Contributions of the electromyography of needle for the study of swallowing in humans

**Abstract**

Intramuscular EMG is performed by the doctor, from the fixing needle electrodes or thin wire for the study of isolated muscles or deep muscles. This study aims to identify and describe the contributions of intramuscular electromyography, for the evaluation of swallowing in humans. The search, carried out between April and March 2015, in the databases PubMed, BIREME, AND BANK OF THESES OF CAPES, resulted in 21 references, of which only seven met our inclusion criteria. Selected articles make important contributions to the understanding of the electrophysiological behavior and electrophysiological during swallowing and it is believed that the lack of studies using this tool in humans should be the annoyance and risks caused by the introduction of the needle into the belly muscle and maybe the introduction of a thin wire (fine wire or wire cooper) is more interesting for the aid diagnosis of neuromuscular disorders and nerve that compromise swallowing, the ability to dramatically reduce the annoyance caused by the needle.

**Keywords:** Electromyography; Deglutition; Muscles

**Resumo**

A Eletromiografia intramuscular é realizada pelo médico, a partir da fixação de eletrodos de agulha ou de fio fino para o estudo de músculos isolados ou músculos profundos. Esse estudo tem como objetivo identificar e descrever as contribuições da eletromiografia intramuscular, para a avaliação da deglutição em seres humanos. A busca, realizada no período entre abril e março de 2015, nos bancos de dados da PUBMED, BIREME E BANCO DE TESES DA CAPES, resultaram em 21 referências, das quais, apenas sete se enquadram nos critérios de inclusão. Os artigos selecionados trazem contribuições importantes para o entendimento do comportamento eletrofisiológico e eletrofisiopatológico durante a deglutição e acredita-se que a escassez de estudos utilizando essa ferramenta em seres humanos deva-se ao incômodo e riscos causados pela introdução da agulha no ventre muscular e talvez a introdução de um fio fino (fine wire ou cooper wire), seja mais interessante para o auxílio diagnóstico de denervações e transtornos neuromusculares que comprometam a deglutição, pela possibilidade de reduzir drasticamente o incômodo causado pela agulha.

**Descritores:** Eletromiografia; Deglutição; Músculos
**INTRODUCTION**

The assessment of swallowing includes the use of specific clinical protocols and complementary tests, which aim to analyze the integrity of the structures involved in this mechanism. In addition to endoscopy and videofluoroscopy of swallowing, the literature indicates that Surface Electromyography (sEMG) and Intramuscular Electromyography (SMEI) are important tools in electrophysiological evaluation of this function\(^1\)-\(^6\).

Electromyography can be used for the diagnosis of neuromuscular diseases or trauma, and the kinesiological study of muscles in certain motor activities. Portney and Roy (2004)\(^7\) differentiate clinical electromyography of kinesiological electromyography. In clinical EMG, performed by physicians, nerve conduction velocity tests are performed. While in kinesiological EMG, it is possible to study muscle function while performing specific tasks or therapeutic regimens\(^8\).

The kinesiological EMG can be performed from surface electrodes, needle electrodes, the fine wire type or hook wire electrodes. SEMG has been widely studied and used by many researchers and health professionals, and corresponds to a non-invasive and without contraindications that aims to capture the electrical activity of muscles or muscle groups, from fixing surface electrodes on the skin parallel to the muscle fibers\(^2,3,9-11\).

However, when studying the muscles of the face and neck by sEMG, there is a greater probability of crosstalk funding (activity of neighboring muscles), making the isolated assessment of certain muscles, in addition to the high variability within and between subjects, limiting analysis of electrophysiological findings\(^12,13\). The SMEI has a great advantage over the EMGs, by minimizing the capture activity from neighboring muscles and signal interference, secondary to the displacement between the electrode and the skin, in order, that the fixing is directly inside the muscle under study\(^14\).

This technique is performed by physicians from the introduction of needle electrodes or fine Wire type set in the muscle membrane\(^14,15\). Thus, the aim of this review was to describe the contributions of SMEI, for the evaluation of swallowing in humans.

**METHODS**

The research was conducted by three researchers. Two researchers (LB and MGWS) sought the data independently and blindly initially. The third researcher (OGL), established as a proofreader. It has been consulted in cases of doubt to establish agreement between ideas. Articles were included published in the last 15 years (1999-2013), with human beings of both sexes, whose sample was made up of children, youth, adults, healthy elderly subjects (without neurological sequelae). Articles were excluded if they did not use the data obtained from needle electromyography in swallowing evaluation, review articles and studies with animal models.

The search was carried out between April and March 2015. The descriptors were chosen according to the lists DeCS and MeSH. The list of DeCS descriptors were: Swallowing and electromyography. The MeSH list descriptors were: déglutition, Swallowing and electromyography.

