion
- Dysphagia therapy
- Age appropriate feeding skill acquisition
- Oral Mechanical Therapy

How Do I Refer My Patient?

- Referral for feeding evaluation with Pediatric Feeding Therapist from primary care physician (Occupational Therapist or Speech Language Pathologist)
- Patient self-referral to in network provider with PPO
- Patient self-referral to Regional Center

Local Feeding Therapy Providers (list is not exhaustive, nor does this represent an endorsement)

CHOC Children's Hospital, Outpatient Rehabilitation Services
Orange 714. 509. 4242
choc.org

NAPA
Los Angeles/Hawthorne 888-711-NAPA
Napacenter.org

Beach Kids Therapy
Laguna Hills 949.367.0310
San Clemente 949.498.5100
Beachkidstherapy.com

aMAYZing Kids Clinic
Lake Forest 949.600.KIDS
Amazingkids.com

Cornerstone Therapies
Huntington Beach 714.962.6760
Cornerstonetherapies.net

Professional Child Development Associates
Pasadena 626.793.7350
Pcdateam.org

Children's Therapy Center
Garden Grove 714.892.6828
Thechildrenstherapycenter.org

References:

- Mukkada, V., et al. (2010). Feeding Dysfunction in Children with Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Diseases. *Pediatrics* 126, (3), E672-E677. Retrieved January 1, 2014, from www.pediatrics.org
- Haas, A., Maune, N. (2009). Clinical Presentation of Feeding Dysfunction in Children with Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disease. *Immunology and Allergy Clinics of North America*. 29. (1). 65-75.