



# SWALLOWING PHYSIOLOGY

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Aula Magna - Università degli Studi di Milano  
Via Festa del Perdono, 7 - Milano



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**Quali sono i bisogni di cura dei pazienti con disfagia al pasto a casa e fuori casa?**



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# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the lesson the student will know:

- The difference between swallowing, nutrition and eating
- The characteristics of the oral phase
- The characteristics of the pharyngeal phase
- The characteristic of the esophageal phase
- The neural circuits underlying swallowing
- Swallowing physiology in the elderly

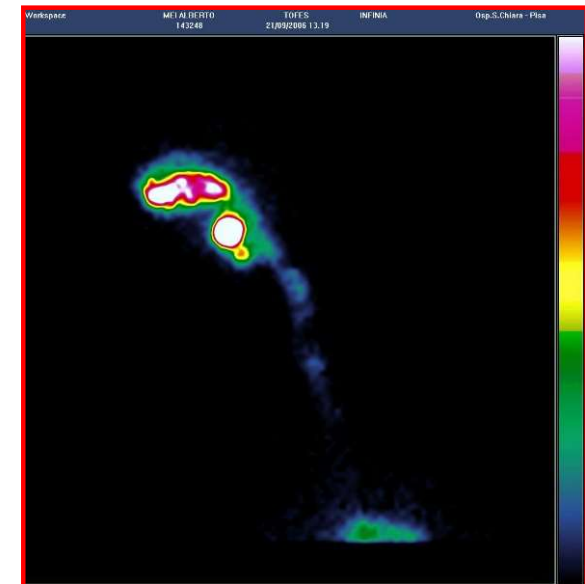
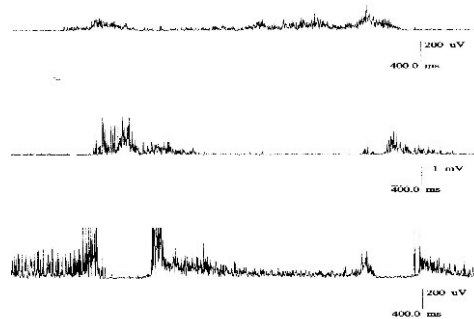
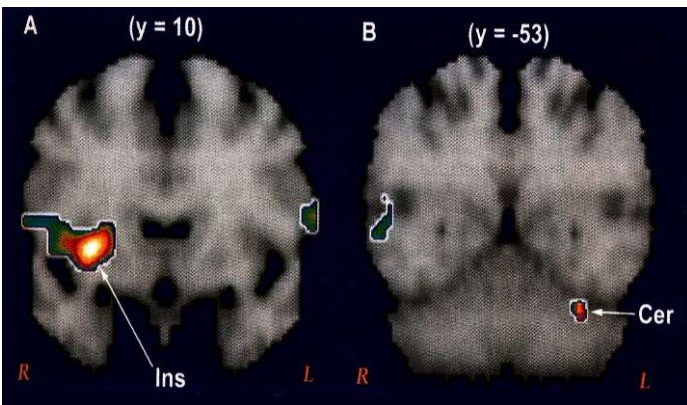
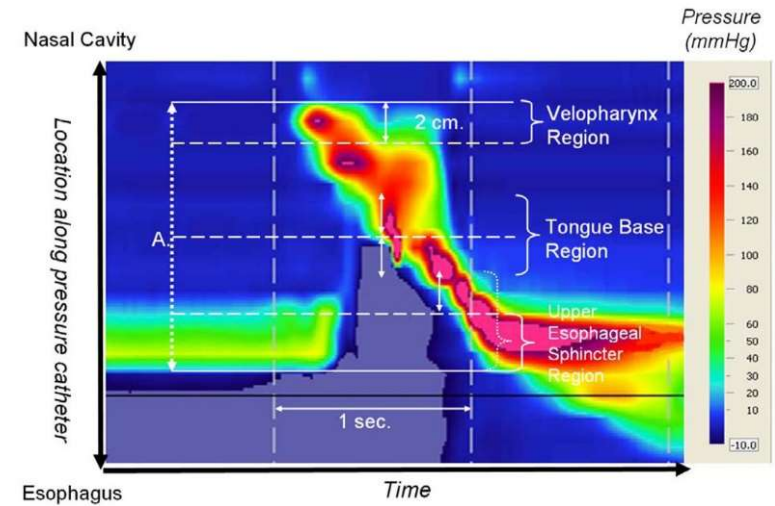
# OUTLINE

- Swallowing and body functions
- The oral phase
- The pharyngeal phase
- The esophageal phase
- The neural circuits underlying swallowing
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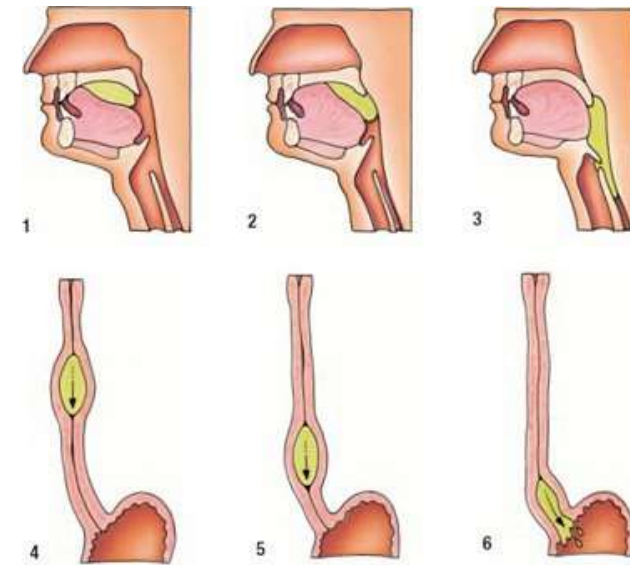
# SWALLOWING: How can we study it?



# DEGLUTITION

VS

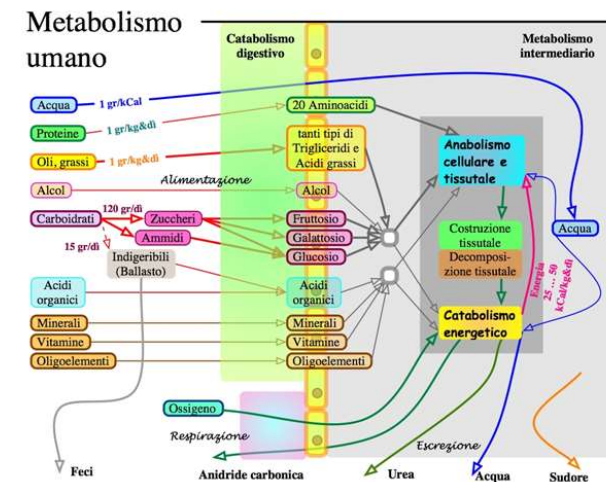
Motor function of driving bolus into the stomach



# NUTRITION

VS

Metabolic activity

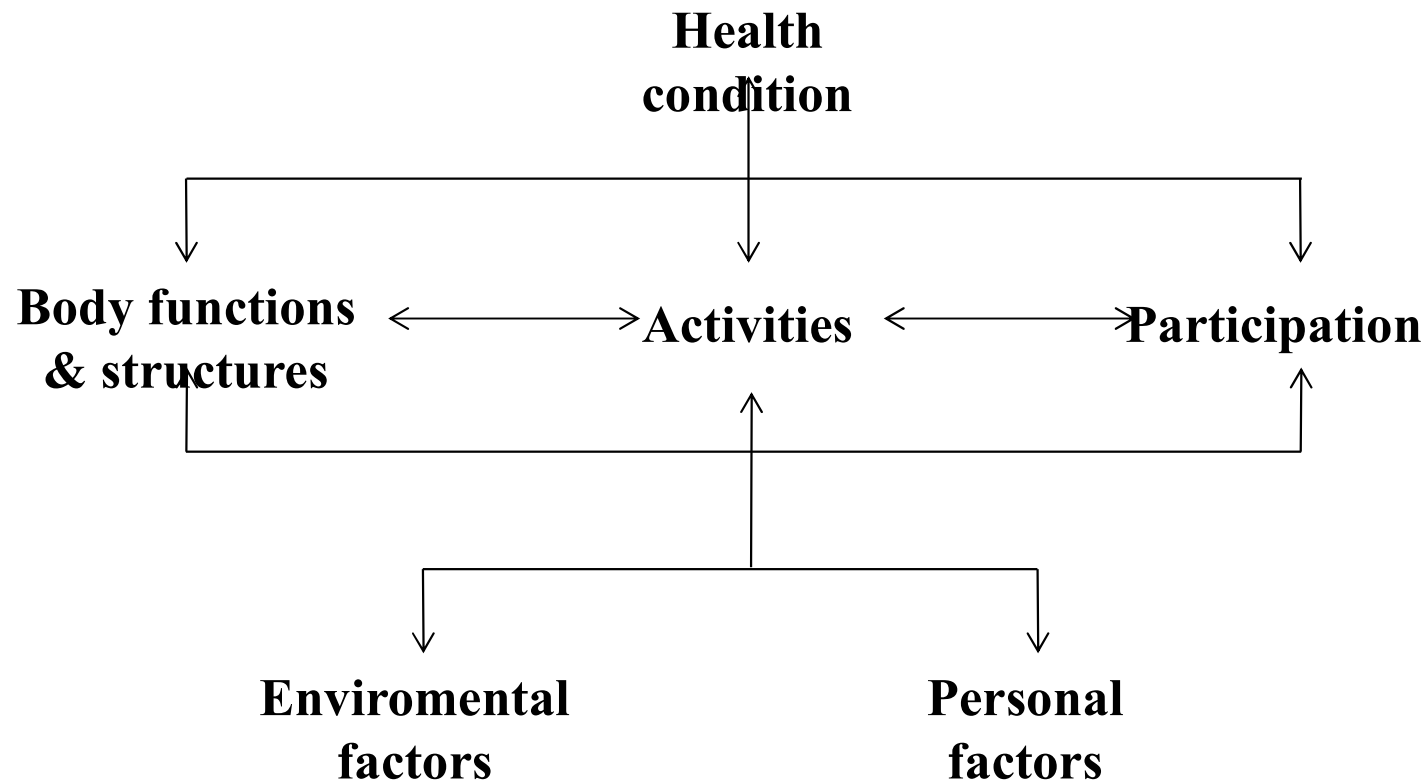


# EATING

Activity of daily living



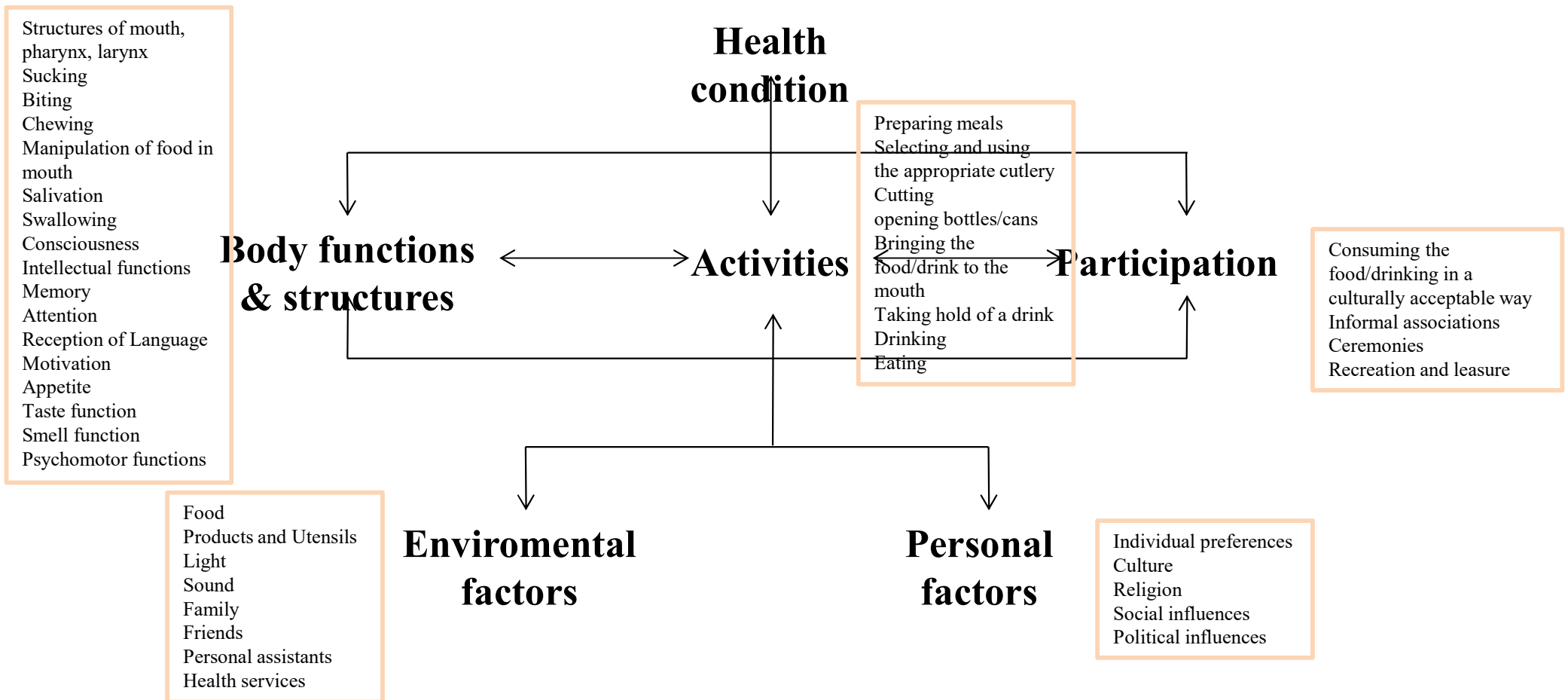
# ICF



International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF, WHO, 2001)



# Swallowing and meals



## What do we swallow?

### a. Substances coming from outside

- Food
- Liquids
- Drugs
- Foreign body

### b. Substances coming from inside the oral cavity and pharynx

- Saliva
- Mucus

### c. Substances coming from the stomach

- Food and stomach liquids

# **SWALLOWING: numbers to remember**

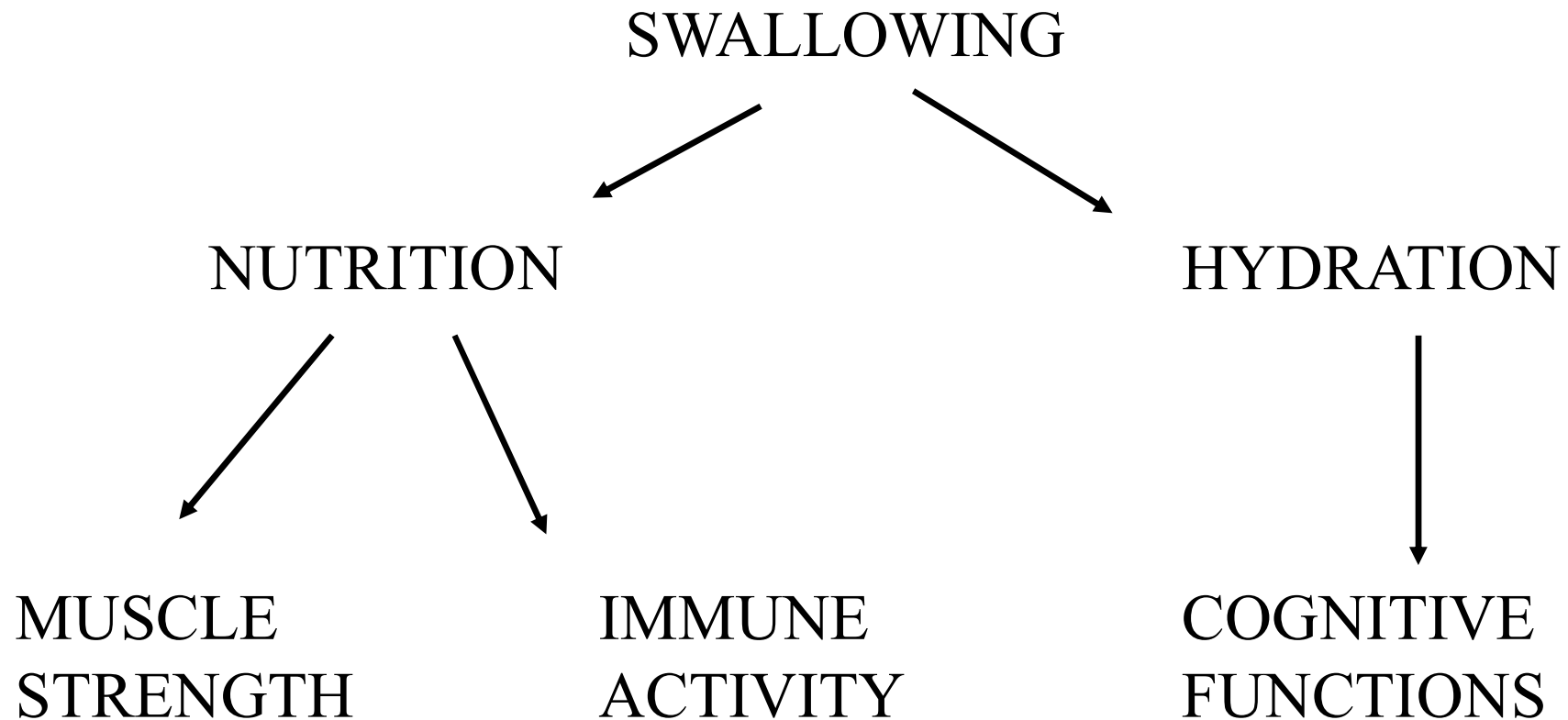
1000-15000 ml of saliva are swallowed every day

On average 1 swallow/minute → 1200-1400 swallows every day

Swallowing starts at birth and ends when we die

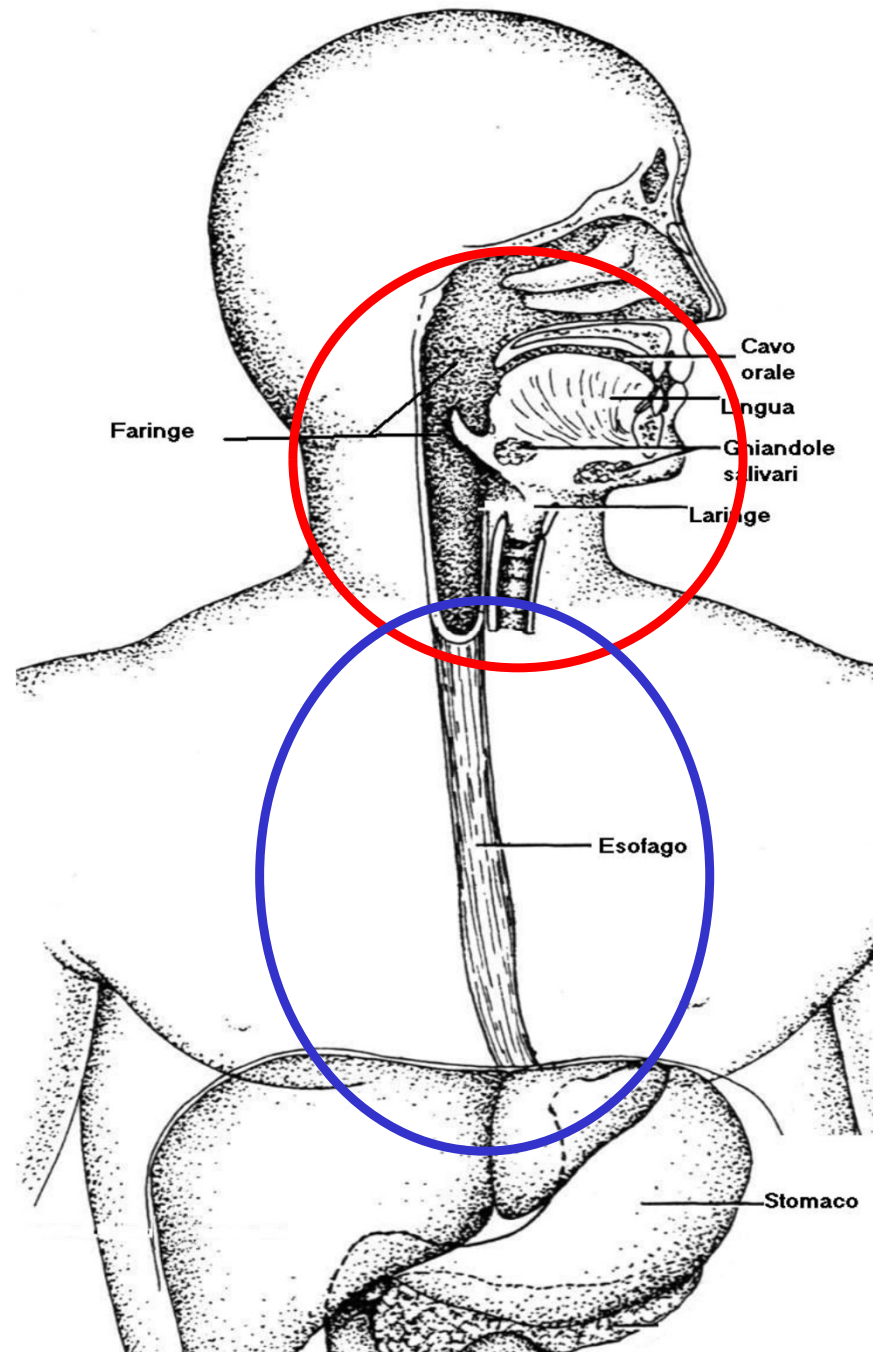
Swallowing is a key body function for survival

