Oculopharyngeal Muscular Dystrophy (OPMD) Dysphagia Treatment Considerations in the Home

One of the earlier clinical presentations for diagnosis of Oculopharyngeal Muscular Dystrophy (OPMD) includes oropharyngeal dysphagia. Due to the progressive nature of OPMD, evaluation of dysphagia should be considered soon after diagnosis. However, due to the physical challenges of leaving the home, treatment may need to be initiated prior to instrumental swallow evaluation. Evidence-based treatment options will be shared to assist with clinical decision making. A case study will highlight treatment utilized and challenges encountered.

Meredith Grant Kinne, MA, CCC-SLP

Meredith Grant Kinne, MA, CCC-SLP, is a speech pathologist at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center. She provides clinical care within the Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) Program and is an Age Friendly Champion. Meredith is Chair of the National HBPC Speech Pathology Workgroup focused on developing geriatric-based care. She serves on ASHA’s SIG 15 Gerontology Coordinating Committee. Meredith’s passion is serving the communication, cognitive, and swallowing needs of the geriatric population and improving their ability to safely age in place.

Disclosures:
Financial – Meredith Grant Kinne is employed by Cincinnati VA Medical Center and receives a salary. She receives grant funding from the US Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Rural Health. She received a speaking fee from the AB-SSD for this presentation.
Non-financial – Meredith is a volunteer member of ASHA SIG 15 Gerontology.

Learning Objectives:
- Describe the clinical oropharyngeal characteristics of OPMD.
- Summarize available OPMD dysphagia treatment options.
- Examine evidence-based treatment through a case study.

Agenda:
Clinical oropharyngeal characteristics of OPMD – 10 minutes
Cases and lessons learned – 45 minutes
Discussion and closing – 5 minutes