Keywords were also used to extend the search (Figure 1). References of selected articles were analyzed for other studies, which could have been omitted from the electronic search. Banks portal Bireme data were used (Medline, Lilacs, IBECS, Scielo, Cochrane Library, and other banks that portal), the Pubmed, and bank Capes theses. The search strategy applied followed Castro recommendations et al.\(^16\), Dickersin et al.\(^17\) and the Cochrane Collaboration.

\#1. (“fine wire” or “hook wire” or “laryngeal EMG” or “needle EMG”)

\#2. (“EMG” or “electromyography”)

\#3. (“déglutition” or “swallowing” or “swallow”)

Intersection: \#1 and \#2 and \#3

Figure 1. Descriptors used in the search. Bold the DeCS/MeSH descriptors list.
There were found 18 articles in PUBMED portal; three articles in BIREME portal and work on PERIODIC CAPES and no article in CAPES OF THESE BANK potentially relevant and were stored for analysis. Of the three selected items from PORTAL BIREME (one was repeated in the results of the survey in Pubmed portal), getting 18 articles of PUBMED, two articles of BIREME portal, and another article of Periodicos. Capes for analysis. Among the 21 articles analyzed, 16 were excluded for not meeting the inclusion criteria. After analyzing the results of the five articles that were selected, two were included. Finalizing the collection with the addition of seven articles: Vitti & Basmajian (1977)\textsuperscript{18}; Ertekin et al. (2000)\textsuperscript{19}; Ertekin et al. (2001)\textsuperscript{20}; Baudon et al. (2002)\textsuperscript{21}; Renault et al. (2011)\textsuperscript{22}; Alkan et al. (2012)\textsuperscript{23}; Inokuchi et al. (2014) \textsuperscript{24} (Figure 2, Figure 3).

**REVIEW IN THE LITERATURE**

Analyzing the articles and the instrumentation used it was observed that only the items Ertekin (Ertekin et al. (2000)\textsuperscript{19}, and Ertekin et al. (2001)\textsuperscript{20} and Alkan et al. (2012)\textsuperscript{23} used a control group of subjects considered normal, while Baudon et al. (2002)\textsuperscript{21} and Renault et al. (2011)\textsuperscript{22} used recommended normal data for previous studies.

Only items Ertekin (Ertekin et al, 2000)\textsuperscript{19} and Ertekin et al, 2001)\textsuperscript{20} and Alkan et al. (2012)\textsuperscript{23} described the
filter that have been configured on the EMG machine, but did not report the sampling frequency, while Inokuchi et al. (2014)\textsuperscript{24} reported only the sampling frequency (Table 1).

The lack of agreement among researchers, as to the most appropriate technical specification, hinders the replication of their studies and can lead to different results. Only two (Vitti & Basmajian (1977)\textsuperscript{18} and Inokuchi et al. (2014)\textsuperscript{24}) used electrodes of the fine wire type or hook wire, although the most suitable in kinesiology studies because they cause less interference and discomfort to patients (Table 1).

Electromyography is used to assess the scope of diseases or traumas as well as a tool for studying kinesiological neuromuscular function. The kinesiological EMG aims to examine the function and / or muscle performance, while performing specific tasks purposeful, or therapeutic regimens. For this, the therapist examines patterns of muscle response onset and cessation of activity, muscle fatigue and muscle response level in relation to the effort; type of muscle contraction and position. This type of test may be performed by surface electrodes for the study of superficial muscles and needle or thin wire electrodes (fine wire) for detecting the electrical activity of specific muscles and / or deep\textsuperscript{7}.

Few items with humans who have studied the electromyographic activity from needle electrodes or fine wire type during swallowing were found. In the search performed in the databases referred to above, seven articles were selected to describe the contributions of intramuscular electromyography for the evaluation of swallowing in humans. Tables 1 and 2 are important methodological information to those provisions.

**EMGi’s contributions to the study of swallowing in humans**

**Vitti & Basmajian (1977)\textsuperscript{18}**

Vitti & Basmajian (1977)\textsuperscript{18} aimed to analyze comprehensively intramuscular myoelectric activity of muscles: temporal, masseter, medial pterygoid, anterior belly of the digastric, mylohyoid and geniohyoideous in “normal” individuals with bipolar type electrodes “fine wire” during jaw movements, chewing and swallowing. Evaluated 29 participants considered normal, with all the teeth in the oral cavity (Table 2).

As this review aims to describe the contributions of EMG i for evaluation of swallowing, the line of reasoning will focus on the results found in this function.