# SWALLOWING AND BODY FUNCTIONS



Oropharyngeal  
swallowing

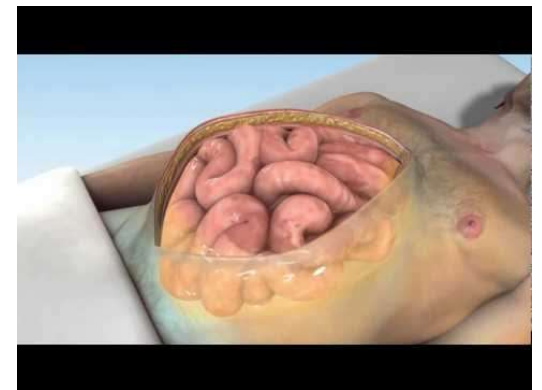
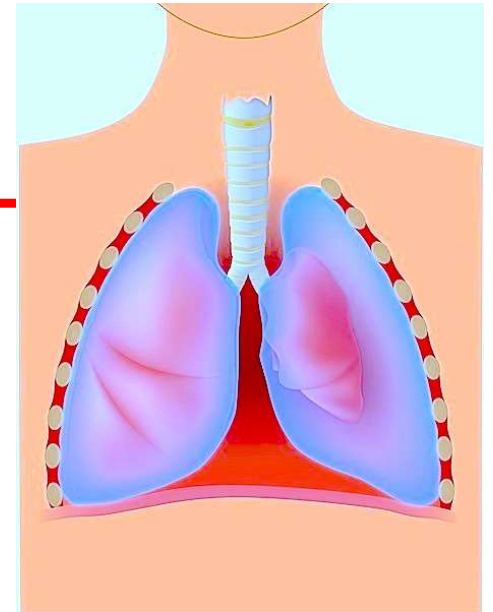
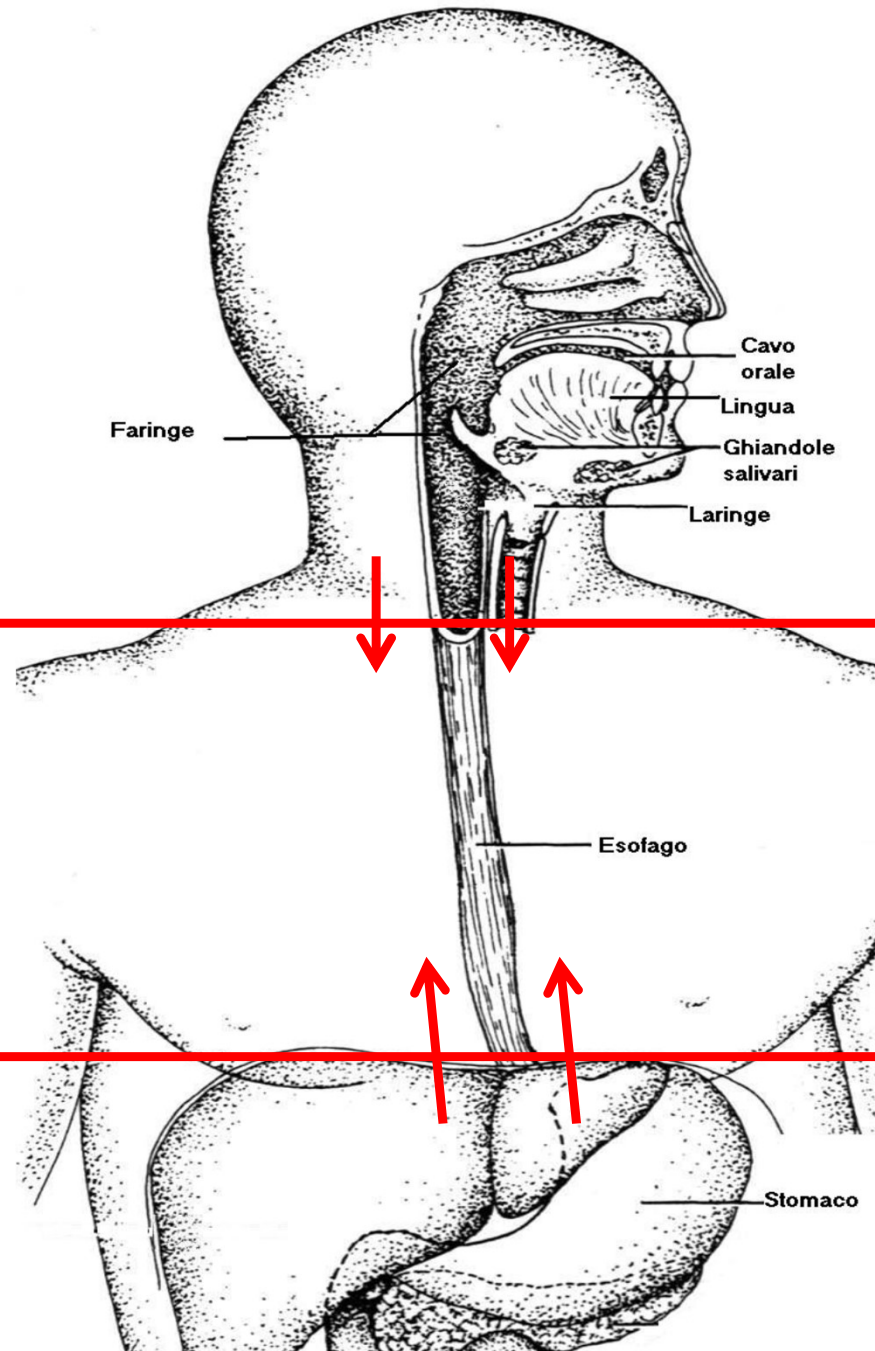
Esophageal  
swallowing



**POSITIVE  
PRESSURE**

**NEGATIVE  
PRESSURE**

**POSITIVE  
PRESSURE**



# DEGLUTIZIONE



- ❑  $> 25$  paia di muscoli
- ❑ 6 nervi cranici
- ❑  $< 2$  sec

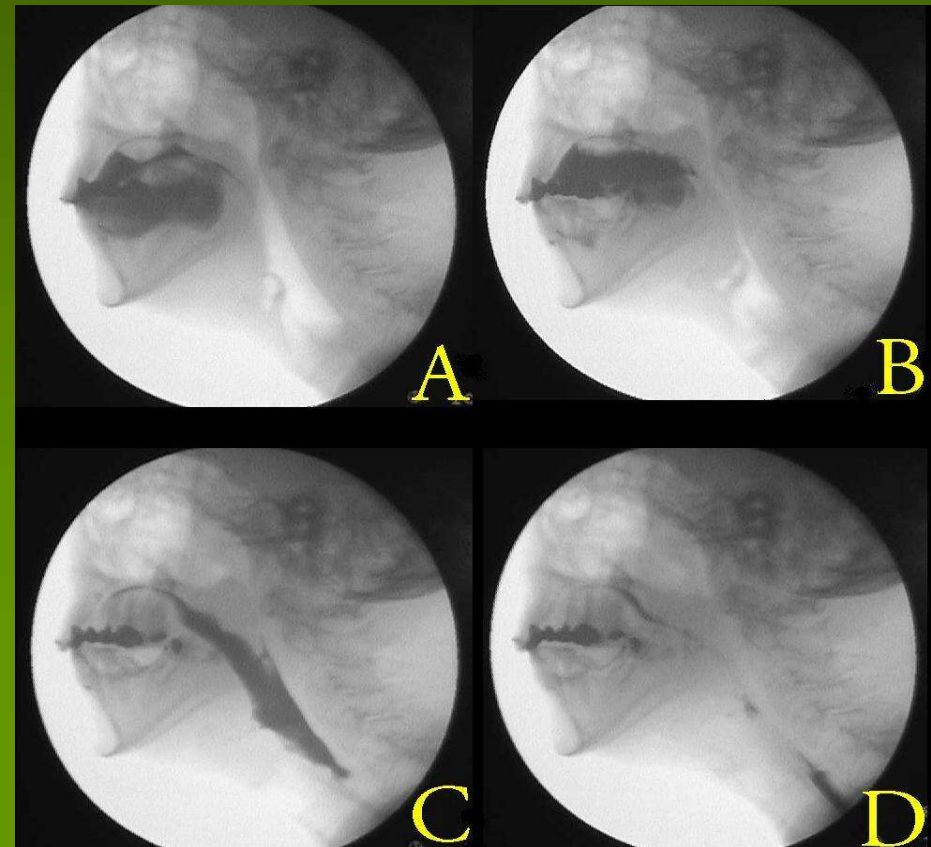
# SWALLOWING PHENOMENOLOGY

Three major phase are described:

Oral phase (stage I, II)

Pharyngeal phase

Esophageal phase





# OUTLINE

- Swallowing and body functions
- **The oral phase**
- The pharyngeal phase
- The esophageal phase
- The neural circuits underlying swallowing
- Swallowing physiology in the elderly

# ANTICIPATORY PHASE



Although the anticipatory phase happens before swallowing, it can severely impact on swallowing

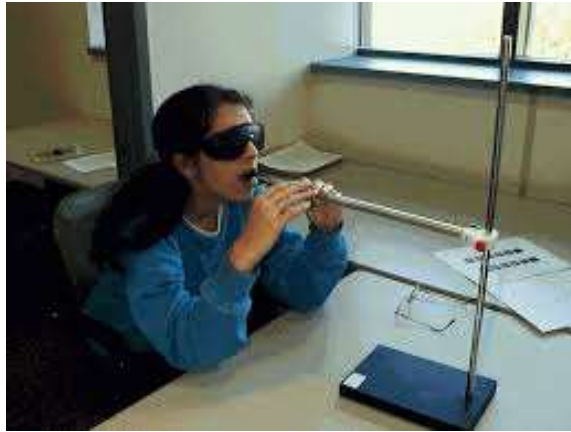
It is related primarily to smell, taste and memory of previous experience

# ORAL PHASE

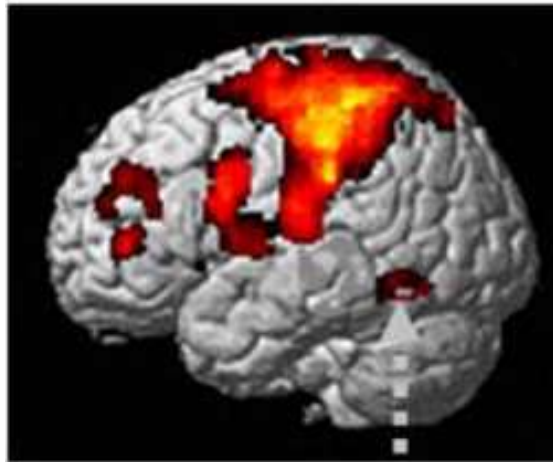


The oral phase is the most complex sensori-motor activity in deglutition and it includes: biting, sucking, chewing

# ORAL PHASE – oral stereognosis

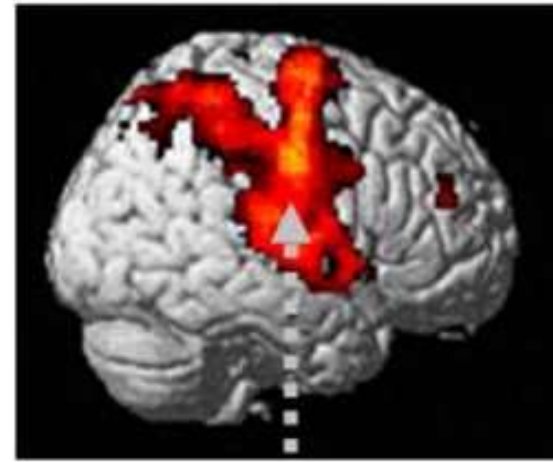


Manual stereognosis



Visual association cortex

Oral stereognosis



Insular, lies deep in the floor of lateral fissure.

## ORAL PHASE: ingestion

Different ways exist to introduce food/liquids into the oral cavity

- nipple
- biting
- spoon
- fork
- cup/glass

# INGESTION

food enters the oral cavity



**TRANSFER?**



**Refusal**



**Yes**

## STADIO I TRANSFER

food moved in the molar region



**TRASFER?**



**Processing  
(consistency  
modifications)**



**Yes**

## STAGE II TRANSFER

food moved to the oropharynx



**THRESHOLD?**



**Yes**

## PHARYNGEAL SWALLOW

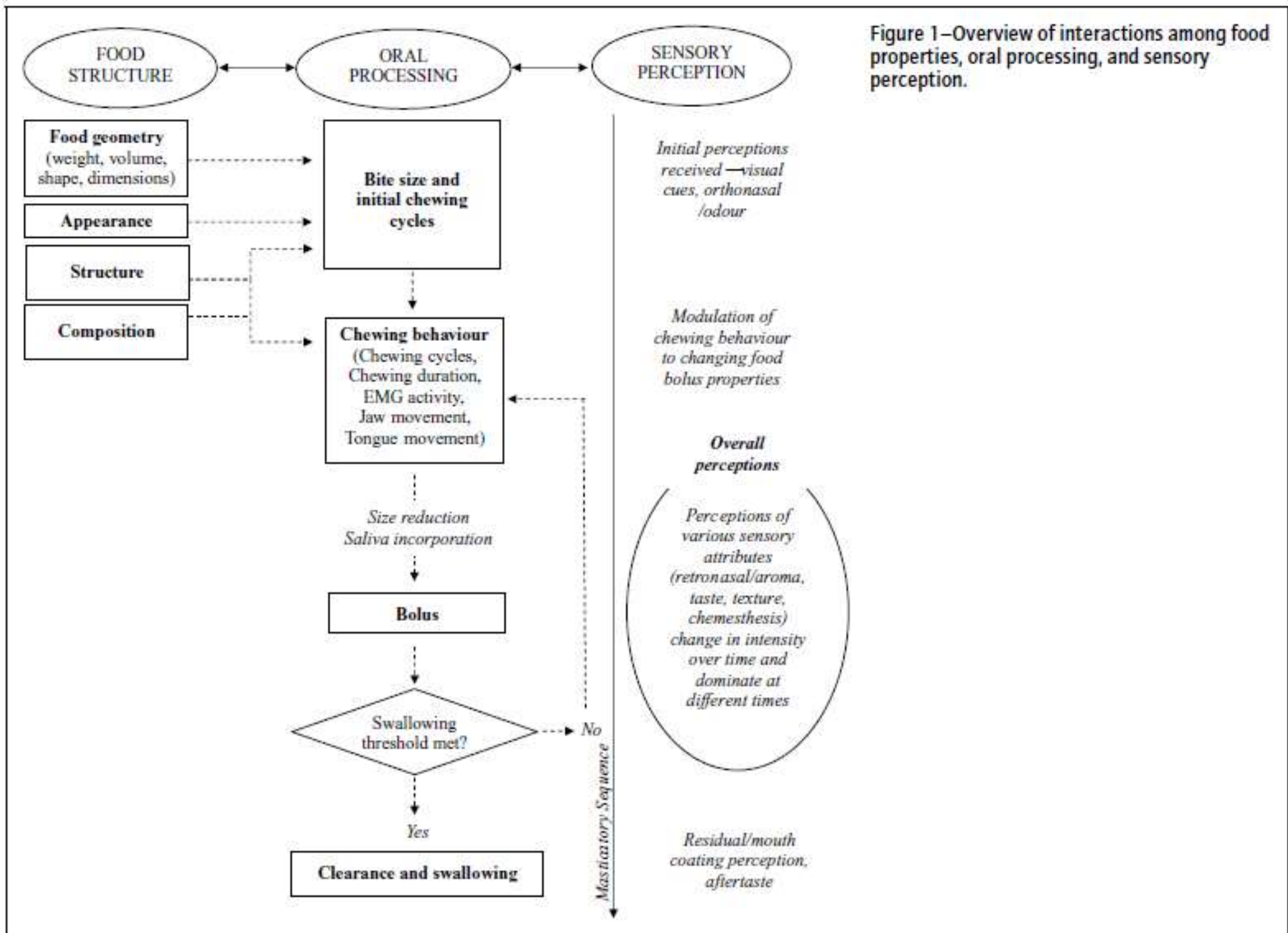


Figure 1—Overview of interactions among food properties, oral processing, and sensory perception.

## ORAL PHASE

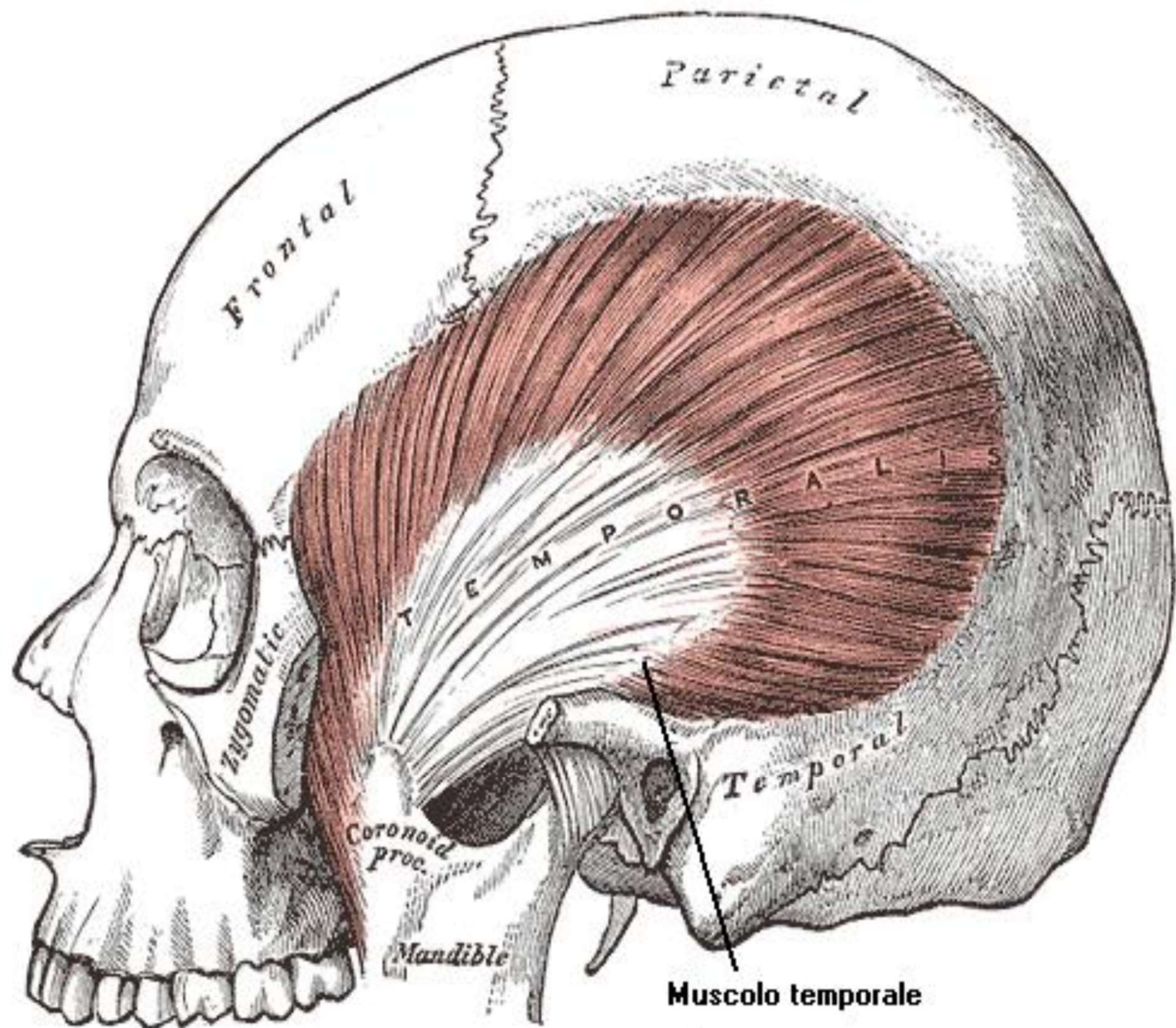
Oral phase sequence for liquids:

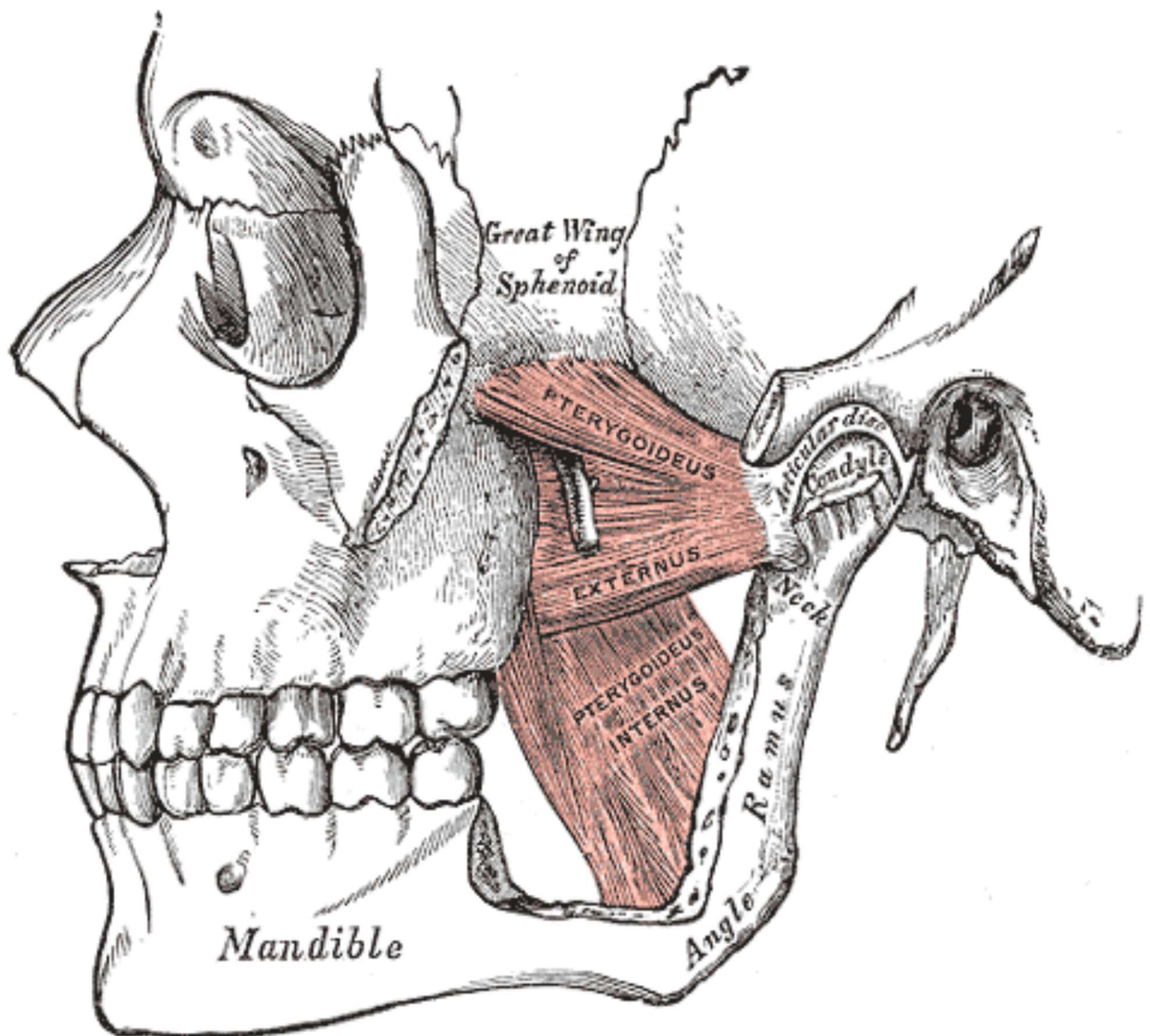
Oral preparatory stage – oral propulsive stage – pharyngeal stage

Oral phase sequence for solids:

Transport to molar region – food processing – oral propulsive stage – pharyngeal stage







