



“Developing care and support for people with swallowing difficulties”

Dysphagia Northern Ireland Project **e-bite**

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Welcome to the first Dysphagia Northern Ireland Project e-bite

Background

Dysphagia is the medical term used when a person has difficulty eating, drinking or swallowing. Dysphagia Ni is a regional dysphagia project led by the Public Health Agency (PHA) working closely with statutory, independent, regulatory and community and voluntary sectors. We aim to take forward several regional dysphagia priorities to develop systems, processes and services for people living with dysphagia.

A Northern Ireland Regional Adult Dysphagia Group has been established and in partnership with regional expert practitioners and groups have committed to developing seven regional dysphagia priorities.

To find out more about the overall Dysphagia Ni programme please see our new website and logo: <http://pha.site/Dysphagia>

Dysphagia Ni Regional Priorities



Meet the Regional Dysphagia Team



Michelle Tennyson PHA
Assistant Director Allied Health Professions and Personal and Public Involvement

Chair of the NI Dysphagia Programme Board

Email:

Michelle.Tennyson@hscni.net



Jenny Keane PHA

Lead AHP Consultant for workforce

Jenny has worked for over six years as an AHP Consultant for the Public Health Agency N Ireland and is currently on secondment as the Lead AHP Consultant for Workforce.

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Jenny.Keane@hscni.net



Dr Mo Henderson PHA

AHP Consultant. Project lead for Dysphagia NI

Mo is a Speech and Language Therapist, former lecturer (dysphagia) and has extensive experience in the acute hospital sector.

Email

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Alison McCusker PHA

Is a Project Manager for the Regional Dysphagia Project providing support to the regional swallowing difficulties/ dysphagia group assisting them with the implementation of planned regional developments.

Email:

Alison.McCusker@hscni.net



Elizabeth Thompson PHA

Is a Project Manager for the Regional Dysphagia Project providing support to the regional swallowing difficulties/ dysphagia group assisting them with the implementation of planned regional developments

Email:

ElizabethJ.Thompson@hscni.net



Louise Campbell , SHSCT Project Lead

Regional Priority; TeleEating, Drinking and Swallowing will pilot the use of an online telehealth approach to deliver specialist assessment of swallowing via videoconferencing technology into nursing homes.

Louise is a qualified Speech & Language Therapist with over 20 years' experience in the management of acquired communication and swallowing disorders in adults.

Email:

louise.campbell@southerntrust.hscni.net



Deborah Gray, BHSCT Project Lead

Regional Priority; The Regional Training Project aims to develop workforce wide proposal for dysphagia training according to the region and propose solutions.

Trained as a speech therapist and has been working in swallowing impairment and dementia care for the last 13 years.

Email:

DeborahC.Gray@belfasttrust.hscni.net



Joanne McKee, NHSCT Project lead

Regional Priority; Dysphagia adverse incident reporting aims to explore how we can improve the consistency of dysphagia adverse incident reporting regionally, inform training needs and develop resources to improve safety and confidence.

Regional Priority: IDDSI implementation aims to explore the impact of IDDSI on practices of staff across all care settings

Lead dietitian with 25 years clinical experience. Practice educator lead for NHSCT dietetics for the past 10 years.

Email

Joanne.McKee@northerntrust.hscni.net



Clare Stevenson, SHSCT
Project lead

Regional Priority; Dysphagia Friendly Food project aims to understand what it is like to live on modified textured foods, scope the training / support provided to catering services and identify examples of excellence in the provision of modified textured foods.

Clare has worked for the NHS since graduating, initially in NHSCT and for the last 11 years has been working for SEHSCT with experience gained in both acute and community settings.

Email:

Clare.stevenson@setrust.hscni.net



Emma Taylor BHSCT
Project lead

Emma is a lead Speech and Language Therapist at the BHSCT. She represents the Regional adult SLT group.

Regional Priority;

To improve management of eating, drinking and swallowing problems. This project will develop a regional care plan to communicate key patient safety information.