The data were analyzed according to the analog method of classification developed by Basmajian (1974), as follows: “O”, no activity; “±” insignificant activity; “+” very marked activity, and “++” moderate activity. “++” very marked activity, and “++++” moderate activity. Vitti & Basmajian (1977)\textsuperscript{18} studied the electrical activity in the following tests: saliva swallowing and swallowing a volume of water not described in the article. As a result, there was found that during saliva swallowing is the full participation of suprahyoid muscles, confirming the findings of Cunningham and Basmajian (1969)\textsuperscript{26}, Lehr et al. (1971)\textsuperscript{28}, and Hrycyshyn and Basmajian (1972)\textsuperscript{27}. Marked activity occurred in the anterior belly of the digastric and the mylohyoid muscle, followed by moderate activity of the geniohyoid muscle.

The medial pterygoid was activated in 82% of the sample, with wide participation. In other muscles, the activity ranged from negligible to light. In the temporal muscle, the activity was present in 23-36% while the masseter in 55% of cases. The researchers believe that the activity observed in the temporal muscle, masseter and medial pterygoid is probably the result of contact of the posterior teeth when swallowing occurs, as shown in cinefluoroscopic studies\textsuperscript{28}.

This study analyzed the swallowing of water in three stages: 1-Sipping, 2- retaining water for 5 seconds and 3- swallowing. In the first phase, there is no activity in the temporal muscle, masseter and medial pterygoid. Potential insignificant was observed in the anterior belly of the digastric, mylohyoid and genius-hyoid, ranging between 46 and 64% of cases. This activity is probably a result of mild depression jaw, necessary to keep the glass of water between his lips.

During the second stage, holding the water in the oral cavity, all muscles remained electrophysiological silence. In the last phase, swallowing, it found the total activity in the anterior belly of the digastric, mylohyoid and genius-hyoid. Insignificant activities were observed in some cases, the anterior and posterior portions of the temporal and masseter muscles while in the medial temporal potential was inactive. On the other hand, the pterygoid muscle showed moderate activity in 86% of cases. Vitti & Basmajian (1977)\textsuperscript{18} believe that this activity may occur to keep the posterior tooth contact.

It was mentioned in the methods as given in the command swallowing events. Only the results, the
authors mention that the participants keep the glass of water between his lips to sip; however, that time is carried over? What volume of water administered? The authors also did not mention the sample filters and frequency programmed into the device.

The study by Vitti and Basmagian (1977) back as a contribution demonstrating the EMG activation of muscles: the anterior digastic Venter, milohyo- lideous, geniohyoideous (suprahyoid muscles), medial pterygoid, masseter and temporal (muscles lifts the jaw) in different times of swallowing in humans.

Ertekin et al. (2000)

Ertekin et al. (2000) investigated the pathophysiology of dysphagia in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) by clinical and electrophysiological measurements such as: larynx displacement from a piezo-electric sensor; electromyographic activity surface of suprahyoid muscles (EMG-MSH) and intramuscular electromyographic activity of the cricopharyngeal muscle (SMEI through needle electrodes) during swallowing of different water volumes (Table 1 and 2). As a result, they found that the activity of suprahyoid muscles in the dry swallowing (saliva) was significantly longer, while the larynx repositioning time remained within the normal range in patients with ALS.

The cricopharyngeal muscle of patients with ALS showed severe abnormalities during the voluntary swallowing, which, according to the authors, may be due to the delay in the opening of the upper esophageal sphincter and/or by premature closure of this sphincter; the total duration of opening was short, with unexpected bursts of motor units and the lack between the muscles lifts of the larynx and the opening of the upper esophageal sphincter was significant.

Ertekin et al. (2000) concluded that there are two pathophysiological mechanisms in the dysphagia of it: the first concerns the delay or absence of triggering the reaction in pharyngeal voluntary swallowing; and preservation of activity in the reflex automatic swallowing; the second is related to the hypertonicity and hyperreflexivity of the cricopharyngeal muscle. The authors believe that this is due to the progressive degeneration of the fibers corticobulbals.

Ertekin et al. (2000) brings as a contribution to a better understanding of the pathophysiologic characteristics of swallowing in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis with the analysis of electrophysiological parameters obtained from the semg of the supra-hyoid muscles, EMHi of needle of the cricopharyngeal muscle and the establishment of a limit of dysphagia. What proves to be possible to identify changes in electromyographic activity during swallowing of patients with ALS and thus promote the therapeutic planning and systematic monitoring of the treatment and/or management in these cases.

Ertekin et al. (2001)

The study by Ertekin et al. (2001) aimed to show the existence and frequency of subclinical electrophysiological abnormalities in oropharyngeal swallowing in myotonic dystrophy, as well as to clarify the pathophysiological mechanisms in this disorder through the following findings: displacement of the larynx, from a piezoelectric sensor; electromyographic activity surface of suprahyoid muscles (EMG-MSH) and intramuscular electromyographic activity of the cricopharyngeal muscle (SMEI through needle electrodes) during swallowing of different water volumes (Table 1 and 2).