Great Wing  
of  
Sphenoid

PTERYGOIDEUS  
EXTERNUS

PTERYGOIDEUS  
INTERNUS

Articular disc  
Condyle

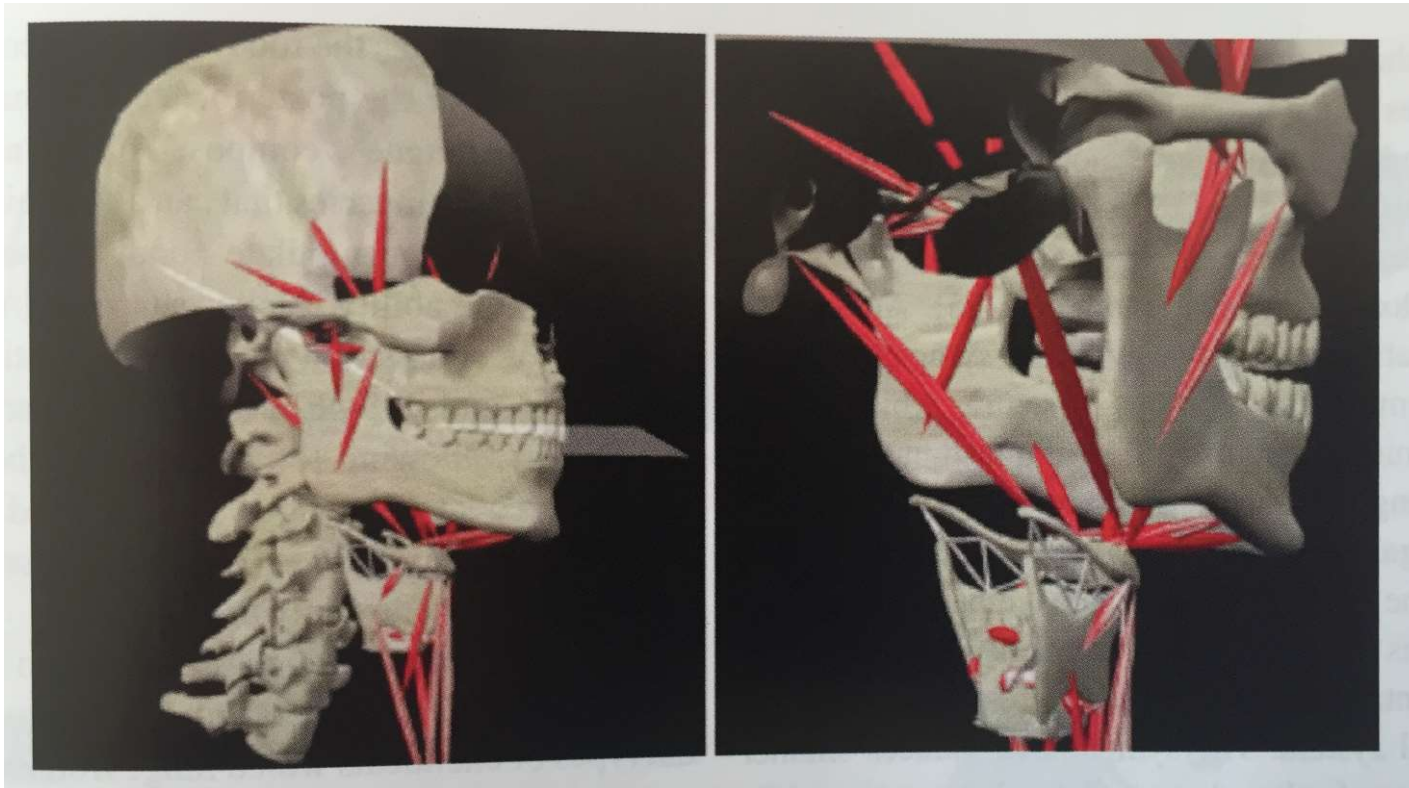
Neck

Ramus

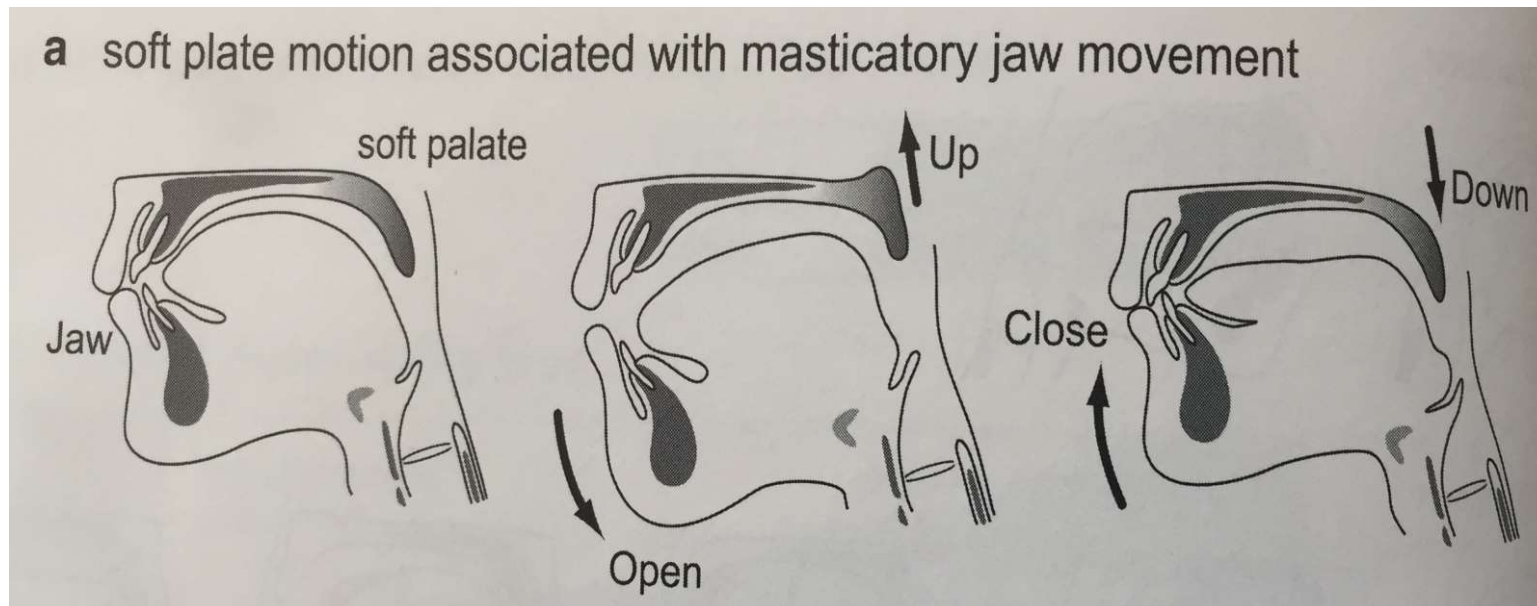
Angle

Mandible

# MUSCLES INVOLVED IN MANDIBULE MOVEMENTS

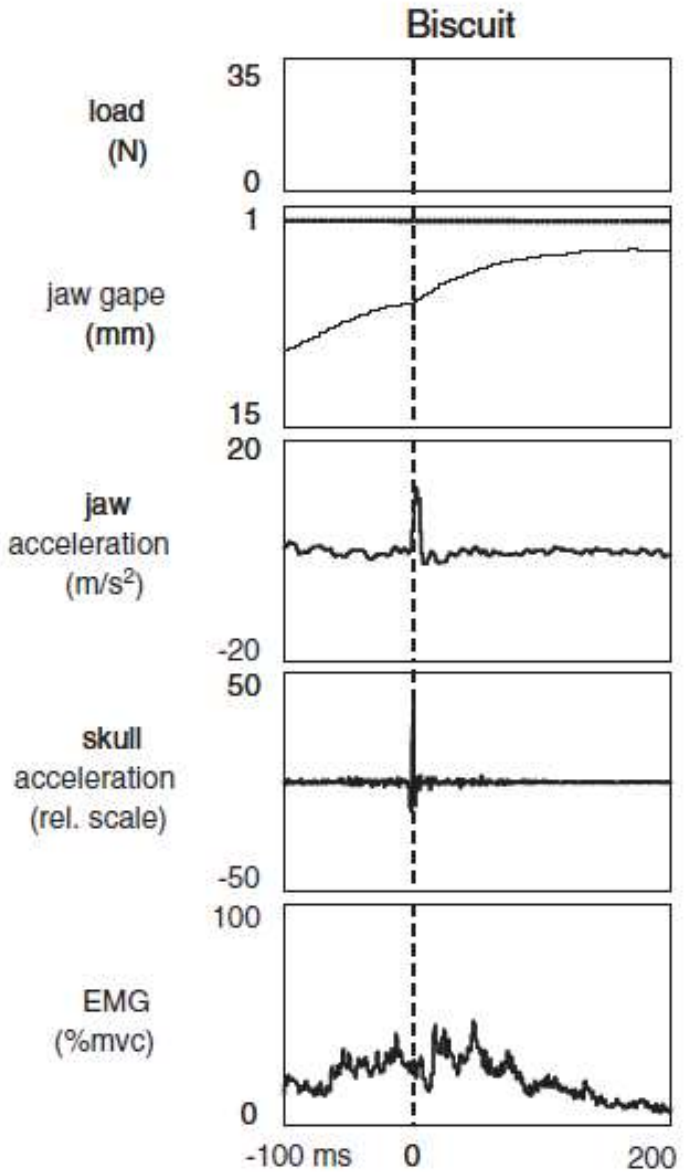
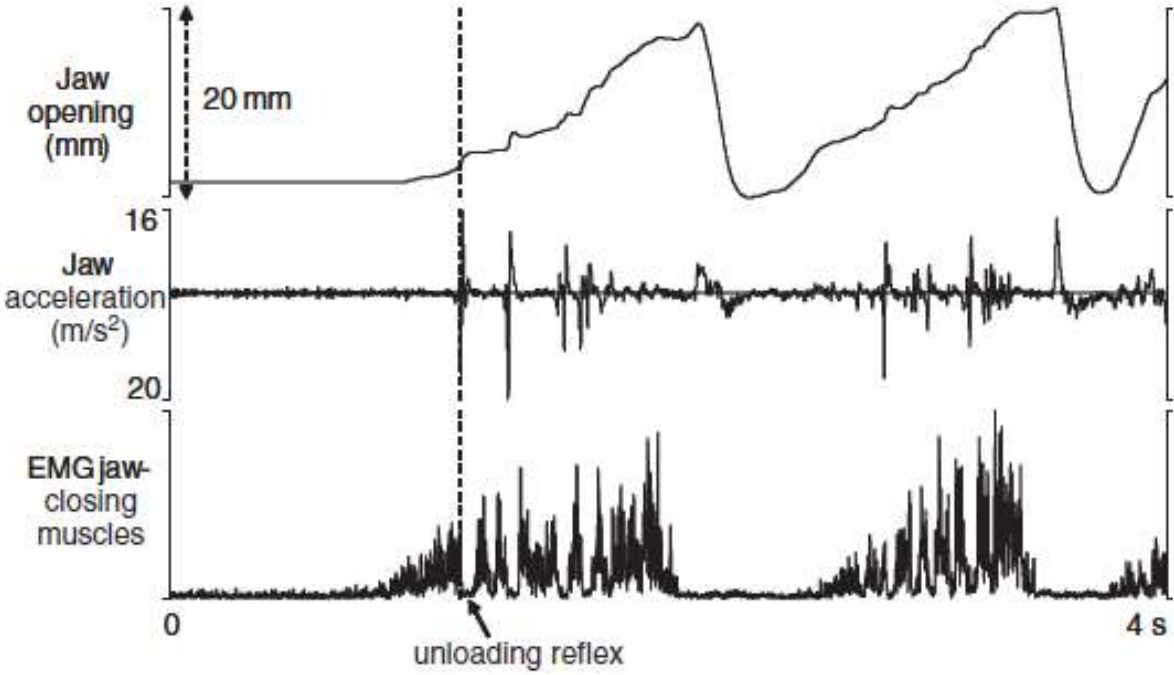


## ORAL PHASE AND SOFT PALATE MOVEMENTS

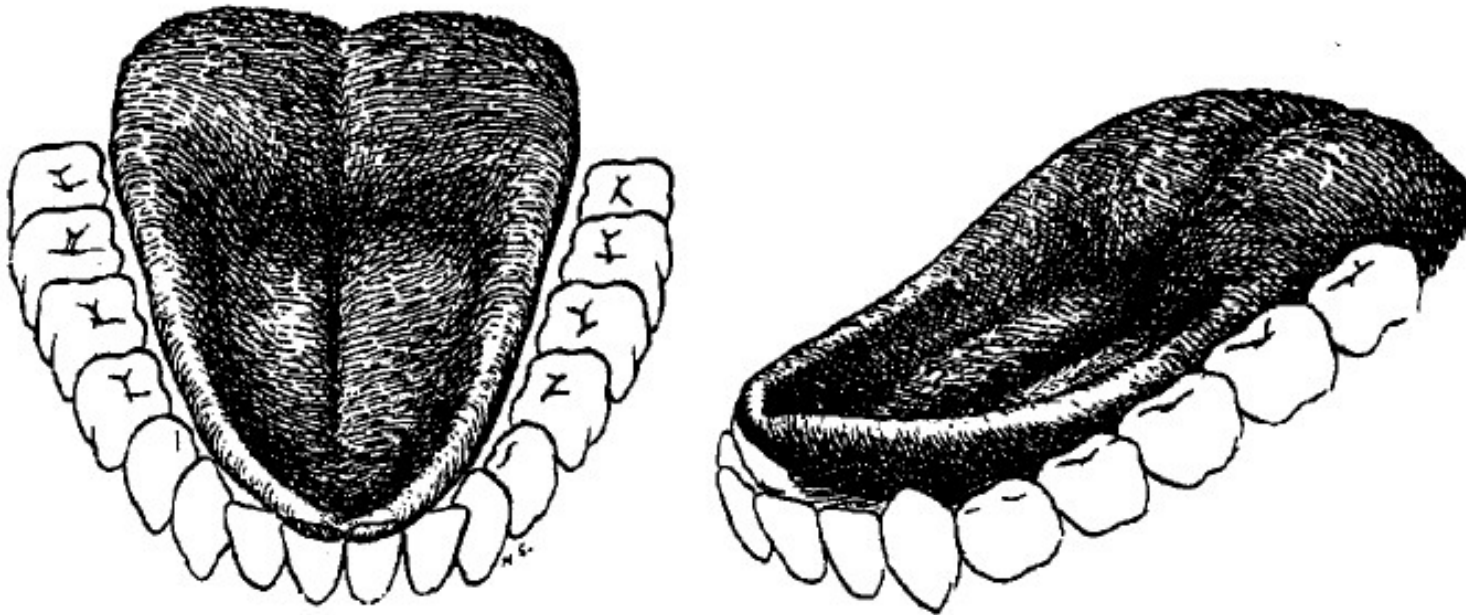


During jaw closure volume of the oral cavity decreases and air is pumped into the nasal cavity

# MASTICATION

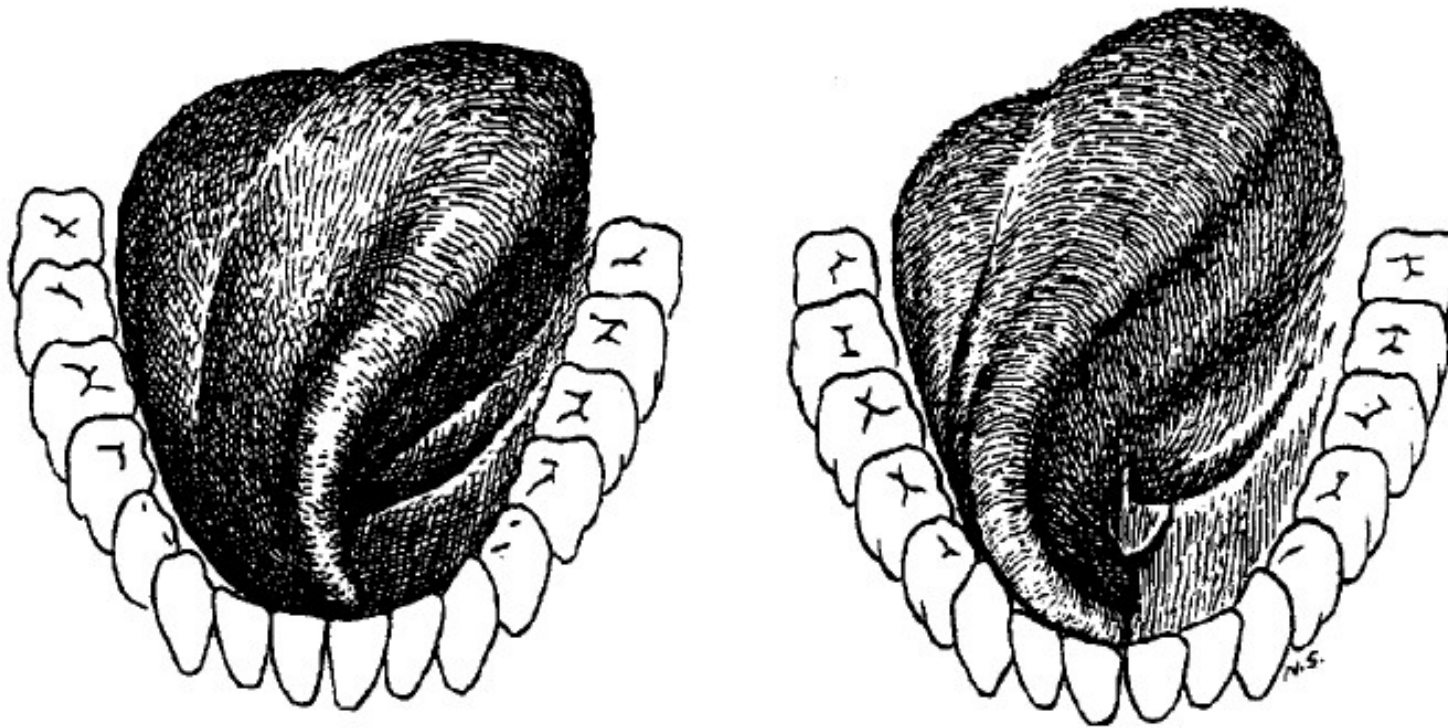


## TONGUE POSTURE

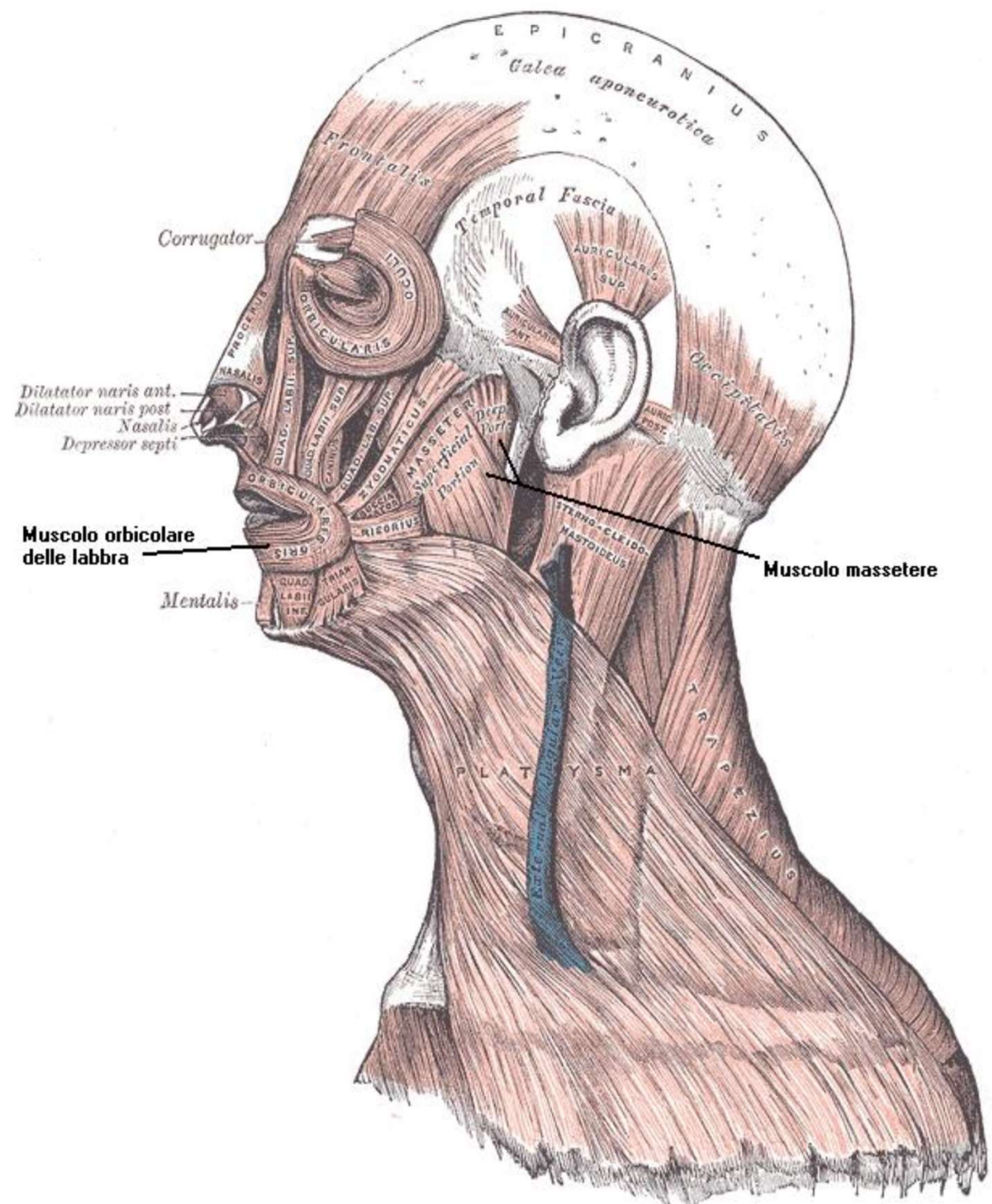


Tongue posture as food is placed in the oral cavity and at the beginning of transport to the oropharynx

