Comparative Validity of G-Codes to ASHA NOMS, FOIS, & MASA Scores for Dysphagia

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Introduction
G-Codes are not easy to apply or use to identify the correct code to match the current dysphagia tools

Purpose
To evaluate the utility of commonly used dysphagia scales for G-code identification
To compare/cross walk common dysphagia scales: Functional Oral Intake Scale (FOIS), Mann Assessment of Swallowing Ability (MASA) to the Dysphagia ASHA NOMS and G-Codes.

Participants
105 dysphagia acute / sub acute stroke cases

Assessments

Procedure
Following training, undergraduate judges independently rated cases using FOIS and NOMS codes. In concurrent sessions, graduate level SLP’s independently assigned G-Codes to the same cases

Spearman correlation coefficient “r” and receiver operator curves were constructed to review the convergent validity of the tests

Results: Admission

Outcome
MASA can be effectively utilized to help assign G-codes
FOIS and NOMS scales appear statistically interchangeable.
FOIS is superior to NOMS for discharge coding.
The multi-construct and ambiguous nature of the NOMS can result in a high proportion of % missingness reducing the validity of the tool and decreasing its utility.