The electrophysiological behavior of the cricopharyngeal muscle was considered normal in eight patients with myotonic dystrophy. Of these eight, two were diagnosed with dysphagia, and six were considered non-dysphagia. The tonic activity of the cricopharyngeal muscle rest was off by 400 to 500 msec, while performing the raising and lowering of the larynx. In the five remaining patients, all with dysphagia, EMG cricopharyngeal muscle was considered pathological and showed clinical signs and symptoms suggestive of CNS involvement.

In this study, the examination of the cricopharyngeal muscle was considered normal in most patients with myotonic dystrophy with or without dysphagia. Although for about 40%, all with dysphagia, the electrophysiological examination of the cricopharyngeal muscle showed several abnormalities. During swallowing, early firing activity and silence recovery appeared in EMG and tended to be high amplitude and long duration. In three patients with congenital myotonia, EMG cricopharyngeal muscle was normal, both at rest and during swallowing. Ertekin et al. (2001) concluded that the involvement of the CNS may contribute to the delay in the swallowing reflex shooting and abnormal EMG EES can identify dysphagia in this disease.

Ertekin et al. (2001) bring as contributions, physiopathological features of swallowing in myotonic dystrophy, with the analysis of electrophysiological parameters obtained from the semg of the supra-hyoid muscles, EMHi of the cricopharyngeal muscle and the establishment of a limit of dysphagia. As Ertekin et al.
(2000)\textsuperscript{19}, allows us to believe that the EMG can identify changes in muscle activity during swallowing of these patients and thus promote the therapeutic planning and systematic monitoring of the treatment and/or management by a speech.

\textit{Baudon et al. (2002)}\textsuperscript{21}

The aim of the survey of Baudon et al. (2002)\textsuperscript{21} was to evaluate the motor dysfunction by manometry and electromyography of intramuscular needle, the genioglossus muscle and tireoideous, during sucking and swallowing of newborn infants, with a result of Pierre Robin (SPR). These patients had upper airway obstruction and dysphagia disease (Table 1 and 2).

The EMG showed lack of sucking and swallowing in 24 of 28 patients. The röts were mild in six, moderate in six and severe in 12 patients. All patients demonstrated manometric disorders such as: relaxation is incomplete or assynchronous of upper esophageal sphincter (15). Activity of the EES with wave multi-peaks (17), waves of amplitudes too high (14) and asynchronous relaxation of the lower esophageal sphincter higher (19). The frequency of disturbances and mean blood pressures at rest of both: upper esophageal sphincter and less were significantly higher than in patients with gastro-esophageal reflux disease.

These results were obtained from the comparison of the data found in this study, with recommended normal data in previous studies by Renault & Raimbault (1992)\textsuperscript{29}. These researchers, in the study entitled “Electromyographie faciale, linguale pharyngée et chez l’enfant: une méthode d’étude des troubles de succion-déglutition et de leur physiopathologie” found the electromyographic activity from needle electrodes of the genioglossus muscles and tireoideous, to analyze the coordination between the suction and swallowing newborns considered normal.

They believed that the activity of the genioglossus is related to the suction process and the activity of the muscle tireoideous with swallowing. Baudon et al. (2002) concluded that the 21 manometry and EMG were able to identify malfunctions in the motor organization of the tongue, pharynx, and esophagus; even in the absence of clinical disorders in swallowing.

The identification from the SMEI, incoordination between the suction and swallowing found in the search Baudon et al. (2002)\textsuperscript{21} has important contributions to the objective record of evaluation and management of patients with Pierre Robin Sequence. A lack of coordination between these two functions enhances the risk of penetration and aspiration of salivary content and/or feed.

\textit{Renault (2011)}\textsuperscript{22}

Renault (2011)\textsuperscript{22} evaluated the relevance of EMG combined techniques in the evaluation and management of children with Pierre Robin sequence (SPR) from the needle electromyography of facial muscles, tongue, pharynx and larynx (Table 1 and 2); They followed 81 infants among them 57 with Pierre Robin sequence alone (SPRI) and 24 with Pierre Robin sequence associated (SPRA) (Table 2).

As a result, they found electrophysiological signs of neural impairment in facial muscles in 17 of 24 patients with Pierre Robin sequence associated. The soft palate muscles showed traces of low amplitude in 41.4% of patients who required two surgical steps to the soft palate repair; 18.5% of those who needed only one surgical step. In electrophysiological studies during bottle-feeding, patients with moderate or severe abnormality of oral coordination / pharyngeal required more prolonged enteral feeding, patients with mild abnormalities or regular coordination.

Neurogenic electromyographic signals were detected in at least one of the facial muscles or oral, for 17 of 24 patients with Spra, and one of 57 patients with SPRI (\(p <0.0001\)). Neurogenic signs were more frequently detected in the face and the soft palate, which in the language. Electromyographic signs of denervation of the facial muscles have been identified in the muscles of the tongue and soft palate in four patients.