## TONGUE & MASTICATION



Tongue posture in order to move and remove the food to/from the molar region



**Muscolo orbicolare delle labbra**

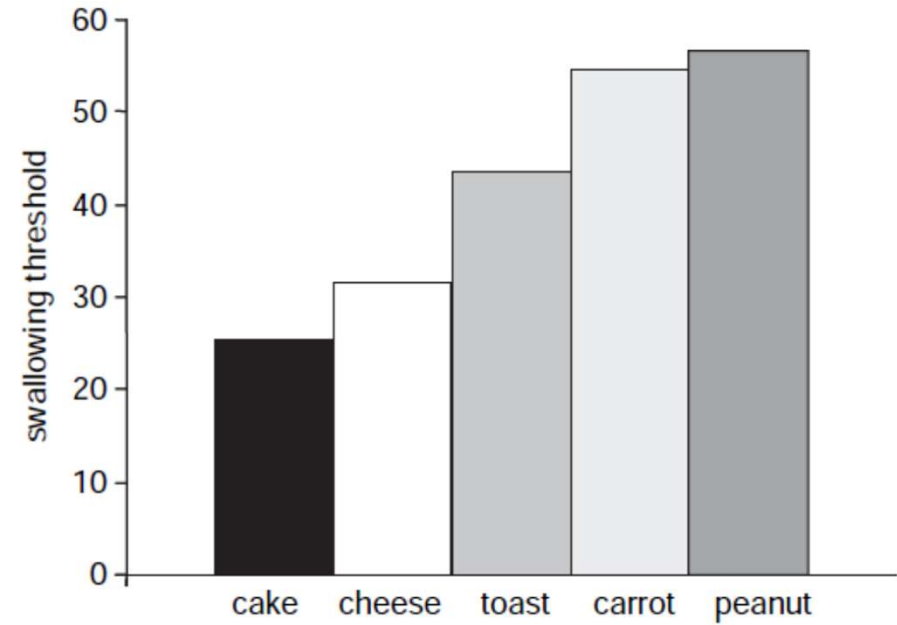
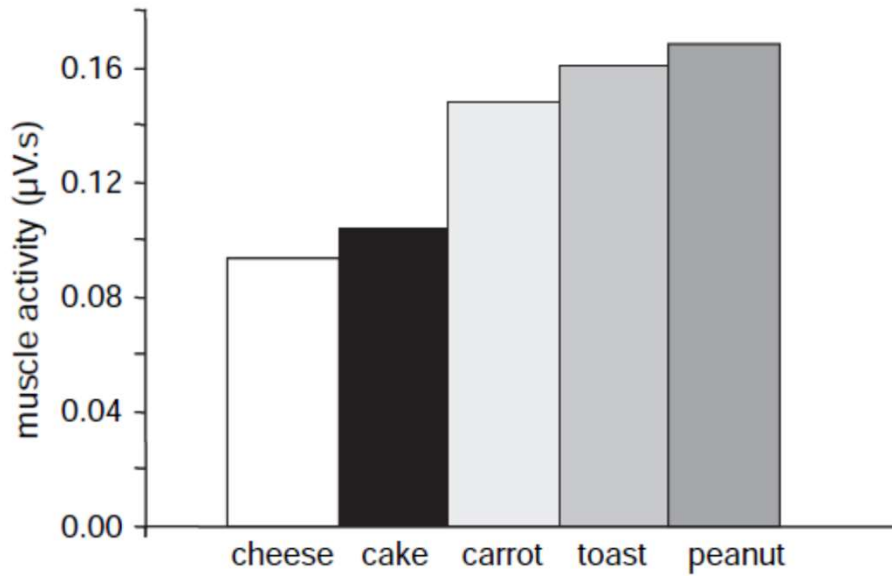
**Muscolo massetere**



REVIEW

## Influence of oral characteristics and food products on masticatory function

LUCIANO JOSE PEREIRA<sup>1</sup>, MARIA BEATRIZ DUARTE GAVIAO<sup>2</sup> & ANDRIES VAN DER BILT<sup>3</sup>



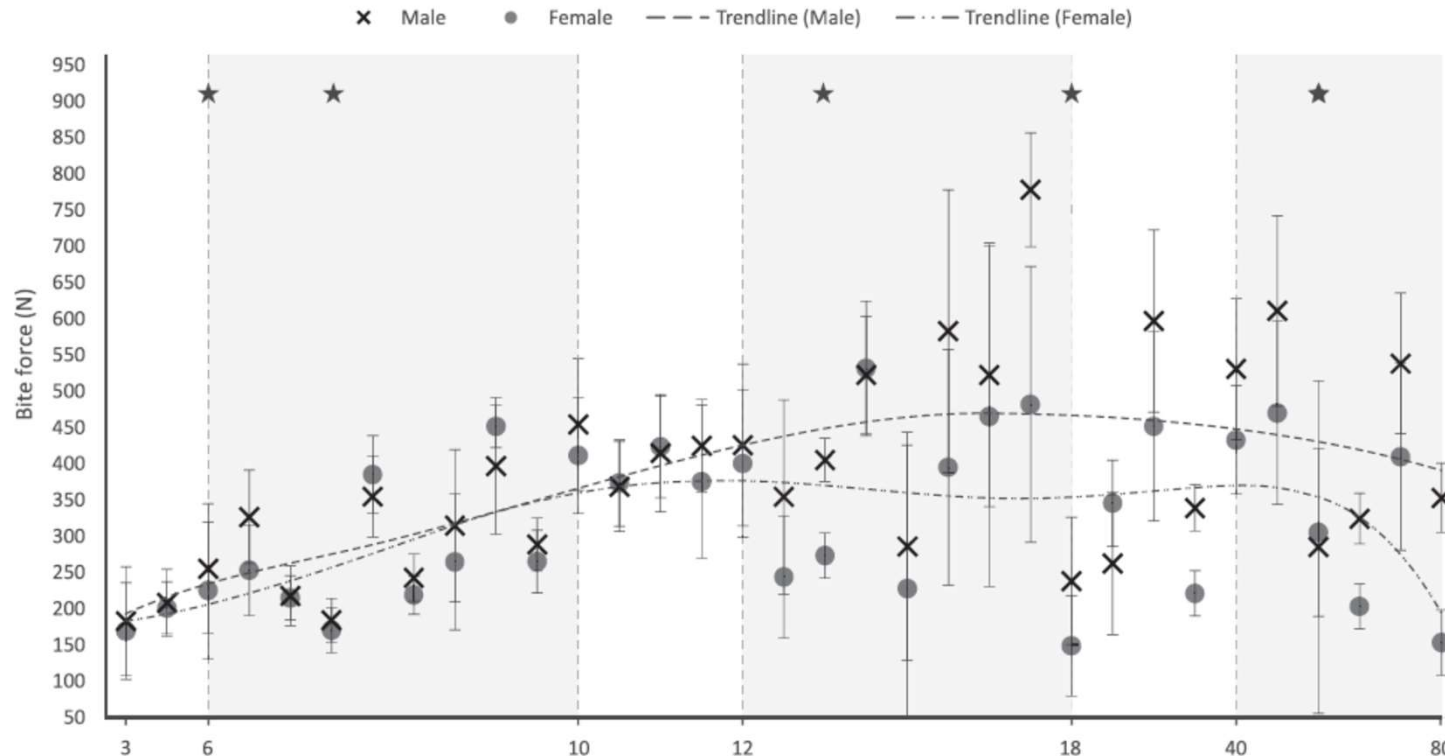


Review

# Development of the jaw sensorimotor control and chewing - a systematic review



N. Almotairy<sup>a,b,c,\*</sup>, A. Kumar<sup>a,b</sup>, M. Trulsson<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Grigoriadis<sup>a,b</sup>



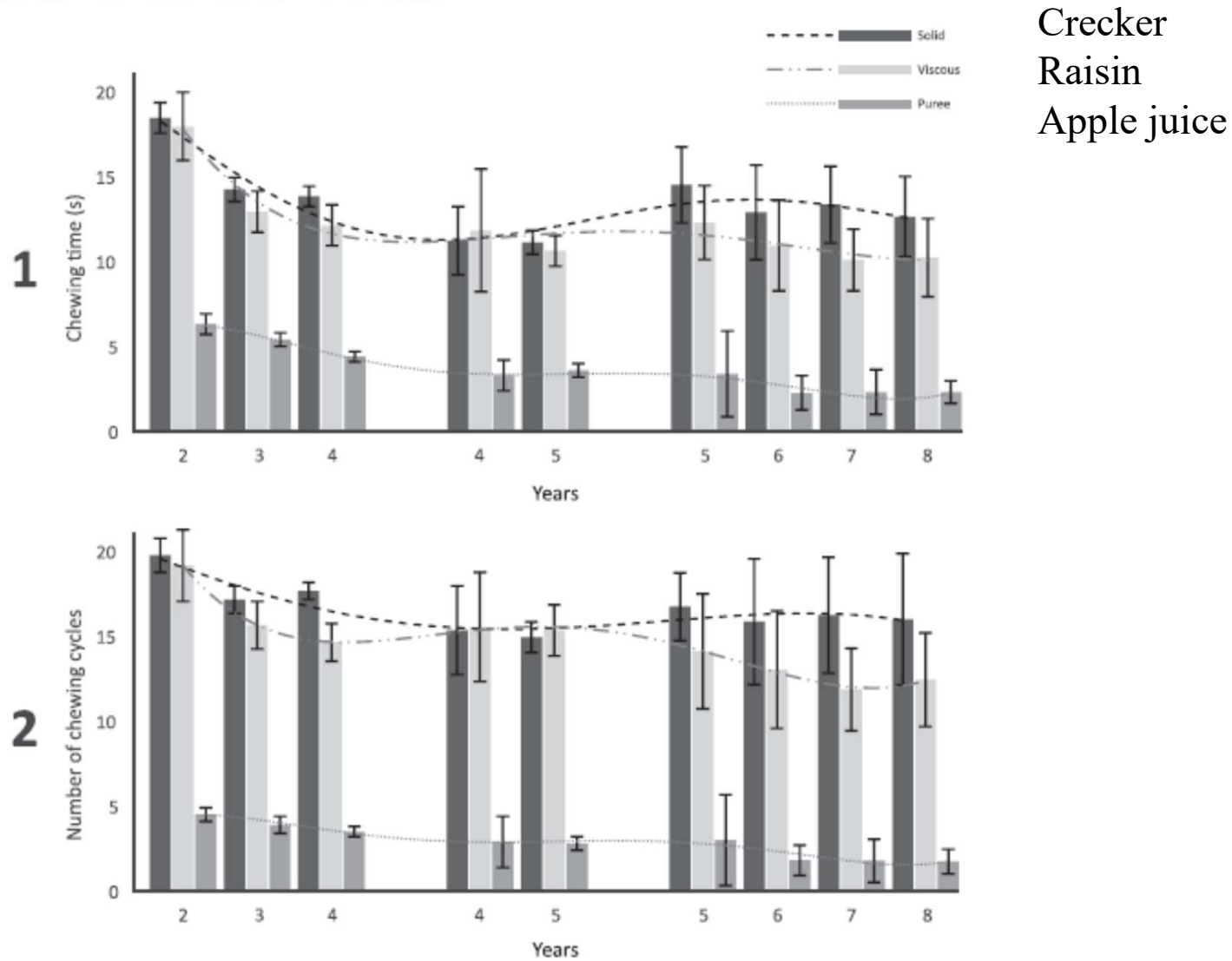


Review

## Development of the jaw sensorimotor control and chewing - a systematic review












































N. Almotairy<sup>a,b,c,\*</sup>, A. Kumar<sup>a,b</sup>, M. Trulsson<sup>a,b</sup>, A. Grigoriadis<sup>a,b</sup>



## Adaptation of healthy mastication to factors pertaining to the individual or to the food

A. Woda <sup>a,\*</sup>, K. Foster <sup>a,b</sup>, A. Mishellany <sup>a</sup>, M.A. Peyron <sup>c</sup>

		Number of cycles	Sequence duration	EMG activity /sequence	EMG activity /cycle	Masticatory frequency	Vertical amplitude	Lateral amplitude	Closing velocity
Extrinsic factors	Hardness (from soft to hard)	 10, 65, 66, 79, 81, 83	 10, 25, 79, 83, 100	 10, 65, 79, 83	 10, 65, 78, 83	 10, 79, 80, 83	 9, 10, 69, 79, 83, 84	 10, 81, 98	 10, 32
	Physical properties (from elastic to plastic)	 83	 83	 83	 83	 83	 83	 83	 83
	Sample size	 6, 84–86	 6	 82, 85, 88			 6, 71, 85, 89	 85, 89	 6, 87, 89
Intrinsic factors	Age	 39, 44, 49	 39, 44, 49	 39, 49	Dependson food 39, 49	 39	 39	 39, 50	
	Gender (from female to male)	 36–39	 39	 39	 38, 39	 36, 38, 39, 94	 36–39	 36	 36, 37
	Tooth loss (edentate)	 48, 101	 48	 48	Dependson food 48, 56, 99	 48, 56, 101, 102	*		 101

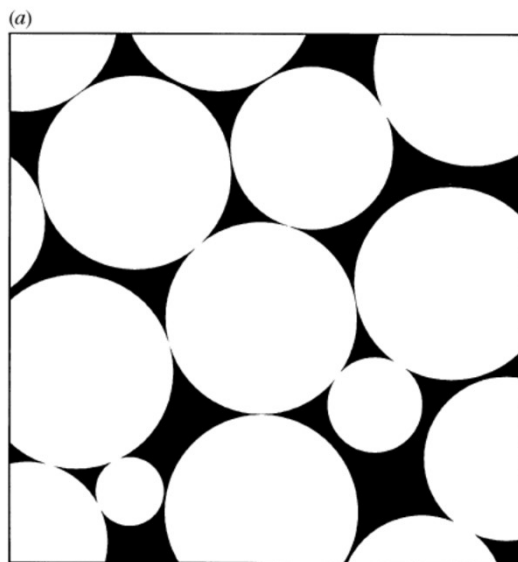
# An optimization model for mastication and swallowing in mammals

JON F. PRINZ\*† AND PETER W. LUCAS

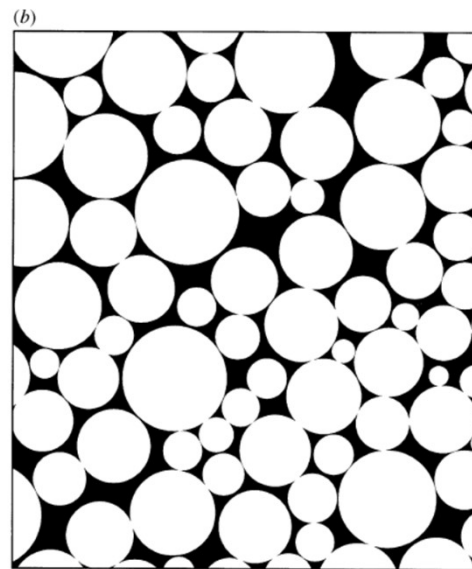
*Department of Anatomy, The University of Hong Kong, Li Shu Fan Building, 5 Sassoon Road, Hong Kong*

Both comminution and lubrication take place during mastication

Chewing cause particle size reduction, while salivation fills the gradually reducing spaces between particles



Early mastication



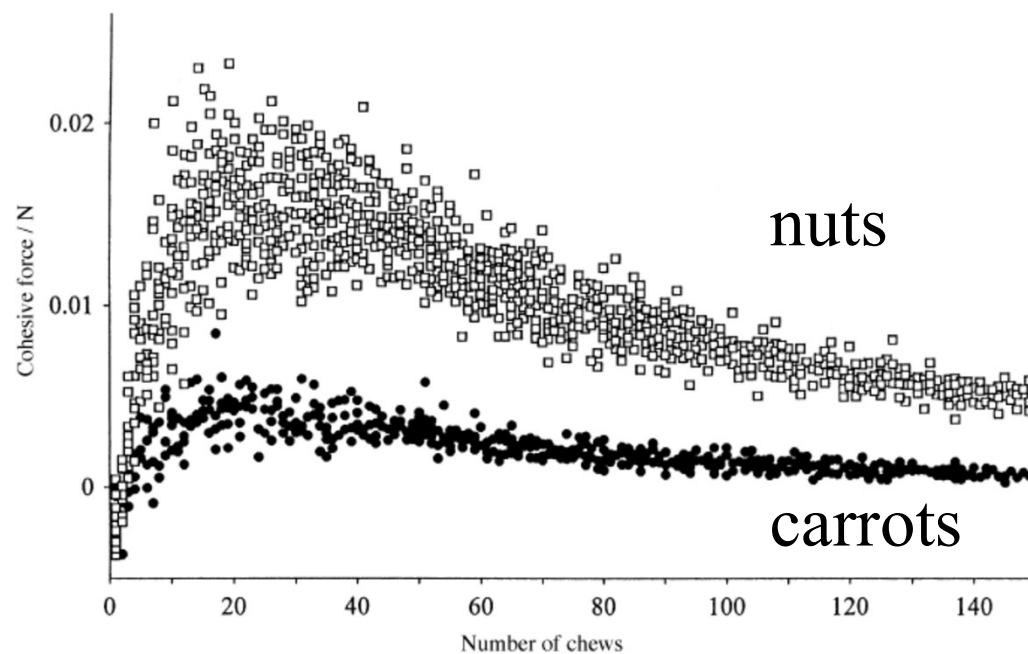
Late mastication

# An optimization model for mastication and swallowing in mammals

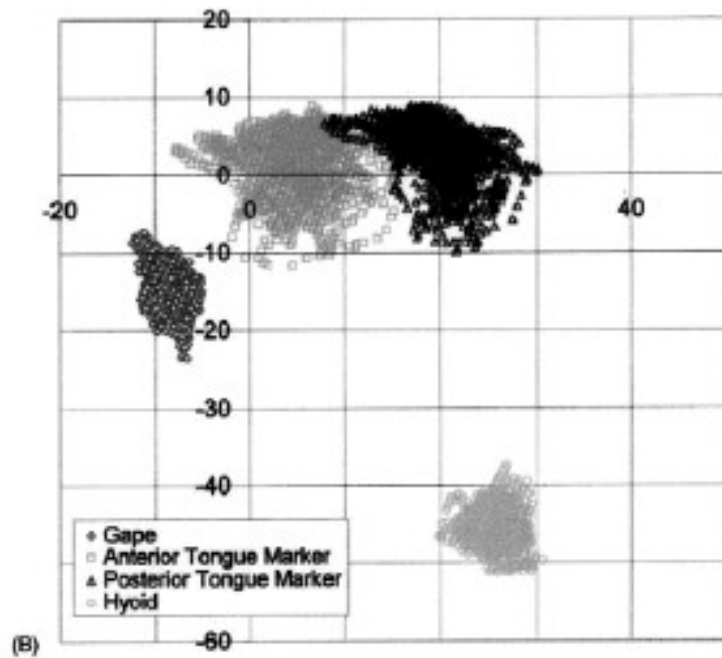
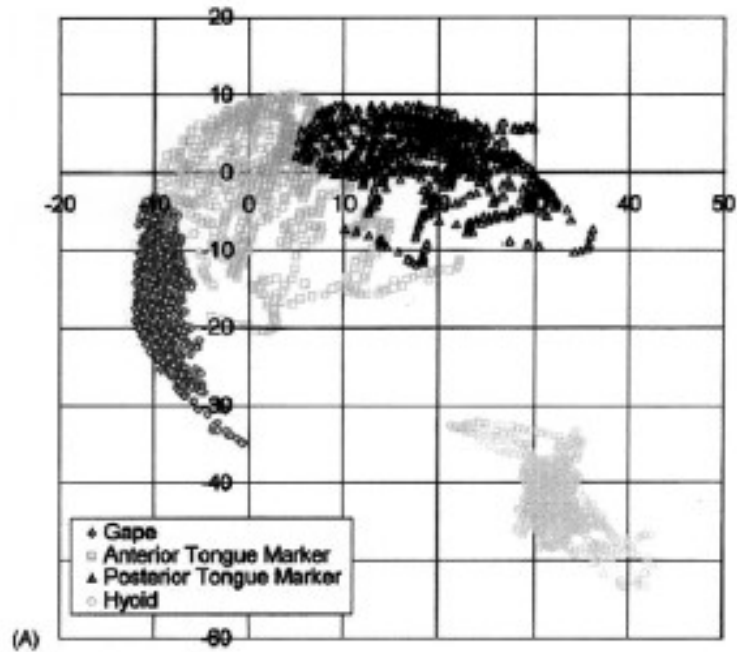
JON F. PRINZ\*† AND PETER W. LUCAS

*Department of Anatomy, The University of Hong Kong, Li Shu Fan Building, 5 Sassoon Road, Hong Kong*

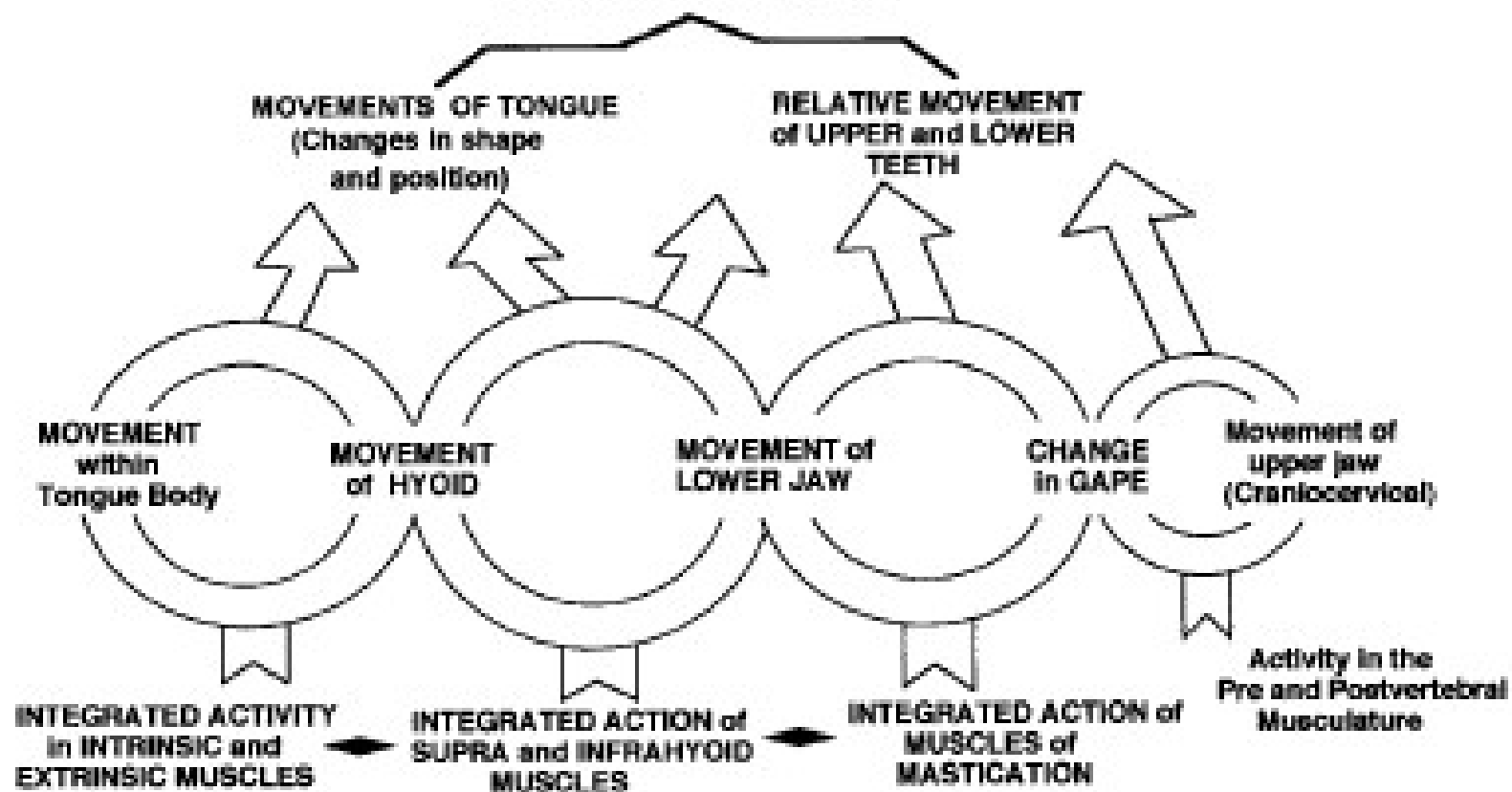
Optimal time to trigger swallow is when there is a peak in cohesive forces (saliva related)