Email:

Emma.Taylor@belfasttrust.hscni.net



George Calwell SEHSCT
Project Lead

Regional Priority; The Regional Training Project aims to develop workforce wide proposal for dysphagia training according to the region and propose solutions.

Assistant Speech and Language Therapy Manager. I manage the SLT clinical team providing care to adults clients within the Trust.

Email:

Georgina.Calwell@setrust.hscni.net

Dysphagia Ni Events:

The Dysphagia Steering Board hosted regional two workshops in September:

(1) Regional Dysphagia Eating and Drinking Care Plan Development Day, 5th September, 2019



(2) Regional Dysphagia Training Development Day, Monday 9th September, 2019



The regional dysphagia workshops enabled those with professional and personal expertise to co-design and develop regional documents and regional dysphagia training proposals. We had over 100 participants across all five Health and Social Care Trusts, private and voluntary care sector and service users attend each workshop. This work places a strong emphasis on ensuring the service user with dysphagia is at the centre of all our endeavours.

The Dysphagia Online Consultation:

Do you work alongside people with dysphagia? Or have dysphagia? The Dysphagia Project is interested in hearing from you! Dysphagia NI is hosting a series of consultations seeking your opinion.

Survey:	Who is it aimed at?	Sector:	Link:
Dysphagia Friendly Foods in Northern Ireland <i>– a service user perspective</i>	Adults and children living on modified texture foods.	Across all sectors	https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/hsc-public-health-agency/df15eaaf/
Dysphagia Friendly Foods in Northern Ireland <i>– scoping the support and training provided to catering services in the provision of modified texture foods.</i>	Chefs, cooks or individuals who provide food to people with dysphagia on texture modified diets. Those with responsibility for departments that provide the same.	All care settings.	https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/hsc-public-health-agency/147d4f08
The Impact of IDDSI on the practices of staff working with people with Dysphagia <i>-Understanding the impact of IDDSI on staff working with people with swallowing difficulties.</i>	Staff working alongside people with swallowing difficulties in a caring capacity	All care settings.	https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/hsc-public-health-agency/6363d2f8
Dysphagia Adverse Incident Reporting <i>– understanding the experiences and reporting practices of staff working alongside those with dysphagia</i>	Staff (HSC, independent) working alongside adults and children with swallowing difficulties.	Across all care settings in Northern Ireland.	https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/hsc-public-health-agency/fce58cd1/

Upcoming Dysphagia Ni Events.

The Dysphagia NI Project is hosting a regional set of pop up stands across NI on Nov 21st as part of Involve Fest 2019; A Regional Celebration of Involvement. Our interactive regional stands aim to create a ground swell awareness of the project aims. A simultaneous social media blitz will launch the Dysphagia Ni website and distribute an information pack encouraging people with dysphagia to access the project.

Come and meet us at a venue near you!

Come and meet us at a venue near you!

- South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust – Ulster Hospital, Oasis Restaurant, 21st November, 10am–2pm
- Southern Health & Social Care Trust – Craigavon Area Hospital, Broadway Corridor – 21st November, 10am–2.30pm
- Belfast Trust – Main Entrance, Royal Victoria Hospital Grosvenor Road Belfast, 21st November, 10am–2pm
- Northern Trust – Antrim Area Hospital restaurant, 21st November, from 10am–4pm.

To find out more about the Dysphagia NI team events during Involve Fest or for further information, please also contact ElizabethJ.Thompson@hscni.net
Alison.McCusker@hscni.net.

Interested in our work? Join the Dysphagia Virtual Reference Group

Dysphagia Ni hosts a virtual reference group on Share Point to keep the community updated on the project and developments. If you would be interested in joining the Dysphagia Ni community please get in touch.

If you have any comments or questions on the content of the e-bite please get in touch by emailing ElizabethJ.Thompson@hscni.net or Alison.McCusker@hscni.net Dysphagia Project Managers.