Abnormal coordination patterns between sucking and swallowing were classified into three stages of severity, from, electromyography: (a) light: this suction, however, alternating between sucking and swallowing irregular; (B) Moderate: Suction present with synchronous or random pharyngeal phase; or (c) severe: the language did not perform the rhythmic sucking activity, and inactive or tonic pharyngeal phase. Renault et al. (2011), as well as Baudon et al. (2002)\textsuperscript{21} compared their results with proposed normal data in previous studies, however, Renault et al. (2011)\textsuperscript{22}, cites Renault (2001)\textsuperscript{30}, as being the source of such data, and in fact, this article describes the facial electromyography in newborns and young infants with congenital facial weakness, which leads us to believe that failed to referencing these normal findings and it is likely, given the similarity in the studies and the authors, the normal data used by Renault et al. (2011)\textsuperscript{22} are based on data.
obtained in Renault & Raimbault\textsuperscript{21}, as well as the study of Baudon et al. (2002)\textsuperscript{21}

Renault et al. (2011)\textsuperscript{22}, bring relevant data to corroborate the results found by Baudon et al. (2002)\textsuperscript{21} assisting the analysis and interpretation of electrophysiological data of the muscles involved in swallowing.

\textit{Alkan et al. (2012)}\textsuperscript{23}

The research of Alkan et al. (2012)\textsuperscript{23} presented to analyze the relationship between the severity level of the gastroesophageal reflux, patterns of contraction and behavior of the cricopharyngeal muscle through the analysis of measures of electrophysiological cricopharyngeal muscle, from the intramuscular electromyography with electrode of needle. For this purpose, there were compared 24 patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease, with 21 healthy volunteers. The severity of reflux was diagnosed through endoscopy upper GI series,\textsuperscript{24} and the application of the protocol Demeester score (Table 1 and 2).

The gastroesophageal reflux disease was mild in 15 patients and moderate to severe in nine patients. The record of the triggering of motor units was normal in both groups during the period pre-swallow/post-swallowing. The research kinesiological revealed that the number of patients who showed no shots of electromyographic activity during the period of pre-swallowing had a positive correlation with the severity of reflux and the quantity of liquid swallowed. Shots passed were observed in patients with reflux and in the control group. The duration of the pre-swallowing and the shots passed (rebound burst) was similar in all groups.

The duration of swallowing, corresponding to the period of silence, electrophysiological was shorter in patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease lightweight, when compared to the group of healthy subjects, and the group with moderate dysphagia and severe. The swallowing in parts (piecemeal deglutition) the volume of 10 ml was high in patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease moderate to severe. Also, found a positive correlation of the number of swallowing with the severity of reflux. Alkan et al. (2012)\textsuperscript{23} concluded that electromyography of needle of the upper esophageal sphincter, was normal in patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease. The ratings kinesiological, showed an increase in piecemeal deglutition and in the number of swallowing, and correlated, thus, positively correlated with the severity of reflux. And bring as contributions, important results on the electrophysiological behavior of the cricopharyngeal muscle during your rest and in swallowing in patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease.

\textit{Inokuchi et al. (2014)}\textsuperscript{24}

In this study, the researchers analyzed the electromyographic signal, picked up by fine-wire electrodes, during swallowing, to determine the typical sequence of activation of muscles involved in swallowing in normal subjects (no dysphagia). From their results, they determined the time of activation of the muscles (of the geniohyoid, anterior belly of the digastric, esternohyoideous and masseter) and compared these times between the different consistencies (Tables 1 and 2).

Considering the “onset” of the geniohyoid muscle as reference (first moment of swallowing - 0s), these researchers found that the intake of thickened liquids, the masseter, of the geniohyoid and anterior digastic belly, they were activated always simultaneously; while esternohyoideous muscle was activated later. With solid foods, the contraction of the masseter precedes the time of activation of of the geniohyoid muscle and anterior digastic belly, while the activation of the muscle was later esternohyoideous and lagging behind swallowing liquids.

The role of the masseter differs between solid and liquid food so that the change in its delay is expected. The timing contraction of of the geniohyoid muscles and anterior digastic belly was consistent with its important role in laryngeal elevation. The contraction of the muscle esternohyoideous was always after the other muscles studied both in swallowing liquids and solids.

This sequence confirms previous studies, which described the events related to swallowing. Initially, there is the closing of the mouth and jaw stabilization by the action of the levator muscles of the jaw (masseter among them). Then the suprahyoideus muscles (especially genius-hyoid and digastic anterior belly) move the hyoid bone, upper and above. This action facilitates the clearance of the mouth by the action of the tongue and opening of the upper esophageal sphincter. Finally, infrahyoid muscles, represented by esternohyoideous, pull the hyoid bone inferiorly and subsequently providing their return to resting position characterizing the end of swallowing\textsuperscript{31,32}.

