

Choking Risk Assessment - Service User Eating & Drinking

Service User: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Complete this Form by ticking the relevant boxes each time you suspect a service user is having difficulties eating and drinking.

CHECKLIST OF INDICATORS / OBSERVATIONS				
OBSERVATION	Never	More than once	Often	ALWAYS
1 Coughing during or after meal / drink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Choking during or after meal / drink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Gasping for breath during mealtimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 Chest infections, without the normal respiratory symptoms of a cold	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 Change in colour of the face when eating / drinking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 Change in voice quality – wet or “gurgly” voice when speaking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ticks in ONE OR MORE of the grey boxes above indicate concerns and must be referred to a SALT (Speech and Language Therapist), and the service user’s GP, as appropriate.				
7 Nasal regurgitation (food coming down nose)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8 Greater than normal level of fatigue at mealtimes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9 Taking a longer than usual time to eat and drink	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10 Difficulty in maintaining a clean mouth and teeth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11 Recent difficulty in swallowing tablets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12 Increased drooling of food / fluid / saliva	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13 Pieces of food found inside mouth – not chewed / digested	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14 Evident or suspected discomfort when swallowing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15 Recent, unplanned weight loss (without underlying health issue)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16 Sounds of respiratory difficulty (e.g. wheezing / shallow breathing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ticks in 2 OR MORE of the grey boxes above indicate concerns and must be referred to the SALT, and the service user’s GP, as appropriate.				
17 Diagnosis of reflux	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
18 Persistent dry cough	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19 Infections of the urinary tract	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20 Sleepier than usual after meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ticks in ONE OR MORE of the grey boxes above may indicate underlying health problems and must be referred to the service user’s GP.				

COMMENTS & ACTION TAKEN:

Signature: _____ Name: _____ Date: _____