# TONGUE IN SWALLOWING AND SPEAKING

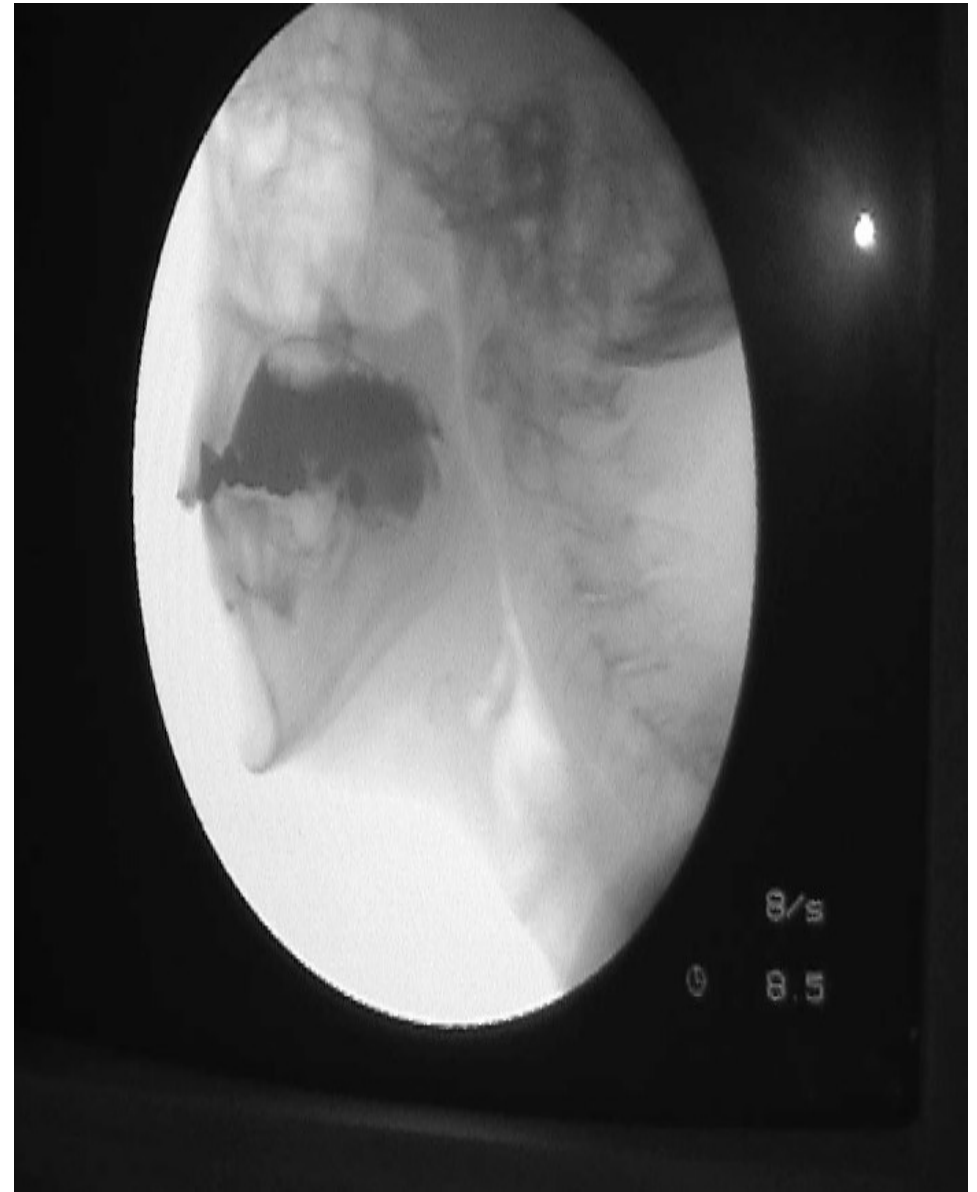


# EATING AND SPEAKING

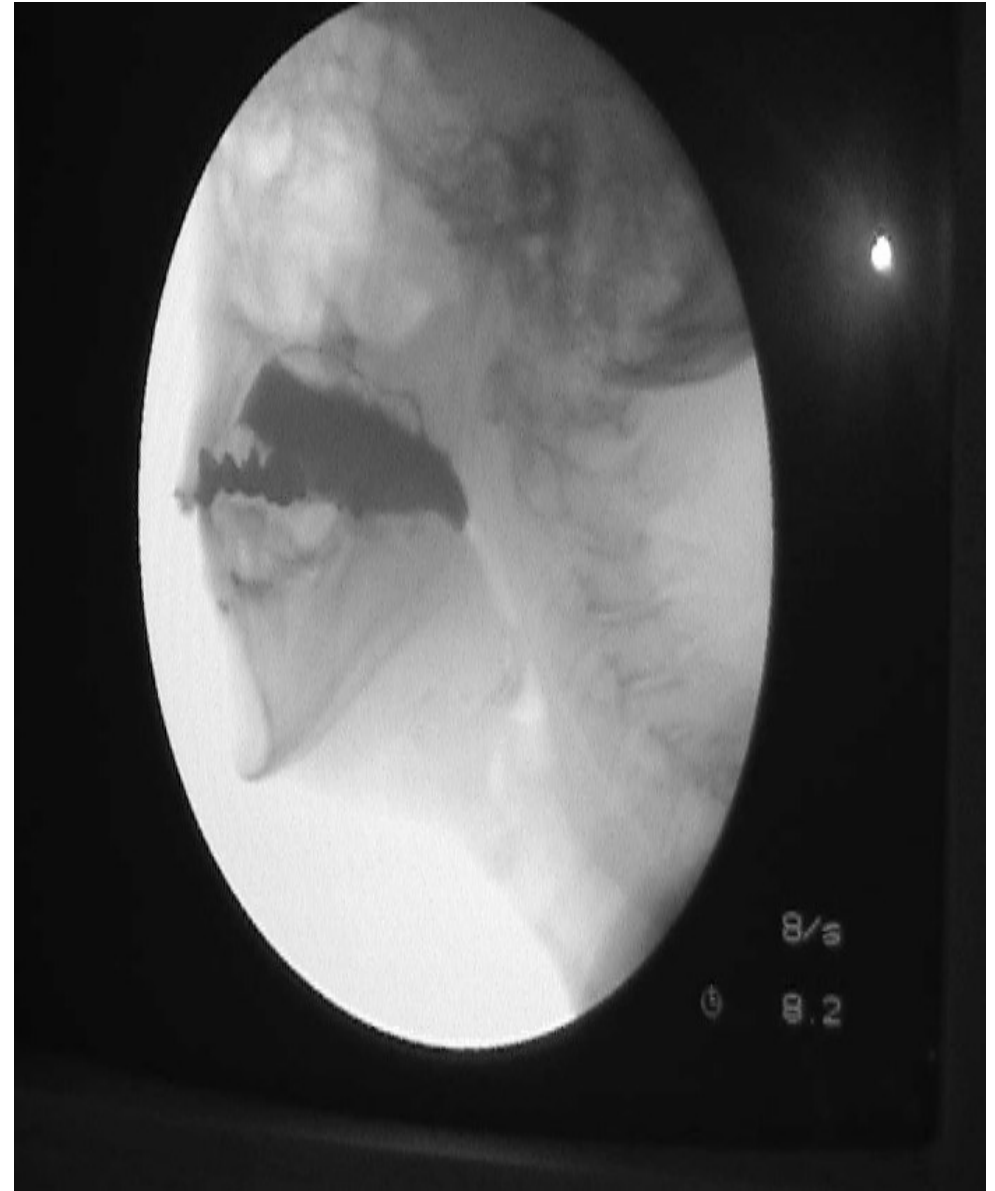




# ORAL PHASE



# ORAL – PHARINGEAL PHASE



## **TAKE HOME MESSAGE**

The oral phase is the most complex sensory-motor action of deglutition

Nonetheless, it is usually not difficult to understand and remember as it is highly conscious

The tongue action is of key importance in both bolus transport and bolus maintenance within the oral cavity

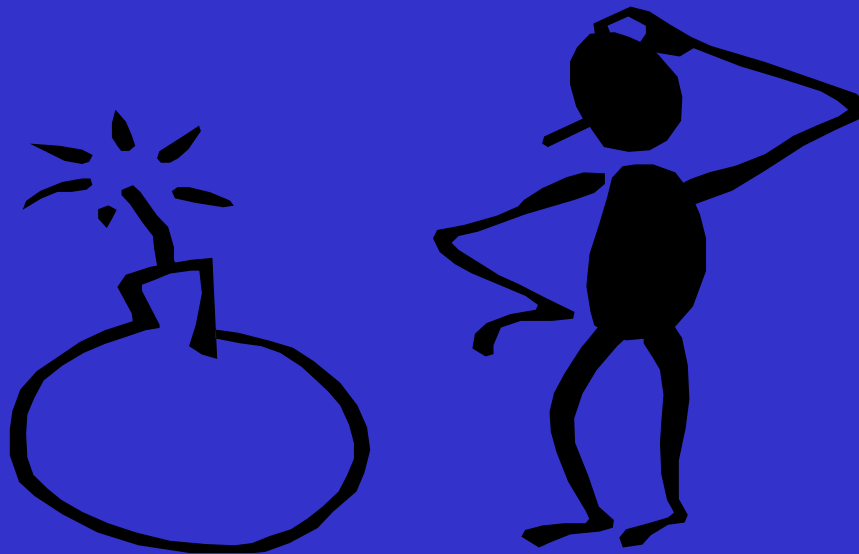
# OUTLINE

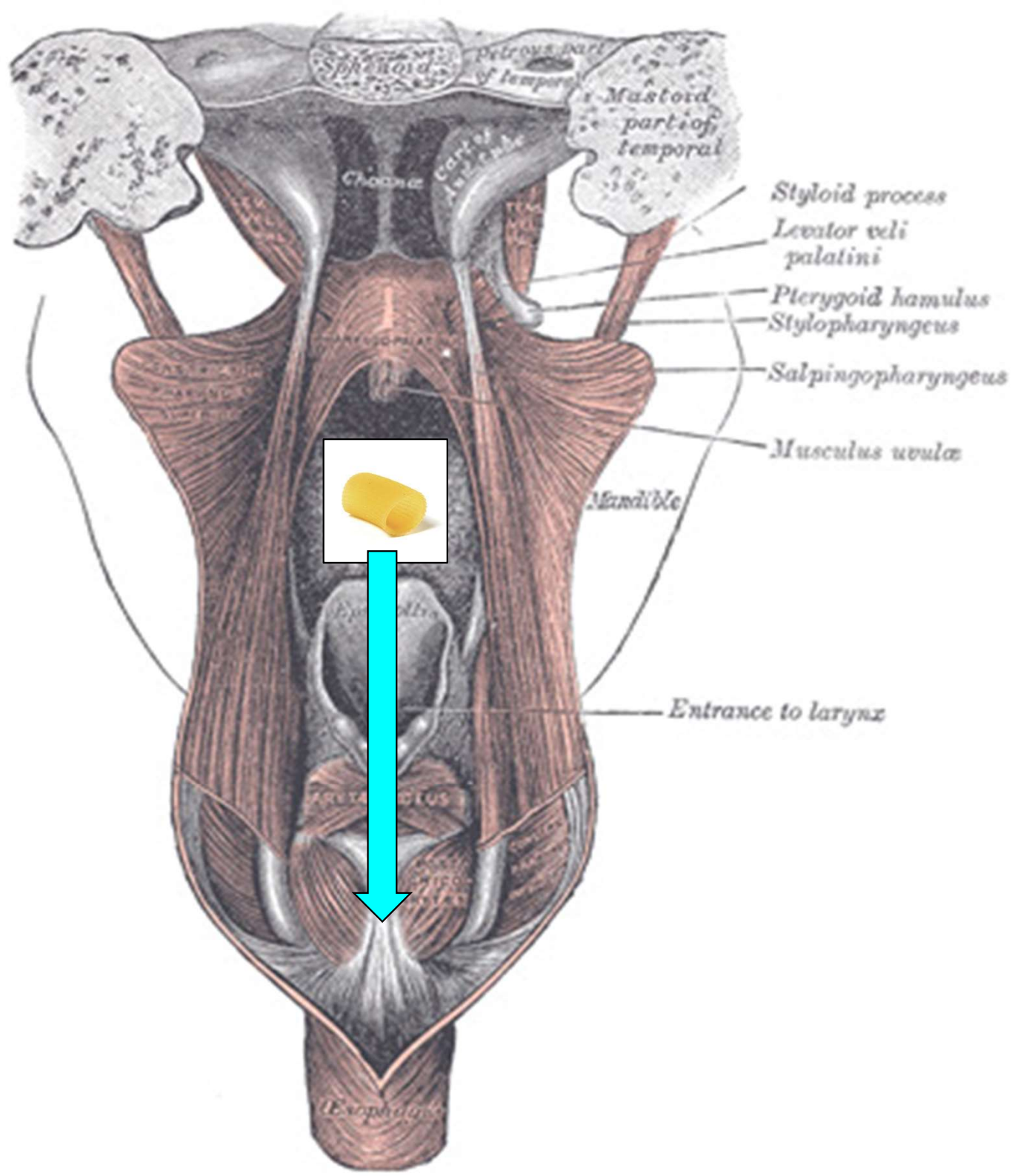
- Swallowing and body functions
- The oral phase
- **The pharyngeal phase**
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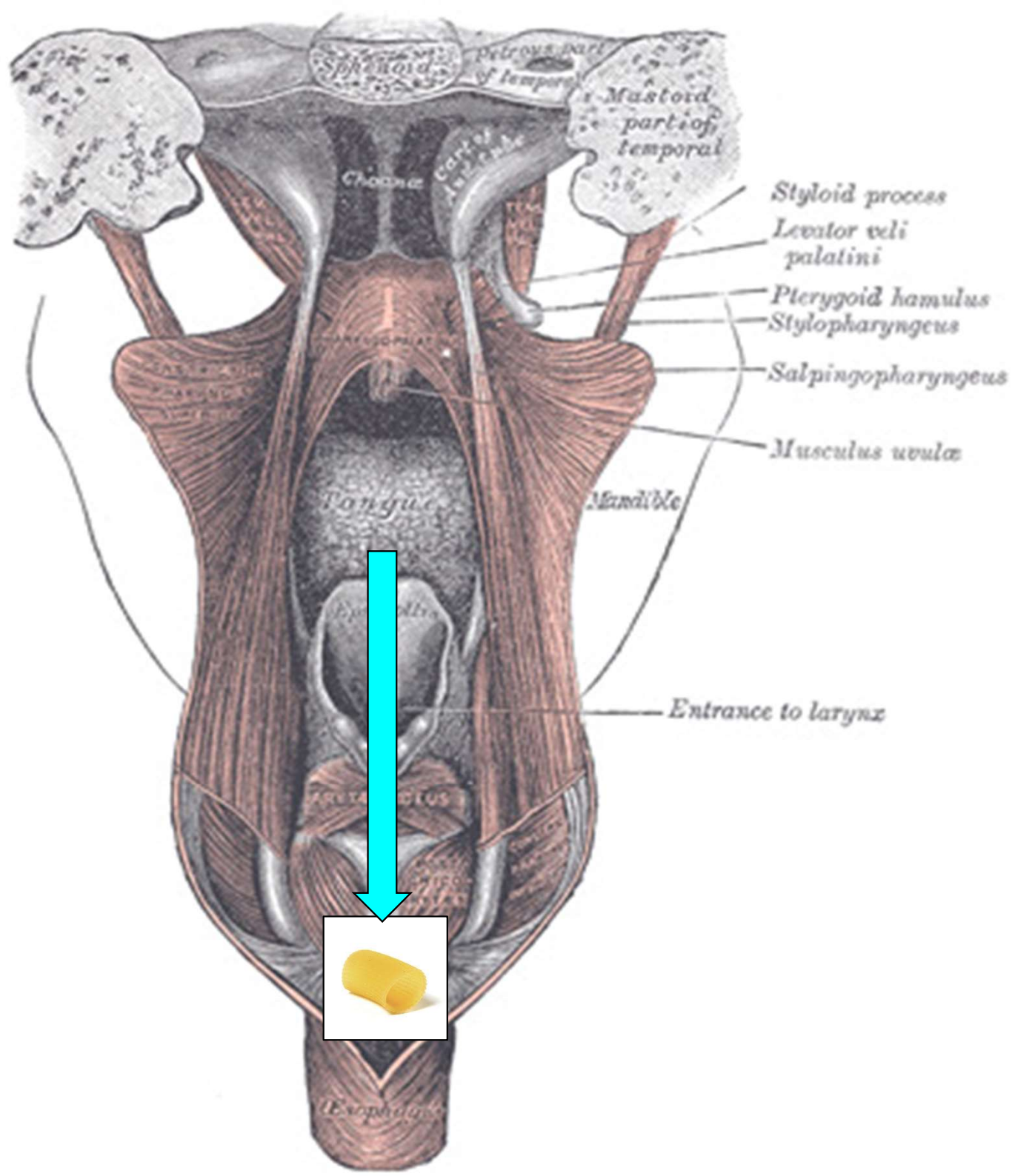
# PHARYNGEAL PHASE

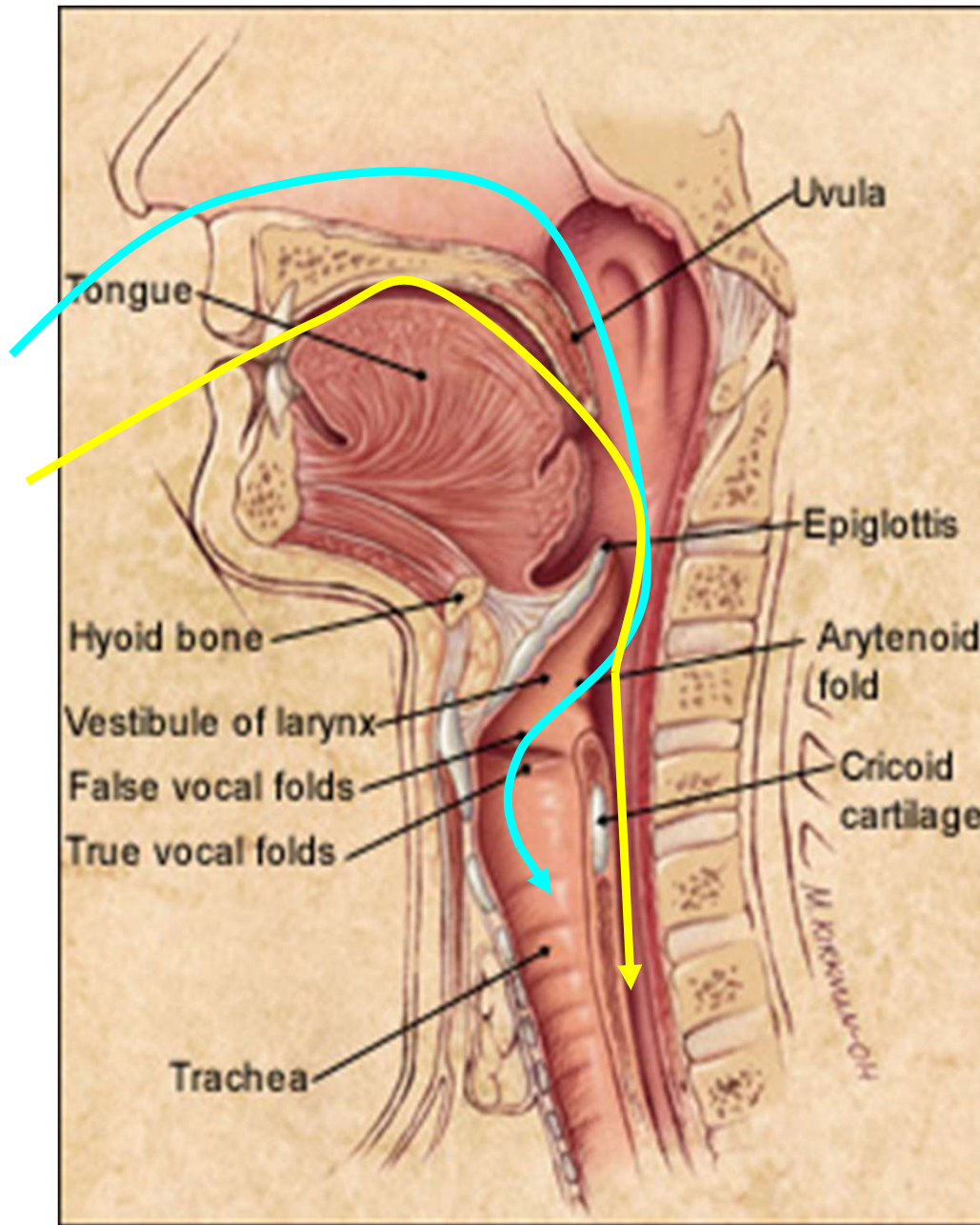
**The bolus moves from the oral cavity into the esophagus**