Inokuchi et al. (2014)\textsuperscript{24} found that the pattern of activation of the hyoid muscles during swallowing food consistencies of the different supports the concept
of the central pattern generator to the pharyngeal swallowing (Table 2).

In this article, the authors did not mention what was offered in liquid consistency thickened, and also not mentioned the band pass filter set in electromyography equipment. The absence of such information can hamper the realization of this protocol in other studies; besides the fact that different methodologies may lead to different results.

However, it can be considered that the study confirms the findings of different researchers and brings as contributions activation sequence of muscles involved in swallowing. This information can come to help the electrophysiological evaluations, with incoordination identification muscle activation that would result in deficits in oral motor control and risk of penetration and/or aspiration of food content, requiring further research to validate the results.

In the past, the needle electromyography was quite used to further the understanding of the electrophysiological behavior of muscles involved in swallowing and to be quite uncomfortable, most studies have been conducted in animal models.

These studies are not recent; the first survey was conducted by Doty and Bosman in 1956. In this study, the electromyographic during swallowing was observed in 22 muscles of the mouth area, pharynx and larynx of monkeys, dogs and cats through electromyography needle (cooper wire type electrodes).

These scholars have identified a complex of muscles that considered key to the mechanism of swallowing, they are: higher pharyngeal constrictor, palatopharyngeal, palatoglossus, posterior intrinsic muscles of the tongue, styloglossus, stylohyoid, genius-hyoid and mylohyoid. Surprisingly, different from that found in the study of Vitti and Basmajian (1977), Doty and Bosman (1956) found electrophysiological silence of digastric and sternohyoideus muscles, besides the previous sternothyreoid and intrinsic muscles of the tongue of cats and dogs during swallowing. Thexton (2007) recreated the study Doty and Bosman (1956) evaluating swallowing eight young pigs from the radiographic simultaneous study the electromyographic examination, carried out with the hook type electrodes (fine wire) 16 muscles and get results that approached the description by Doty and Bosma, identifying a main complex of muscles involved in this mechanism. However, the mylohyoid muscle has not been activated early on in relation to the other and of the geniohyoid muscle there was not part of this complex. Some classically considered inactive muscles showed active in the pharyngeal phase of swallowing, including the digastic.

There is disagreement on the results of these studies which may be related to methodological differences, such as equipment specifications, different contents and volumes offered, various samples (different animal species with a variation in the thickness and length of the studied muscles) and including the limitations imposed by own method of analysis. However, it is notorious and devoted the importance of mylohyoid muscles, of the geniohyoid and anterior digastic belly swallowing humans, acting synergistically and jointly. The mylohyoid raises hyoid bone, the floor of the mouth and tongue and plays an important role in the early stages of swallowing. The anterior belly of the digastic directs the hyoid bone up and forward and of the geniohyoid muscle also acts on the rise and the hyoid anteriorly swallowing.
Table 1. Technical specifications of electromyography.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Muscles</th>
<th>Ertekin et al, 2000&lt;sup&gt;18&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Ertekin et al, 2001&lt;sup&gt;19&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Baudon et al, 2002&lt;sup&gt;20&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Renault et al, 2011&lt;sup&gt;21&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Inokuchi et al, 2014&lt;sup&gt;22&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Aikan et al, 2012&lt;sup&gt;23&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Movement of the larynx</td>
<td>- Movement of the larynx</td>
<td>- Genioglossus</td>
<td>- Orbicular of the eyes</td>
<td>- Geniohioideus</td>
<td>- Muscle cricopharyngeus</td>
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<td>- MSH</td>
<td>- MSH</td>
<td>- Tireohioideous</td>
<td>- Elevator of the velum</td>
<td>- Anterior belly of digastric</td>
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<td>- Cricopharyngeus</td>
<td>- Cricopharyngeus</td>
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<td>- Palatoglossus</td>
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<th>Electrodes</th>
<th>Bipolar surface and electrode of needle (DMC-37).</th>
<th>Bipolar surface and electrode of needle (DMC-37).</th>
<th>Monopolar concentric needle (25 mm 30 of caliber)</th>
<th>Hook wire 40 gauge and needle with 27 de caliber of 12.5 mm, hypodermic and sterile. And used the retificated and integrated signal.</th>
<th>Bipolar concentric needle of 26 gauge.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical Specifications</td>
<td>Band-pass of 100 Hz – 10kHz, amplified, retificado e integrado</td>
<td>Band-pass of 100 Hz – 10kHz, amplified, retificated and integrated.</td>
<td>Does not refer</td>
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<td>Filter</td>
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<td>Sample charge</td>
<td>Does not refer</td>
<td>Does not refer</td>
<td>Does not refer</td>
<td>1,5 à 3 Khz</td>
<td>Does not refer</td>
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<td>Other integrated resources</td>
<td>Sensor Piezoelectric: filter band-pass: 0.01-20 Hz</td>
<td>Sensor Piezoelectric: filter band-pass of 0.01-20 Hz</td>
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<td>Associated tests</td>
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<td>Parameters electrophysiological</td>
<td>- TRL - Coordination between the sucking and swallowing.</td>
<td>- Coordination between the sucking and swallowing.</td>
<td>- Maximum Amplitude of suction; -Coordination between the sucking and swallowing.</td>
<td>- Moments of the beginning of muscle activation (onset)</td>
<td>- Electromyographic amplitude</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- DD - Coordination between the sucking and swallowing.</td>
<td>- Coordination between the sucking and swallowing.</td>
<td>- Maximum Amplitude of suction; -Coordination between the sucking and swallowing.</td>
<td>- Moments of the beginning of muscle activation (onset)</td>
<td>- Electromyographic amplitude</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- TRDD - A EMG of MSH - LO - Coordination between the sucking and swallowing.</td>
<td>- Coordination between the sucking and swallowing.</td>
<td>- Maximum Amplitude of suction; -Coordination between the sucking and swallowing.</td>
<td>- Moments of the beginning of muscle activation (onset)</td>
<td>- Electromyographic amplitude</td>
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</table>

