

# An inevitable consequence

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Swallowing: initial process of digestion understood by a simple word. This act performed countless times a day is extremely complex and indispensable to our survival. Voluntary process, sometimes did as reflex, has its learning initiated at three months of gestation. The neural integration of several muscular complexes, supported by cartilaginous and bony structures, determines the proper physicochemical preparation to trigger a refined sequence of events that culminate with the ingestion of the bolus. This mechanism combines the pleasure of feeding, flavor and satiety, primordial facts to maintain the quality of life.

Over the past 20 years, the **Archives of Gastroenterology** have followed and encouraged the publications where the key words predominate: dysphagia, swallowing, videofluoroscopy of swallowing and other related. The magazine regularly receives original contributions and review articles in the area. Traditionally, the journal supports and encourages physicians and speech therapists who venture into the field of Dysphagia and who today form a considerable contingent of professionals not only investigating the swallowing phenomena but putting into practice the knowledge acquired for the benefit of patients. In these last 25 years, I personally follow the evolution of these experts and through this exchange of experiences I am sure that Brazil is one of the countries with the highest degree of specialization in the treatment of patients with dysphagia, both in the hospital, outpatient and in the field of research.

As a natural consequence of the intensity of information exchange and the integration of people interested in dysphagia, an important step has been taken in our history: the foundation of a professional association that will seal the interests of this collectivity: the Brazilian Academy of Dysphagia (ABD).

This meeting of physicians, speech therapists, nurses, physiotherapists, nutrologists in an association, reproduces what happens in our professional daily life. The multidisciplinary activity in acting on dysphagia is the domain of all these professionals who work in consonance to refer patients to the best solution or control of their disorders.

Swallowing was legated to a second plan for many years by the scientific community but is currently no longer observed as a simple phenomenon and its field of interest for clinical research is enormous. Some researchers have stood out in the last two decades because they are pioneers and insistent to publish their results into the **Archives of Gastroenterology**. Their names are listed in the references section<sup>(1-24)</sup>.

As associate editors, for many years our periodic have been relying on assistance from Dr. Ana Maria Furkim, Dr. Roberta Gonçalves, Dr. Milton Costa, Dr. Roberto Dantas and Dr. Evaldo Ducheaux de Melo, whose contribution is invaluable to science, to his disciples and consequently to dysphagic patients.

Crowding this interaction of many years, the **Archives of Gastroenterology** will be included as official organ of the Brazilian Academy of Dysphagia from 2020 ahead. The position of associate Editor for one of its members is opened, strengthening this partnership, making the periodical a way of disseminating and promoting the academic and scientific activity of those involved with dysphagia.

Wellcome ABD!

Ricardo Guilherme **VIEBIG\***

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\* Hospital IGESP, Motilidade Digestiva e Neurogastroenterologia (MoDiNe), São Paulo, SP, Brasil. ORCID: 0000-0002-6541-0401.

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