**The bolus passes the aero-digestive cross**









© 2000 Myriam Kirkman-Oh

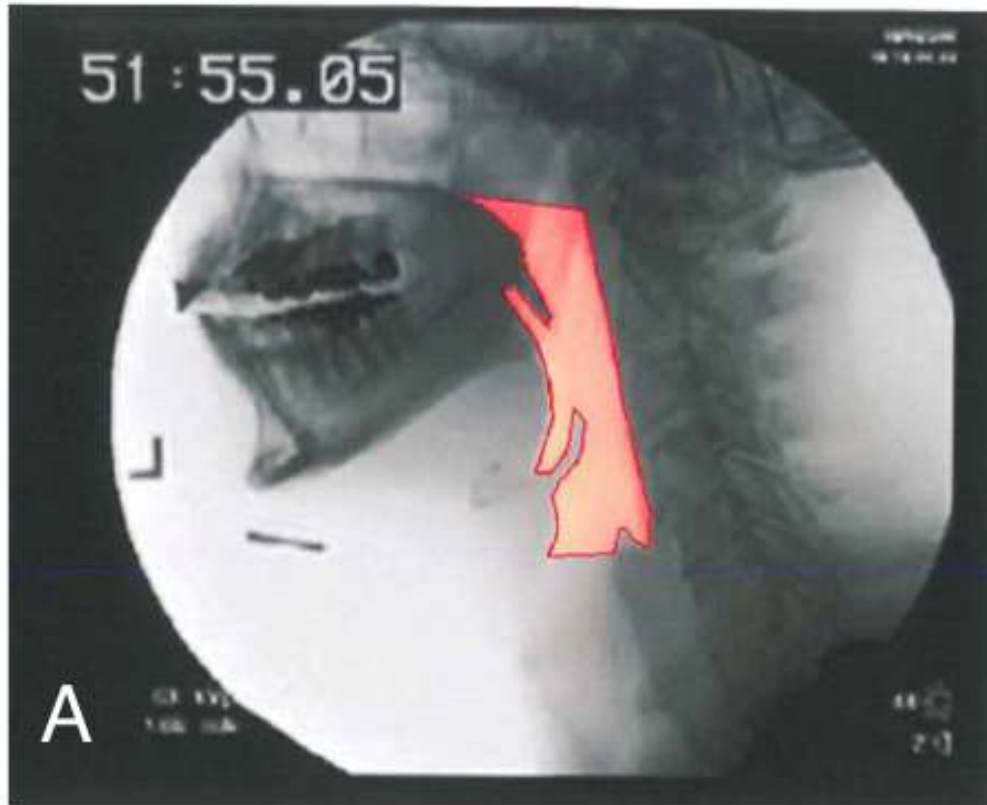
**AIRWAY**

**FOOD WAY**

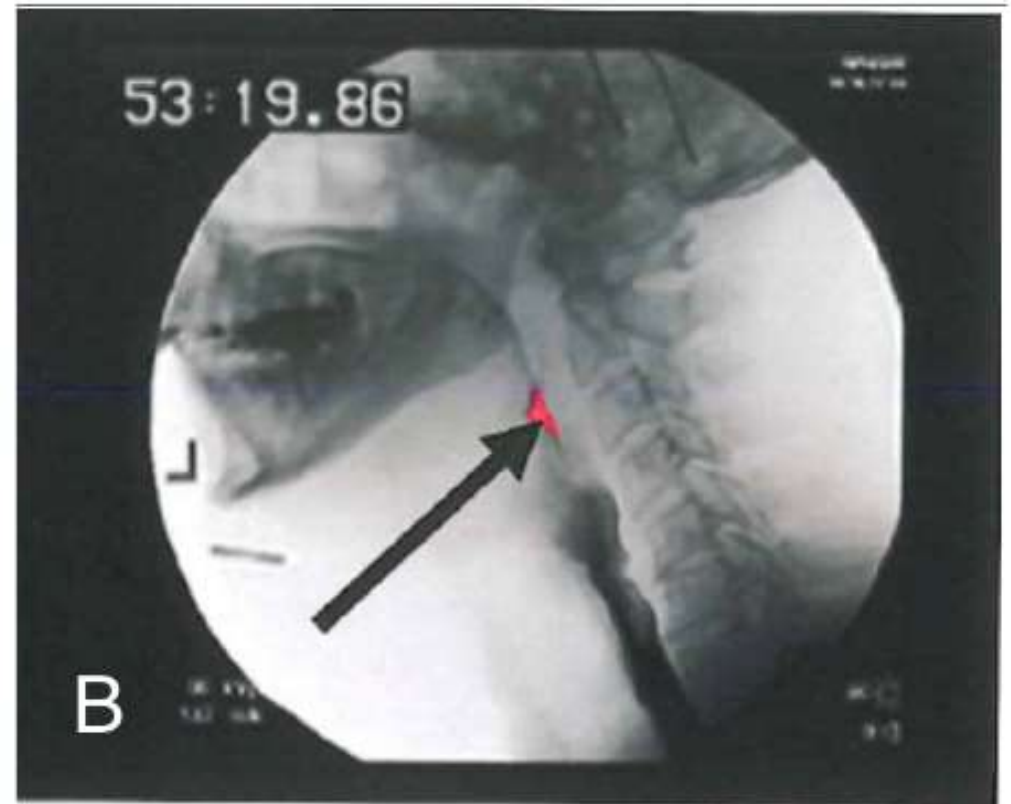


# CHANGE IN PHARYNGEAL CONFIGURATION

Respiratory configuration



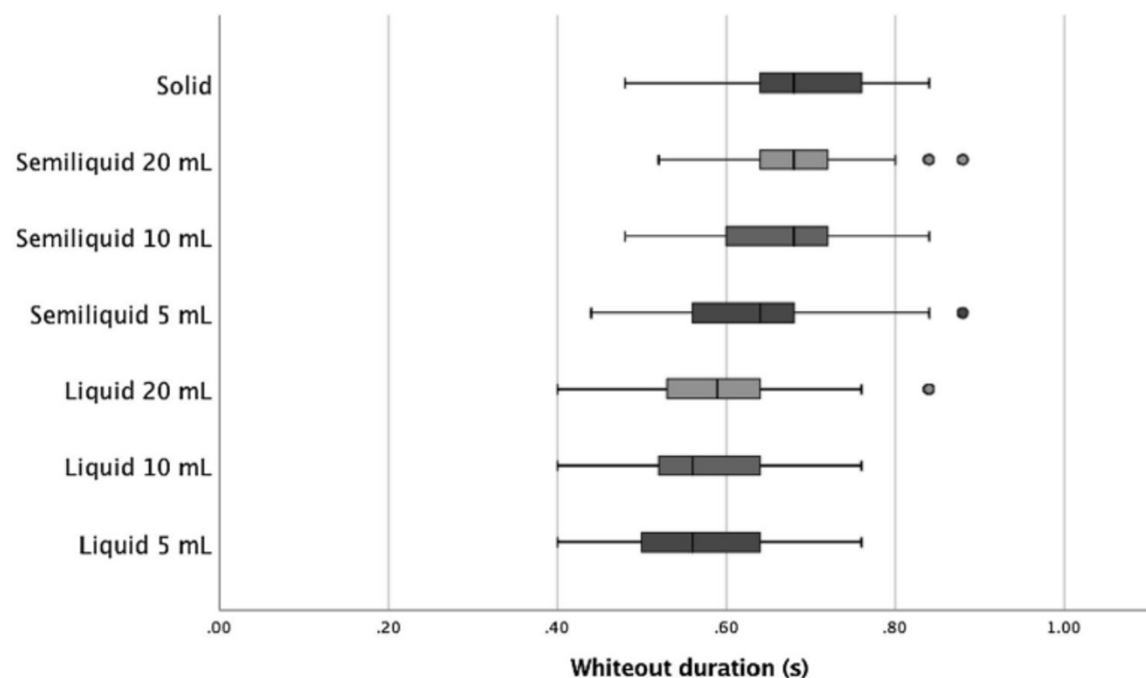
Swallowing configuration





## Effect of Age, Sex, Bolus Volume, and Bolus Consistency on Whiteout Duration in Healthy Subjects During FEES

Francesco Mozzanica<sup>1,2</sup> · Rosaria Lorusso<sup>2</sup> · Carlo Robotti<sup>2</sup> · Tania Zambon<sup>2</sup> · Pietro Corti<sup>2</sup> · Nicole Pizzorni<sup>2</sup> · Jan Vanderwegen<sup>3</sup> · Antonio Schindler<sup>2</sup>



**Table 2** Intrarater and interrater reliability obtained using the two-way random Intraclass Correlation Coefficient (ICC). Interquartile ranges are reported in brackets

Interrater	Intrarater		
	Rater 1 versus rater 2	Rater 1 versus rater 3	Rater 2 versus rater 3
Rater 1 test–retest			
0.985 (0.98–0.987)	0.982 (0.980–0.984)	0.992 (0.990–0.993)	0.961 (0.951–0.971)

# I QUATTRO SFINTERI NELLA FASE FARINGEA

Apertura dello sfintere  
glossopalatale

Chiusura dello sfintere velo-faringeo

Chiusura dello sfintere laringeo

Apertura dello sfintere esofageo  
superiore

0

0.2

-0.4

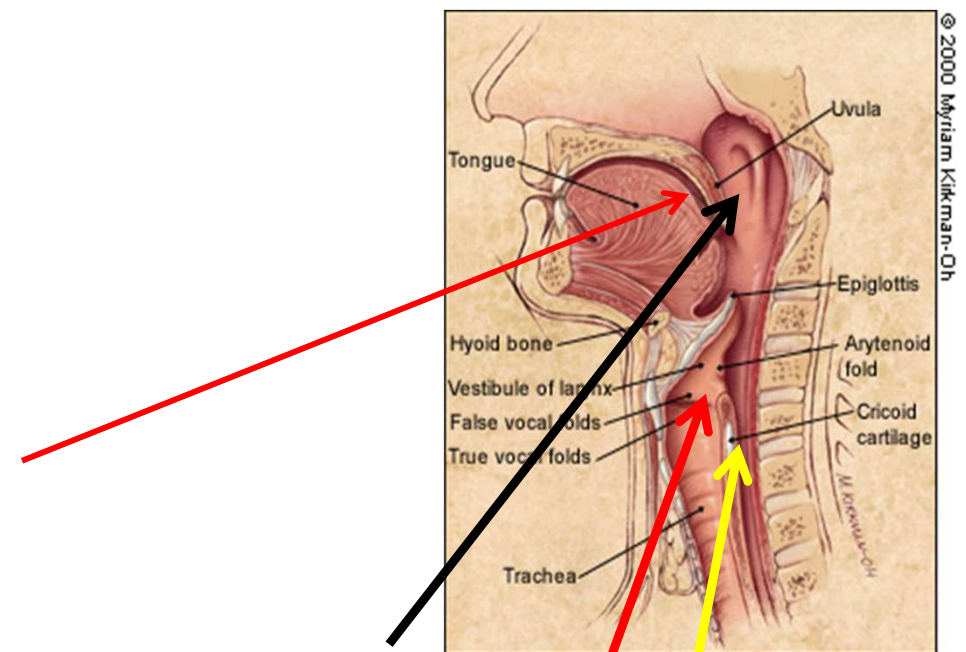
-0.2

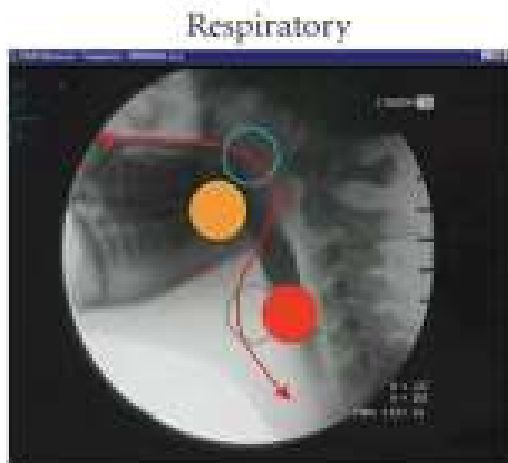
0

Riconfigurazione  
faringea

Volume  
dipendente

Clearance faringea

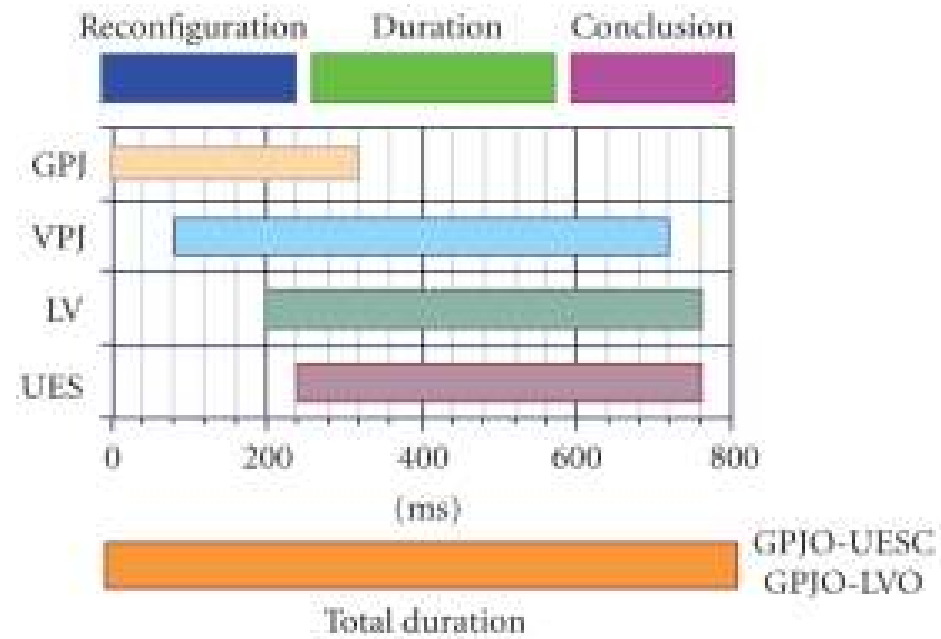


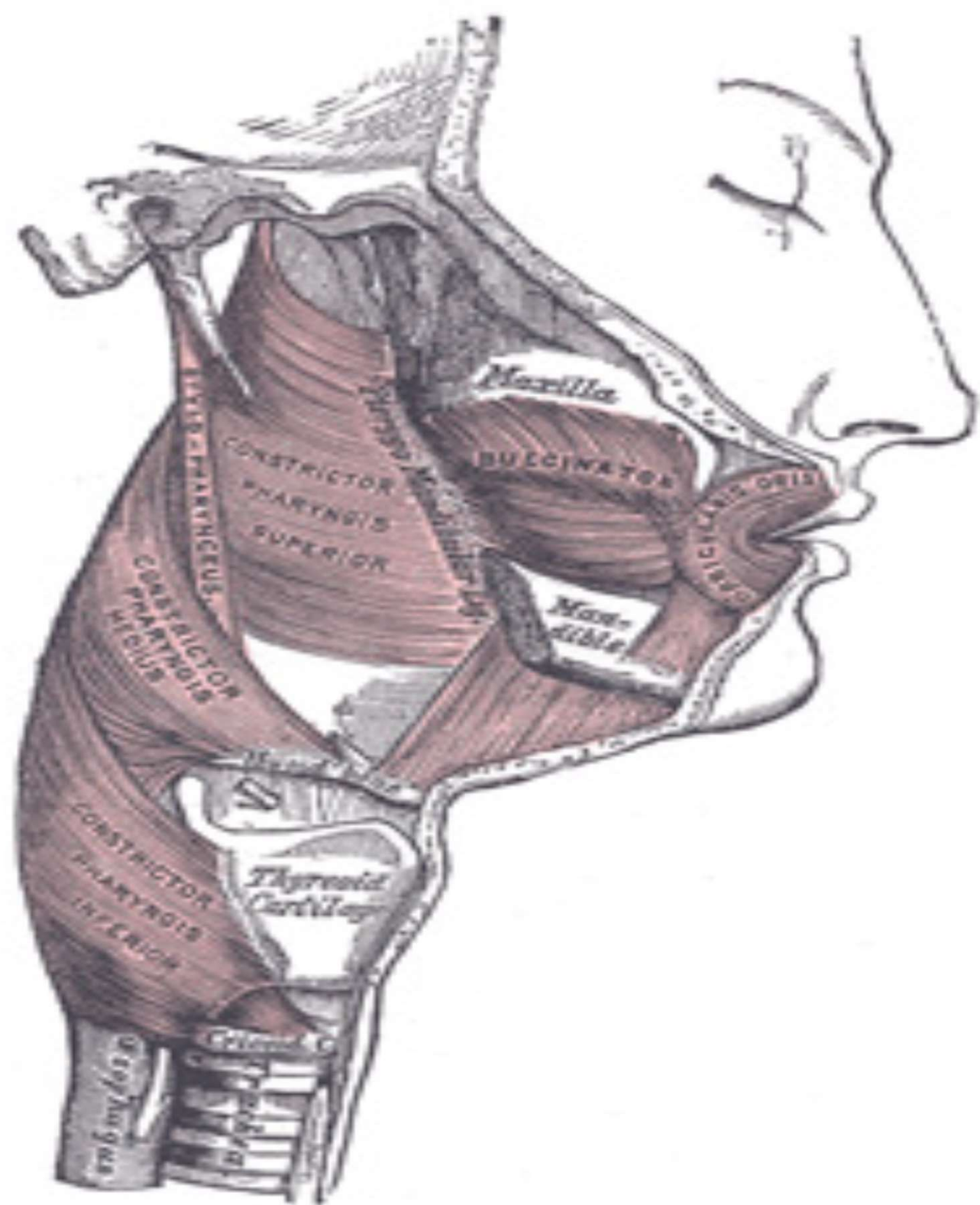


GPJO-VPJ  
GPJO-LVC  
GPJO-UESO

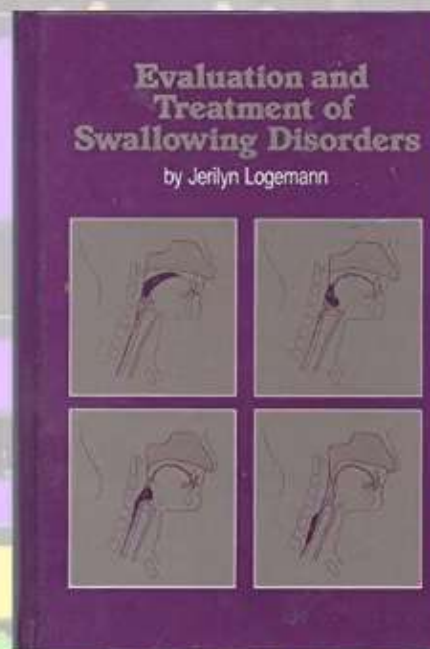


UESC-GPJ  
UESC-VPJO  
UESC-LVO





# 1983



A swallow  
should trigger  
by the time  
the bolus  
reaches the  
anterior  
faucial arches

As the tongue movement propels the bolus posteriorly, sensory receptors in the oropharynx and tongue itself (particularly deep proprioceptive receptors) are stimulated, sending sensory information to the cortex and brainstem. It is hypothesized that a sensory recognition center in the lower brainstem (medulla) in the nucleus tractus solitarius decodes the incoming sensory information and identifies the swallow stimulus, sending this information to the nucleus ambiguus, which initiates the pharyngeal swallow motor pattern (Doty, Richmond, & Storey, 1967; Miller, 1972). **When the leading edge of the bolus, or the "bolus head," passes any point between the anterior faucial arches and the point where the tongue base crosses the lower rim of the mandible (see Figure 2.14), the oral stage of the swallow is terminated and the pharyngeal swallow should be triggered.** If the pharyngeal stage is not triggered by that time, the pharyngeal swallow is said to be delayed. In the first edition of this book, the trigger point for the pharyngeal swallow was defined as the anterior faucial arch. This was based on studies of young and middle-aged adults. The point of triggering of the pharyngeal swallow has been lowered in response to more recent observations of older normal swallows whose pharyngeal swallow triggers when the bolus head has reached the lower level (Robbins, Hamilton, Lof, & Kempster, 1992; Tracy et al., 1989). Individuals of all ages should trigger the pharyngeal swallow by the time the bolus head reaches the point where the mandible crosses the tongue base, as seen radiographically.

In younger, normal individuals, the triggering of the pharyngeal swallow occurs at the anterior faucial arch, and timing is such that posterior movement of the bolus is not interrupted (Jean & Car, 1979; Lederman, 1977; Tracy et al., 1989). There is no pause in bolus movement while the pharyngeal swallow triggers. Pommerenke (1928) and others have established the base of the anterior faucial pillars as the most sensitive place for elicitation of the pharyngeal swallow. Hollshwandner, Brenman, and Friedman (1975) and Storey (1976) postulated receptors in the tongue, epiglottis, and larynx as additional centers for elicitation of the pharyngeal swallow. Older (over age 60) normal individuals are not seen to trigger the pharyngeal swallow until the bolus head reaches approximately the middle of the tongue base (Robbins et al., 1992; Tracy et al., 1989). Observations of neurologically impaired patients corroborate these vari-

estimation



## Delayed Initiation of the Pharyngeal Swallow: Normal Variability in Adult Swallows

Bonnie Martin-Harris

Medical University of South Carolina

Martin B. Bredsky

Medical University of South Carolina and  
University of Pittsburgh

Yvonne Michel

Fu-Shing Lee

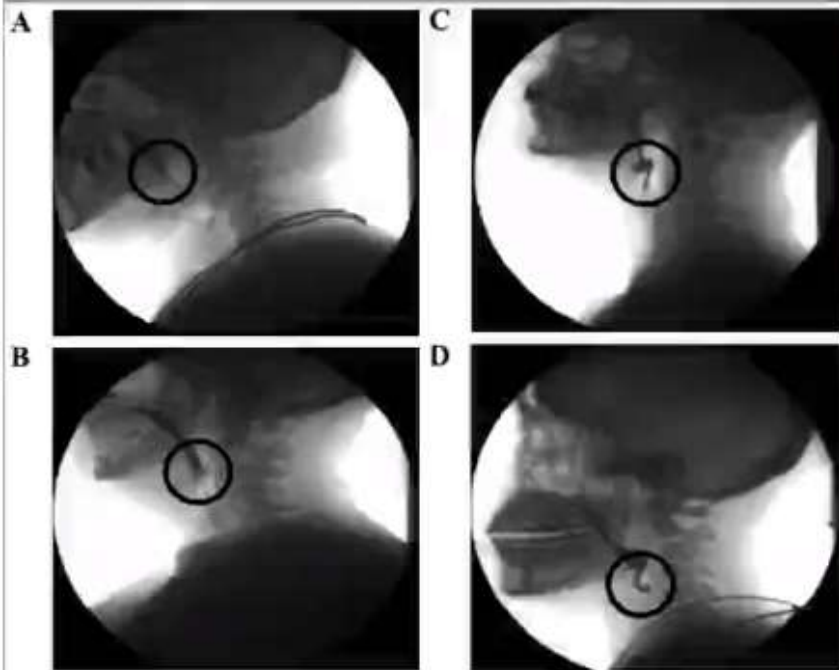
Bobby Walters

Medical University of South Carolina

**Purpose:** The purpose of this investigation was to determine bolus head timing and location relations with the onset of hyoid movement at the initiation of the pharyngeal swallow and at the onset of swallow-related apnea.

**Method:** Bolus head timing and location and the timing of swallow-related apnea were recorded from frame-by-frame analysis of 5-ml single liquid swallows using dual-modality videofluoroscopy and nasal airflow recordings in 52 consecutive, healthy volunteers. The presence, depth, and response to airway entry were also recorded and related to the bolus head location and the onset of hyoid movement.

