

# WHAT is DYSPHAGIA?

**Dysphagia** (*dis-fay-juh*) is the medical term for a **swallowing disorder**. Left untreated, swallowing disorders can be life-threatening.

## SOME COMMON SIGNS:

- Extra effort or time needed to chew or swallow
- Coughing episodes when drinking or eating
- Feeling as though food is stuck in throat

Dysphagia can affect people of all ages – from newborns to seniors.

Dysphagia is a devastating and isolating disorder.

**SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS CAN HELP.**

Speech-language pathologists are leading experts in assessing and treating dysphagia. [www.communicationhealth.ca](http://www.communicationhealth.ca).



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