EMG: Electromyography; Hz: Hertz; kHz: Kilohertz; mm: mm; EMGi: intramuscular Electromyography; KV: Kilovolt; microvolts: microvolts; TRL-Time for the repositioning of the larynx; DD-Duration of swallowing; TRDD-Time for carrying out the shooting of swallowing; VD-variability of swallowing (jitter); AEMG: EMG Amplitude; MSH: supra-hyoid Muscles; LD: dysphagia limit; PD: Peace meal deglutition; PPD: Presence of pre-swallowing; DPD: length of pre-swallowing; Dr: Shots passed; Paragraph (D): number of swallows.
### Table 2. Methodological characteristics of selected articles of BIREME and PUBMED.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author(s) and Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Population/ Age</th>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Tests</th>
<th>Used tools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vitti &amp; Basmajian, 1977&lt;sup&gt;1a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Integrated action of the muscles of mastication: simultaneous EMG eight intramuscular electrodes</td>
<td>Fisiopatologicóis mechanisms of dysphagia orofaringea in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis. Electrophysiological assessment of oropharyngeal swallowing in myotic dystrophy.</td>
<td>29 healthy adults/20-47 years</td>
<td>The sample was composed of two main groups: GND, GD. The GD group was subdivided into: subject with SCPD, SCBI and SCBP. The sample was composed of four groups: 1: distafico, 2: distafico, 3: not with symptoms of CNS involvement, 4: showing congenital myotonia for the study of the effects of myotonia.</td>
<td>Intake of water: (a) sipping water; (b) water retention in the mouth for 5 seconds (c) swallowing; -Swallowing test of growing volumes of water-LD; -swallowing dry test (saliva)</td>
<td>-EMGi with bipolar electrode type fine wire EMG graduation method proposed by Basmajian (1974); -Laringevo Sensor (pie-zoelétrico); -Songs-EMGi with needle electrode; -Needle EMGi; -Needle EMGi- esophageal Manometry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ertekin et al, 2000&lt;sup&gt;1b&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Analyze comprehensively the myoelectric activity of masseter, temporal intramuscular, medial pterygoid, belly of the digastic, milo-hióideo and genius-hióideo muscles in normal subjects *</td>
<td>Investigate the pathophysiological mechanisms of dysphagia in her through clinics and elektrofisiologicas measures.</td>
<td>43/36-72 years/50-30 SHE- 75 years-normal</td>
<td>The sample was composed of 3 groups: 1: ADR and absence of dysphagia; 2: ADR and presence of dysphagia requiring VA and 3: PAIR and presence of dysphagia with use of neospharyngeal tube.</td>
<td>Swallowing of growing volumes of water: 1, 3, 5, 10, 15 and 20 ml-LD</td>
<td>-EMGi with bipolar electrode type fine wire EMG graduation method proposed by Basmajian (1974); -Laringevo Sensor (pie-zoelétrico); -Songs-EMGi with needle electrode; -Needle EMGi; -Needle EMGi- esophageal Manometry.</td>
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<td>Ertekin et al, 2001&lt;sup&gt;1b&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Show the existence and frequency of sub-clinical abnormalities in oro-pharyngeal swallowing and sort the mechanisms of dysphagia in DM by EMG.</td>
<td>Evaluate the motor dysfunction in children with PRS that upper airway obstruction manifestation and congenital dysphagia.</td>
<td>18/19-66 years-30 DM/25-65 years-normal</td>
<td>The sample was composed of three groups: Group 1: ADR and DT with ADL before a month of born; 2: ADR, but with DD; 3: with COUPLE that prevent any attempt of AVO and present DD.</td>
<td>-The suction-swallowing EMG the baby sucked water from a bottle (for comparison between the 3 groups with SPR); -For dried deglutícôs was asked 10 manometry (to compare the PRS group with babies with GERD).</td>
<td>-EMGi with bipolar electrode type fine wire EMG graduation method proposed by Basmajian (1974); -Laringevo Sensor (pie-zoelétrico); -Songs-EMGi with needle electrode; -Needle EMGi; -Needle EMGi- esophageal Manometry.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baudon et al, 2002&lt;sup&gt;11&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Evaluate the motor dysfunction in upper digestive tract in the Pierre Robin Sequence evaluated by Electromyography of swallowing and esophageal manometry- sucção.</td>