**Results:** The majority of participants—80% on at least 1 trial—produced the onset of hyoid movement at pharyngeal swallow initiation after the bolus head passed the



## Triggering of the Pharyngeal Swallow

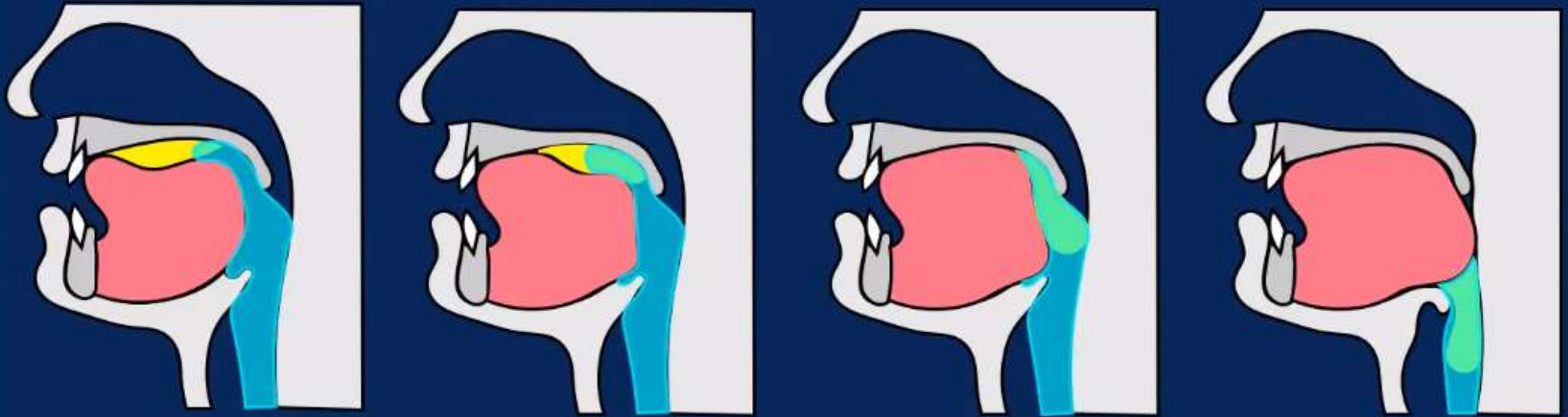
As the tongue movement propels the bolus posteriorly, sensory receptors in the oropharynx and tongue itself (particularly deep proprioceptive receptors) are stimulated, sending sensory information to the cortex and brainstem. It is hypothesized that a sensory recognition center in the lower brainstem (medulla) in the nucleus tractus solitarius decodes the incoming sensory information and identifies the swallow stimulus, sending this information to the nucleus ambiguus, which initiates the pharyngeal swallow motor pattern (Doty, Richmond, & Storey, 1967; Miller, 1972). When the leading edge of the bolus, or the "bolus head," passes any point between the anterior faucial arches and the point where the tongue base crosses the lower rim of the mandible (see Figure 2.14), the oral stage of the swallow is terminated and the pharyngeal swallow should be triggered. If the pharyngeal stage is not triggered by that time, the pharyngeal swallow is said to be delayed. In the first edition of this book, the trigger point for the pharyngeal swallow was defined as the anterior faucial arch. This was based on studies of young and middle-aged adults. The point of triggering of the pharyngeal swallow has been lowered in response to more recent observations of older normal swallows whose pharyngeal swallow triggers when the bolus head has reached the lower level (Robbins, Hamilton, Lof, & Kempster, 1992; Tracy et al., 1989). Individuals of all ages should trigger the pharyngeal swallow by the time the bolus head reaches the point where the mandible crosses the tongue base, as seen radiographically.

In younger, normal individuals, the triggering of the pharyngeal swallow occurs at the anterior faucial arch, and timing is such that posterior movement of the bolus is not interrupted (Jean & Car, 1979; Lederman, 1977; Tracy et al., 1989). There is no pause in bolus movement while the pharyngeal swallow triggers. Pommerenke (1928) and others have established the base of the anterior faucial pillars as the most sensitive place for elicitation of the pharyngeal swallow. Hollshwandner, Brenman, and Friedman (1975) and Storey (1976) postulated receptors in the tongue, epiglottis, and larynx as additional centers for elicitation of the pharyngeal swallow. Older (over age 60) normal individuals are not seen to trigger the pharyngeal swallow until the bolus head reaches approximately the middle of the tongue base (Robbins et al., 1992; Tracy et al., 1989). Observations of neurologically impaired patients corroborate these variations. In some patients, the pharyngeal swallow is not triggered until material has fallen into the pyriform sinuses.



# Normal Swallowing Events

## Swallow Trigger



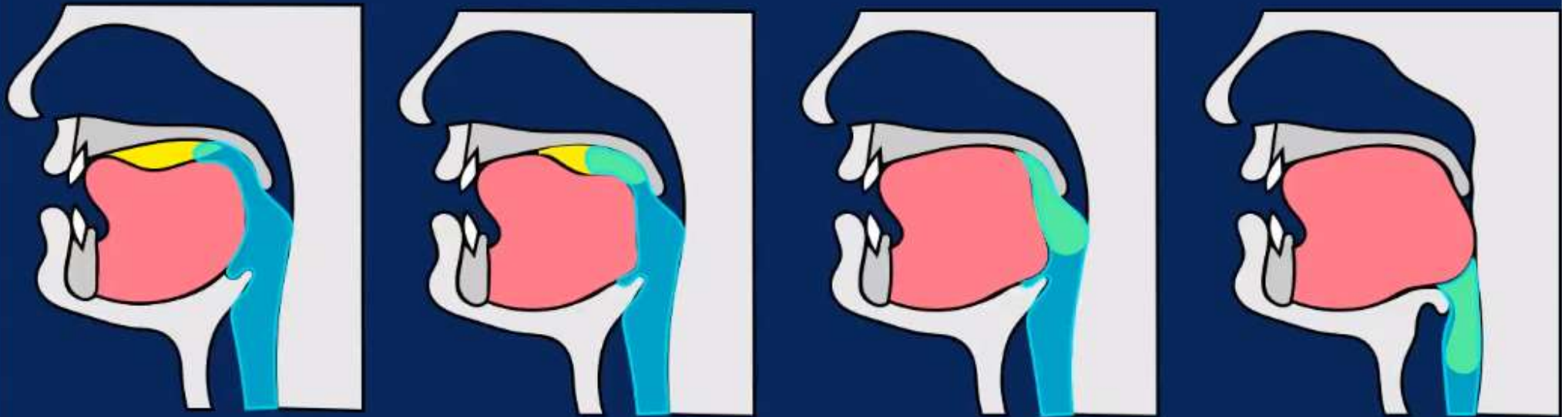
Sensory input via the bolus can trigger a swallow at any point as it travels through the oropharynx.

\*Normal Variability



# Normal Swallowing Events

## Swallow Trigger



earlier

younger

older

later



# FACTORS INFLUENCING PHARYNGEAL PHASE INITIATION

Cued swallow: cued swallow reduces the likelihood of bolus leading edge in the hypopharynx

Viscosity: high viscosity delay swallow initiation

Taste: sour taste facilitate swallow initiation

Chemestesis: menthos and capsaicin facilitate swallow initiation

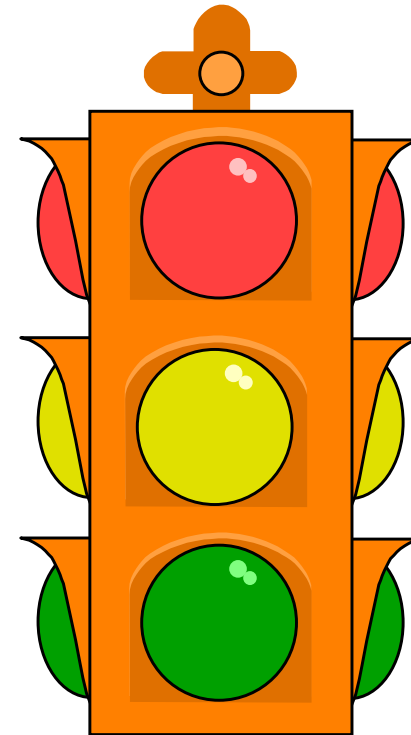
Sequential drinking: bolus leading edge is usually in the valleculae or hypopharynx before swallow initiation

Solid food: bolus leading edge is usually in the valleculae or oropharynx before swallow initiation

Mixed consistency: bolus leading edge is usually in the hypopharynx before swallow initiation

# PHARYNGEAL PHASE BIOMECHANICS

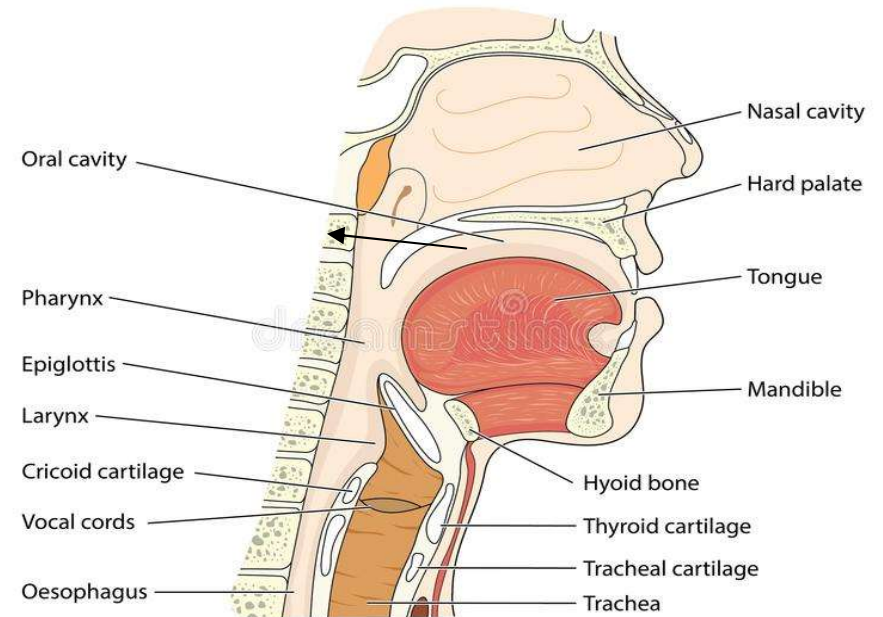
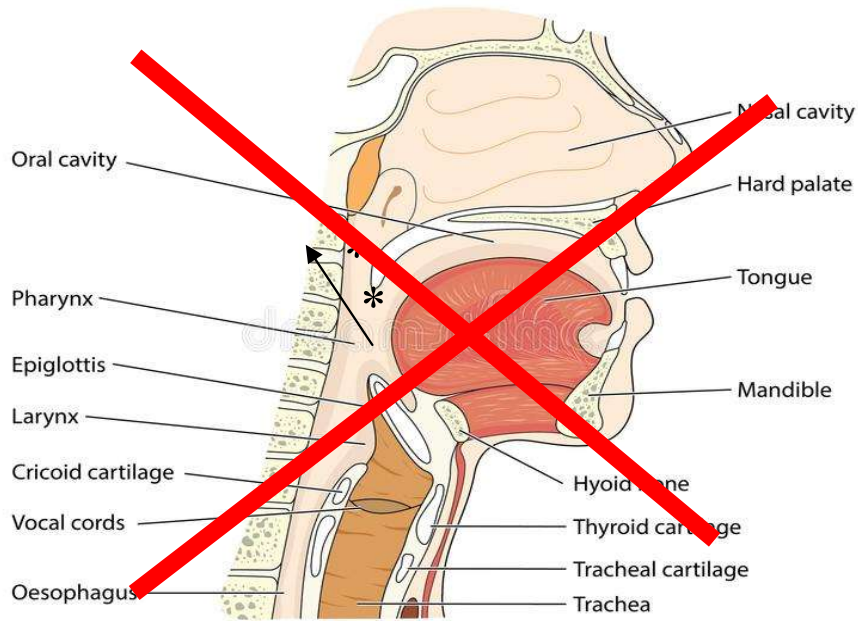
- **Velopharyngeal closure**
- **UES opening**
- **Laryngeal sphincter closure**
- **Tongue base back-ward movement**
- **Pharyngeal clearance**



# VELOPHARYNGEAL CLOSURE

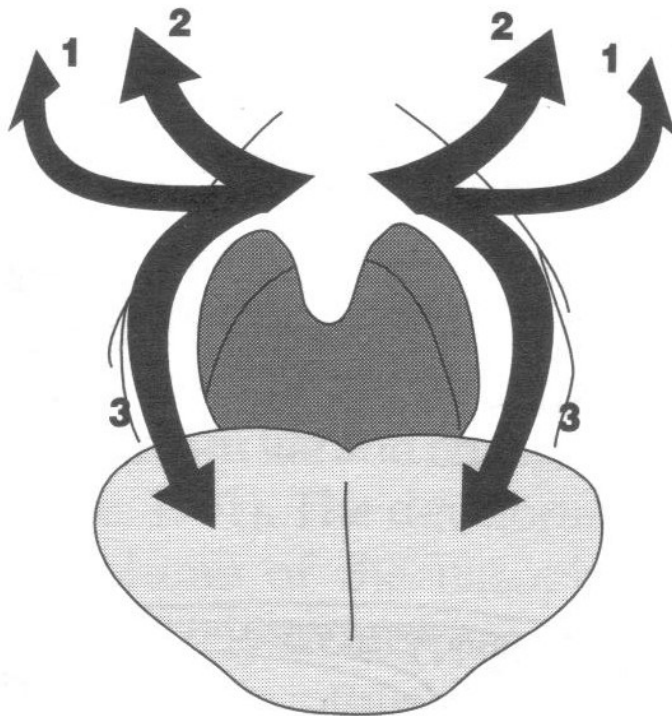
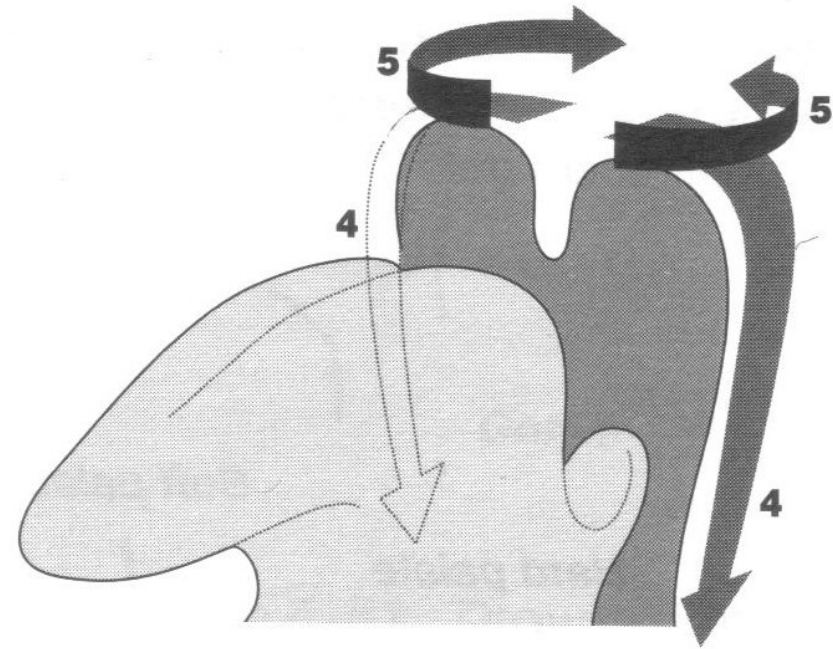
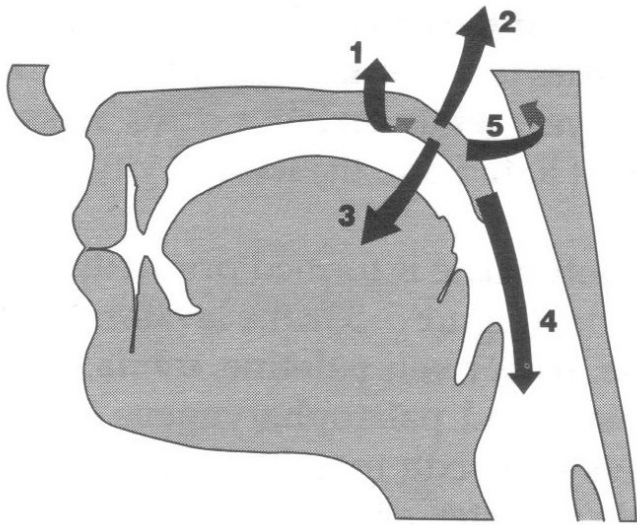


# VELOPHARYNGEAL CLOSURE



# VELOPHARYNGEAL CLOSURE





1. m. tensor of the velum (n. mandibularis V)

2. M. elevator velum

3. M. palatoglossus

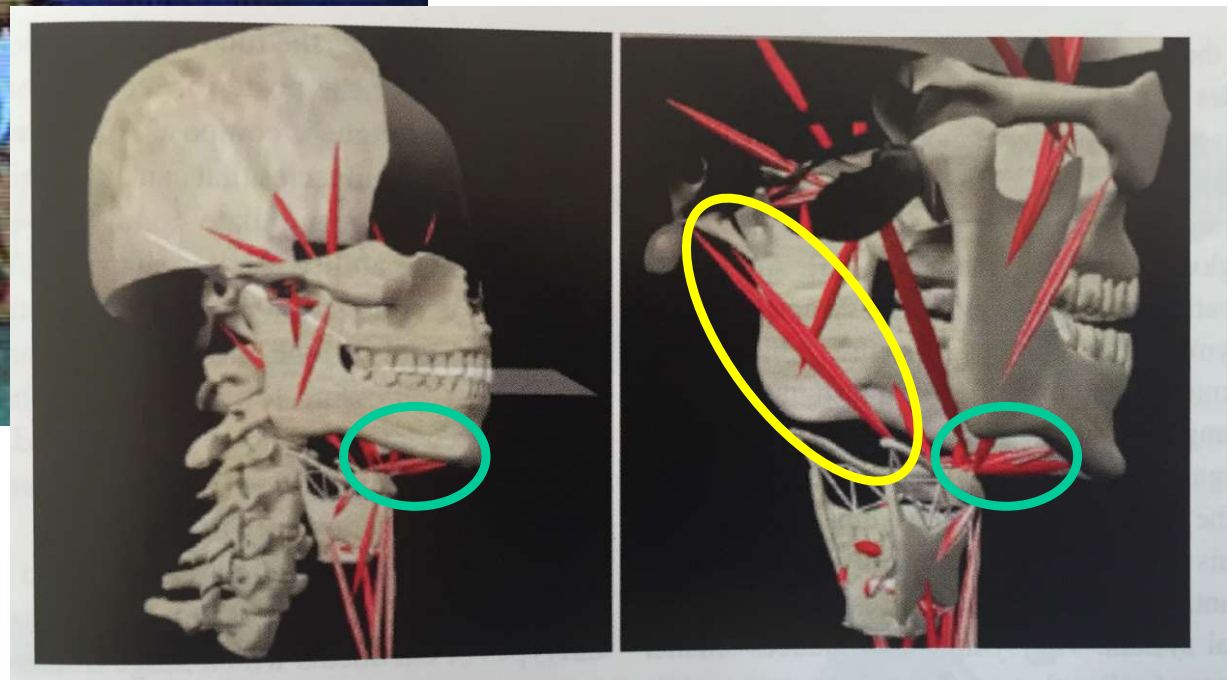
4. M. palatofaringeus

5. M. superior pharyngeal constrictor

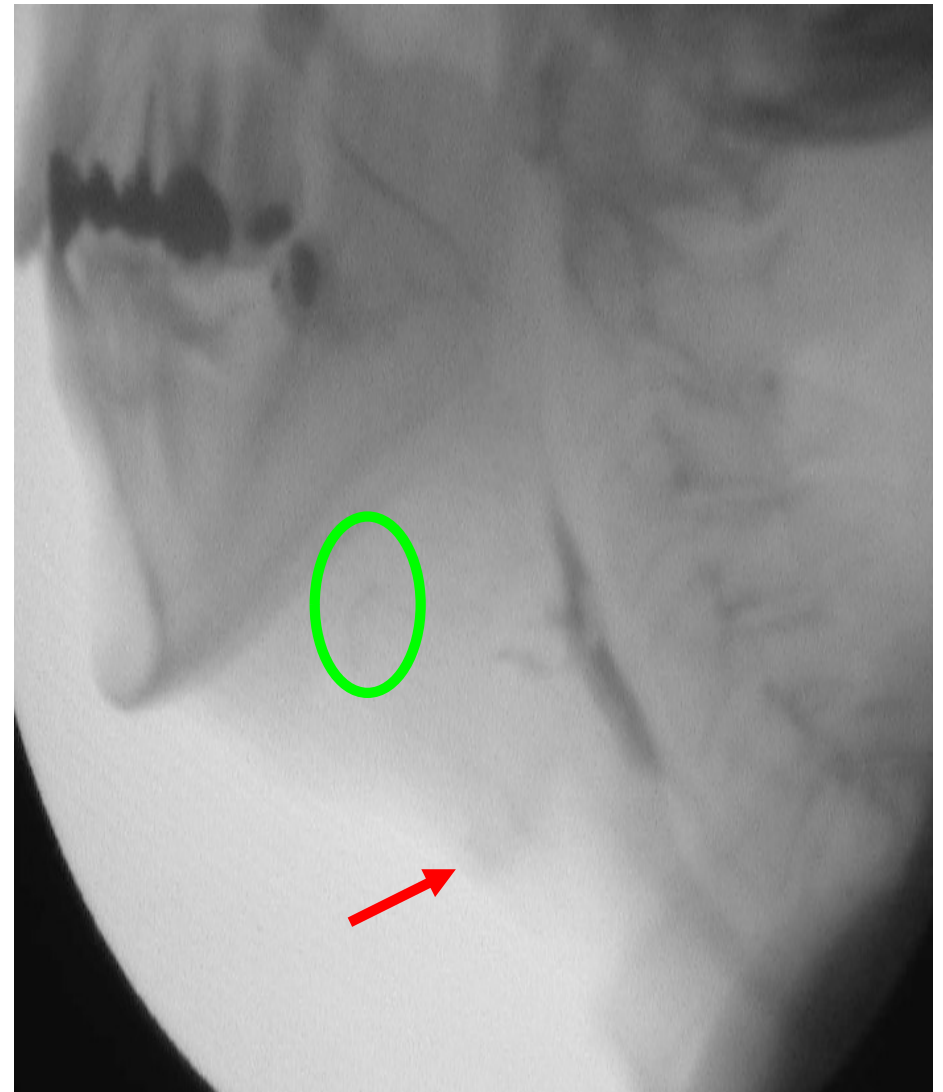
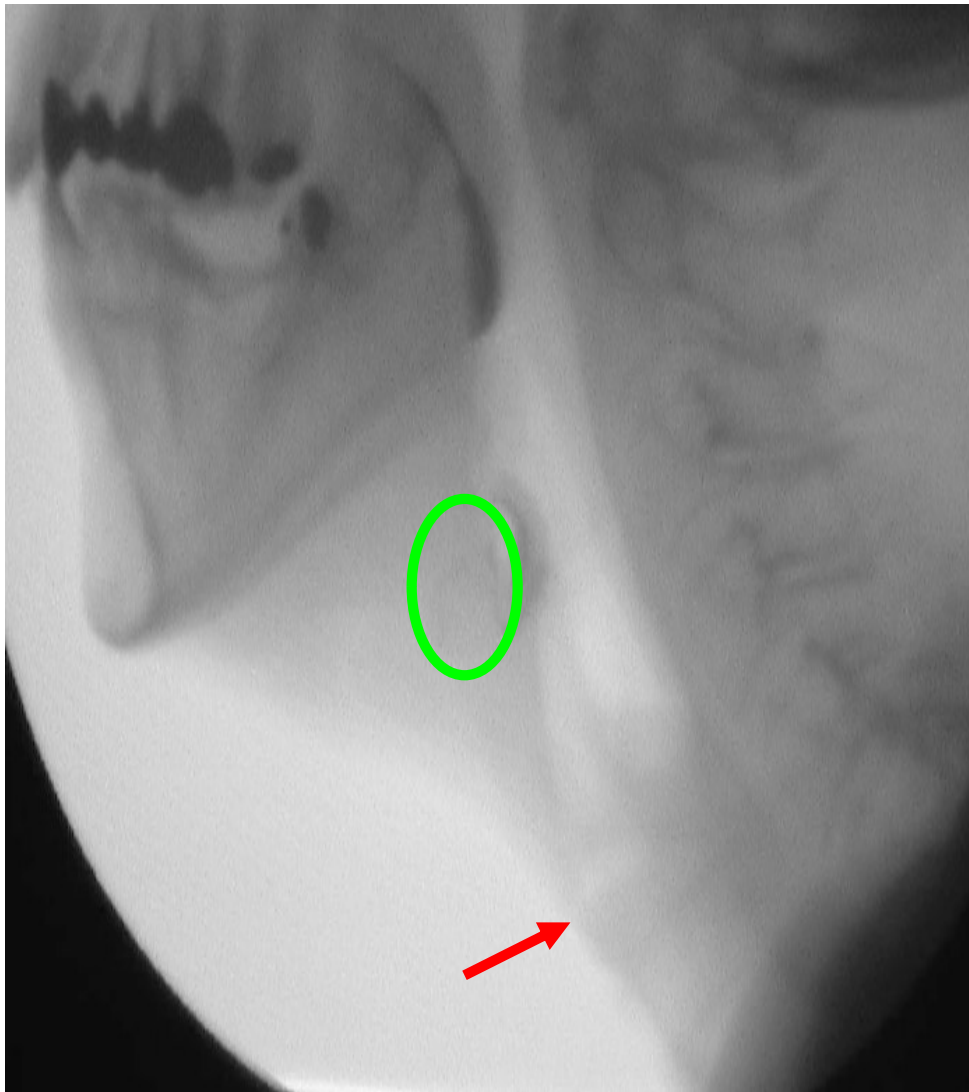
} plesso  
faringeo  
(VII, IX, X)



