

Introduction

This carefully organized, pocket-sized reference guide allows quick access to precise information valuable in evaluating and treating patients with dysphagia. Medical professionals who are called upon to assess and treat individuals with dysphagia will find this reference invaluable.

The text is organized into three sections:

Part I provides an overview of the nervous system and the swallow process for those who may need to review or refer to this important basis of information. An overview of the effects of medications on swallowing is provided in Chapter 3.

Part II addresses medications affecting the central nervous system. Medications associated with oral, pharyngeal, and esophageal dysphagia; causes of dysphagia; and drug-induced dysphagia are discussed.

Part III deals with some of the most important medications that can cause dysfunction of the gastrointestinal system and those that are used to treat gastrointestinal dysfunction.

Tables are included throughout the guide for the practitioner's easy reference. These tables are organized into medication groups based on their use. Specific medications from each group are listed by both generic and brand name. The tables include the recommended doses of these medications, and the commonly encountered side effects associated with these medications, which may contribute to dysphagia.

The book is intended as a quick reference for medications affecting dysphagia. For more information, the reader is referred to the other references involving medications and to the patient's physician and pharmacist.