<td>Assess the relationship between the level of severity of GERD and contraction patterns and behavior of DBM through analysis of electromyographic measures of this muscle</td>
<td>28/babies to term (15 to 45 days)-SPR 16/ under 3 months of age-infants with gastroesophageal reflux (GERD)</td>
<td>The sample was composed of three groups: Group 1: healthy Group 2 participants: GERD take Group 3: moderate to severe GERD.</td>
<td>-Weeping and suction; -Flashing Movements; -Coordination between swallowing and sucking, while baby sucks water from a bottle.</td>
<td>-EMGi with bipolar electrode type fine wire EMG graduation method proposed by Basmajian (1974); -Laringevo Sensor (pie-zoelétrico); -Songs-EMGi with needle electrode; -Needle EMGi; -Needle EMGi- esophageal Manometry.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renault et al, 2011&lt;sup&gt;12&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Motor dysfunction of upper digestive tract in the Pierre Robin Sequence evaluated by Electromyography of swallowing and esophageal manometry- sucção.</td>
<td>Analyze the relationship between the level of severity of GERD and contraction patterns and behavior of DBM through analysis of electromyographic measures of this muscle</td>
<td>81/babies at the end of the first month showing the SPR</td>
<td>The sample was composed of three groups: 1: ADR and DT with ADL before a month of born; 2: ADR, but with DD; 3: with COUPLE that prevent any attempt of AVO and present DD.</td>
<td>-swallowing dry 3 ml of water-10 ml of water</td>
<td>-EMGi with bipolar electrode type fine wire EMG graduation method proposed by Basmajian (1974); -Laringevo Sensor (pie-zoelétrico); -Songs-EMGi with needle electrode; -Needle EMGi; -Needle EMGi- esophageal Manometry.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alkan et al, 2012&lt;sup&gt;23&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Electrophysiological findings of cricofaringe muscle in patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease.</td>
<td>Electrolymography of swallowing with intramuscular fine wire electrodes in humans healthy: following activation of muscles hióideo</td>
<td>24 patients with GERD/age less than 60 years 21 healthy subjects/age below 60 years</td>
<td>The sample was composed of three groups: Group 1: healthy Group 2 participants: GERD take Group 3: moderate to severe GERD.</td>
<td>-10 ml of a liquid thickened-6 g banana; -6 g of tofu consistent-6 g of a &quot;cookie&quot;</td>
<td>-EMGi with bipolar electrode type fine wire EMG graduation method proposed by Basmajian (1974); -Laringevo Sensor (pie-zoelétrico); -Songs-EMGi with needle electrode; -Needle EMGi; -Needle EMGi- esophageal Manometry.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inokuchi et al, 2014&lt;sup&gt;24&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Electrolymography of swallowing with intramuscular fine wire electrodes in humans healthy: following activation of muscles hióideo</td>
<td>Analysis of the electromyographic signal during swallowing to determine the typical muscle activation sequence hióideo.</td>
<td>Thirteen healthy adults/22 ± 4 years</td>
<td>The sample was composed of healthy subjects. Comparisons were made between the consistencies and muscles tested.</td>
<td></td>
<td>-EMGi with bipolar electrode type fine wire EMG graduation method proposed by Basmajian (1974); -Laringevo Sensor (pie-zoelétrico); -Songs-EMGi with needle electrode; -Needle EMGi; -Needle EMGi- esophageal Manometry.</td>
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CONCLUSION

The selected articles make important contributions to the understanding of the electrophysiological behavior and electrophysiological during the mechanism of swallowing, and it is believed that the lack of research using intramuscular EMG for analysis of swallowing in humans should be the trouble and risks caused by the introduction of needle into the muscle belly and maybe the introduction of a thin wire (fine wire or wire cooper) is more interesting for the aid diagnosis of neuromuscular disorders and nerve that compromise swallowing, the ability to dramatically reduce the annoyance caused by the needle.

REFERENCES