# LARYNGEAL ELEVATION

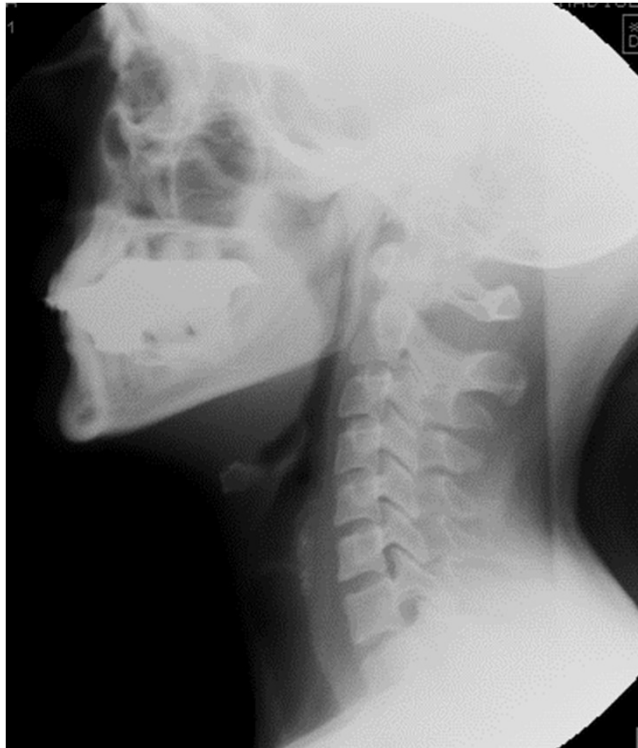


# LARYNGEAL ELEVATION

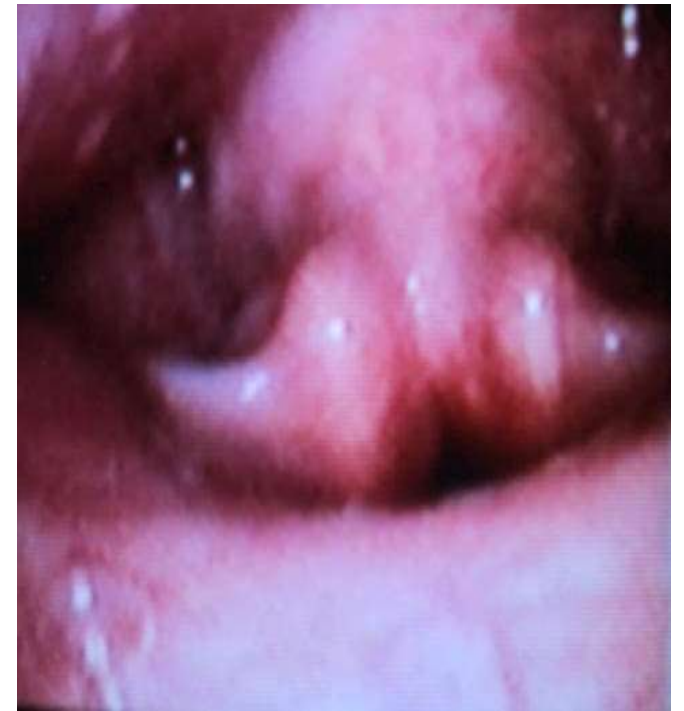


# WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS OF LARYNGEAL ELEVATION?

## 1: PROTECT THE AIRWAYS



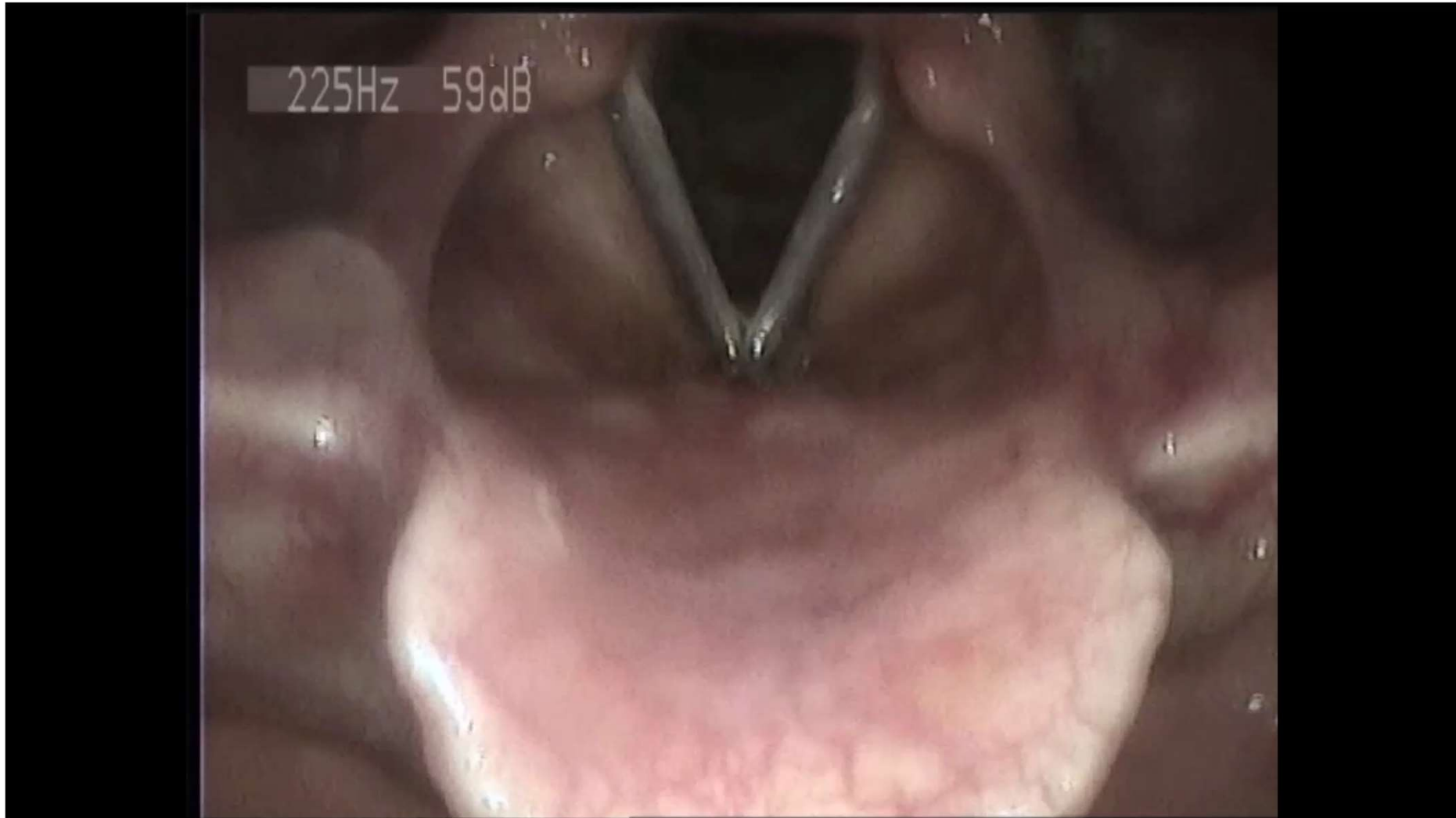
# LARYNGEAL CLOSURE



## LARYNGEAL CLOSURE: ADDUCTION



## LARYNGEAL CLOSURE: VESTIBULAR CLOSURE



# TILT OF THE EPIGLOTTIS

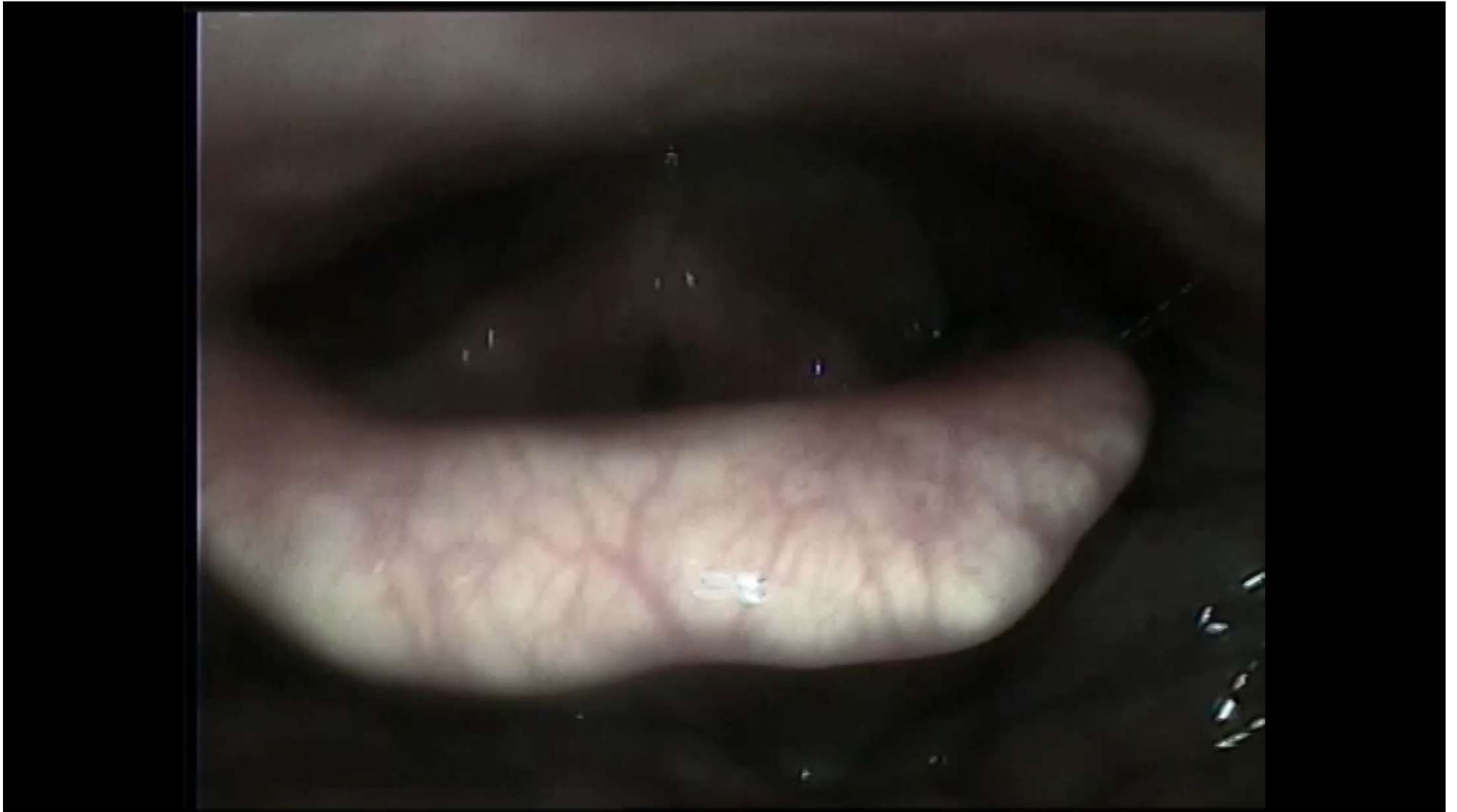
During swallowing the free margin of the epiglottis reaches the postcricoid region

Tilt of the epiglottis is the results of

1. Laryngeal elevation
2. Tongue base retraction
3. Bolus weight




# TILT OF THE EPIGLOTTIS



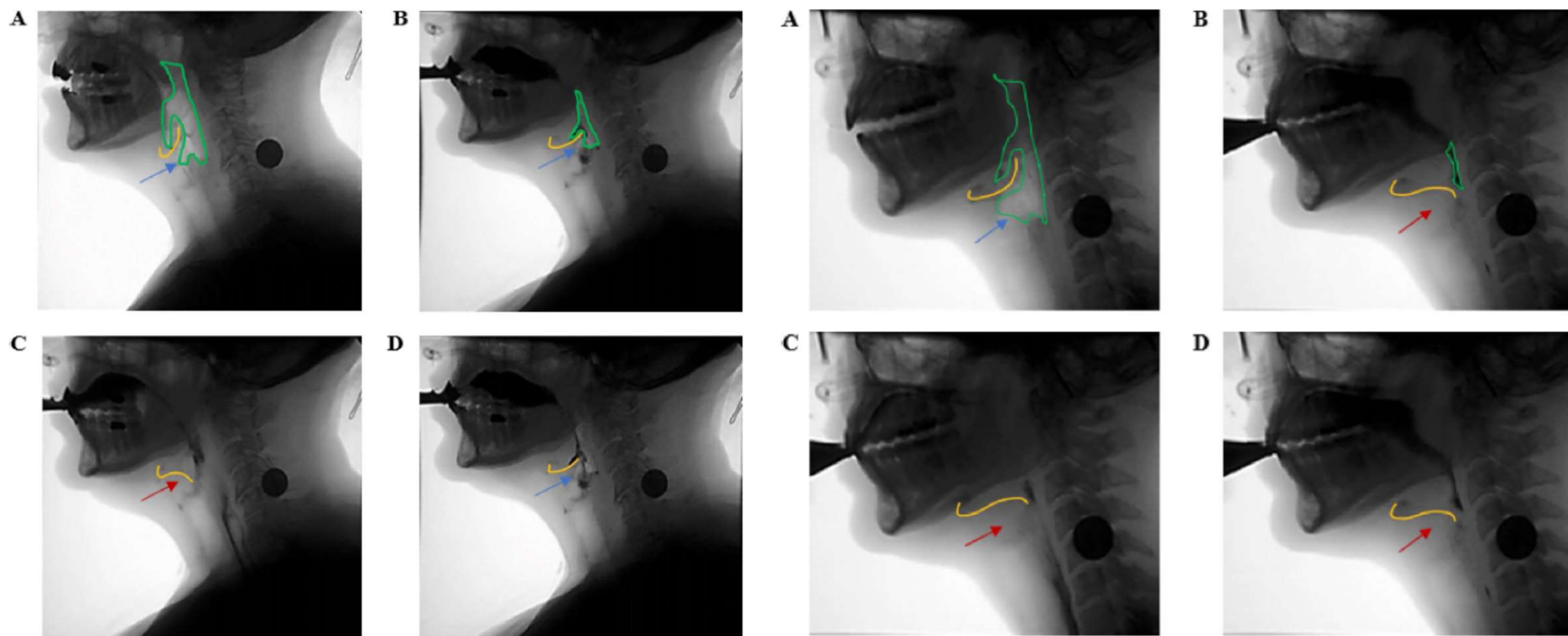


## Defining Normal Sequential Swallowing Biomechanics

Kevin Renz Ambrocio<sup>1</sup> · Anna Miles<sup>2</sup> · Ankita M. Bhutada<sup>3</sup> · Dahye Choi<sup>3</sup> · Kendrea L. Garand<sup>1</sup> 

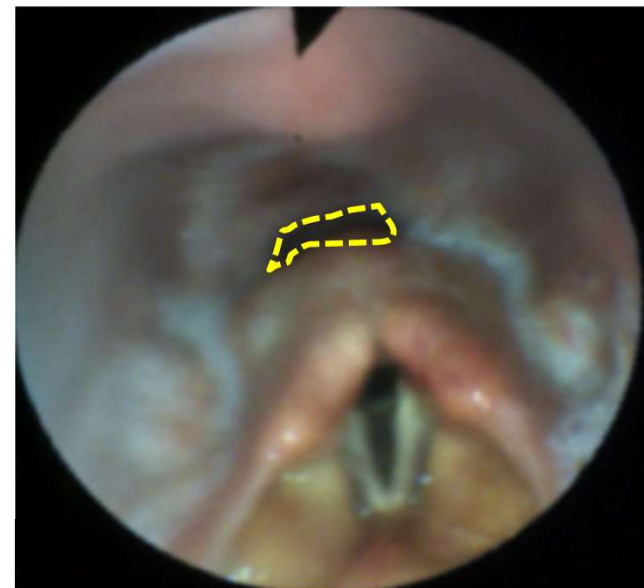
**Table 1** Defining characteristics of HLC types

Type	Definition
I	The HLC partially lowers, resulting in the epiglottis returning to or approximating its baseline position, opening of the laryngeal vestibule, and incomplete pharyngeal patency
II	The HLC remains relatively elevated (slight recoil may occur), resulting in sustained epiglottic inversion and laryngeal vestibule closure, and incomplete pharyngeal patency
III	Mixed characteristics of Types I and II are present



# Larynx/UES relationship

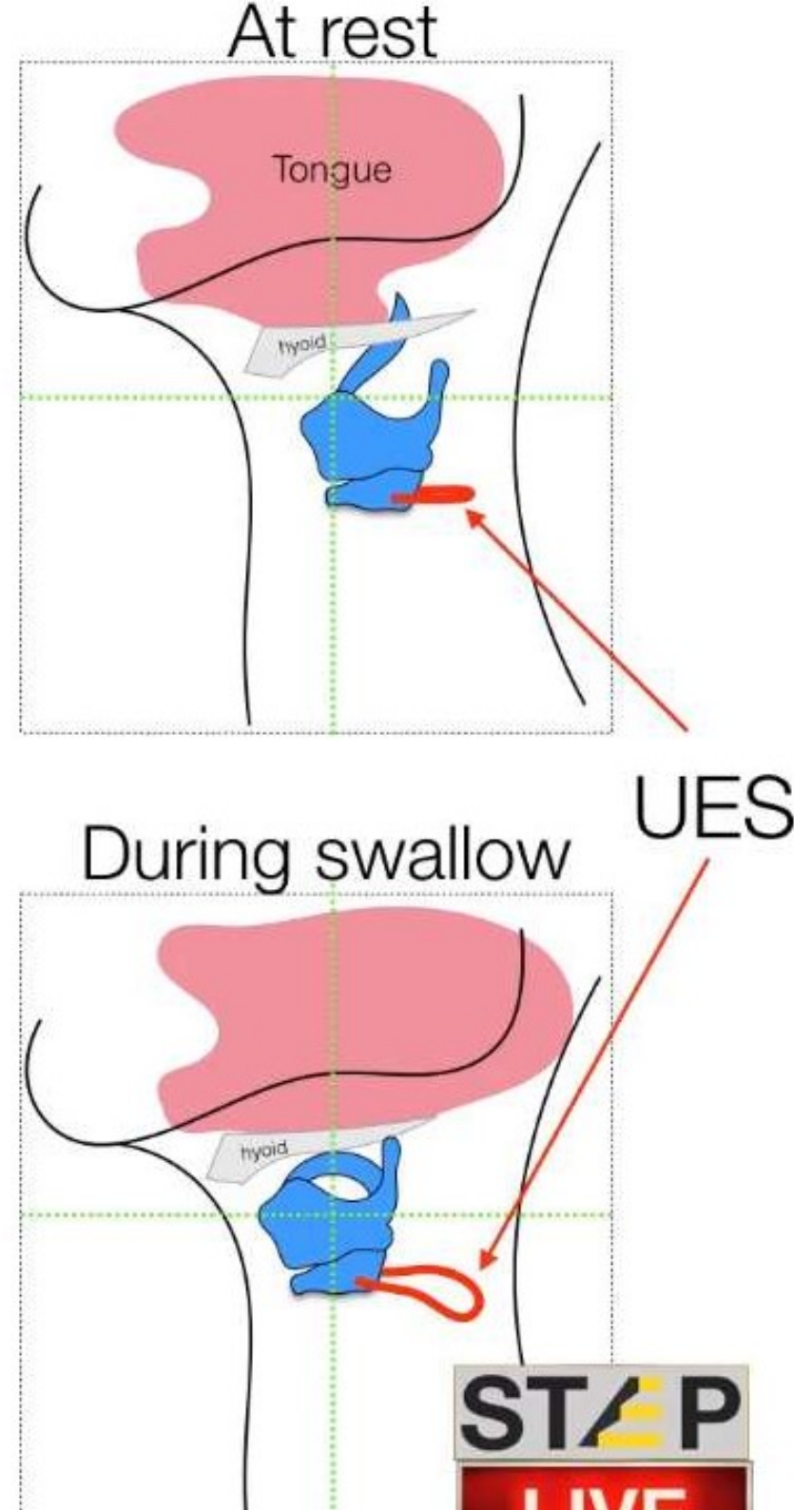
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# Laryngeal Vestibule Closure

## 3E Hyo-laryngeal excursion

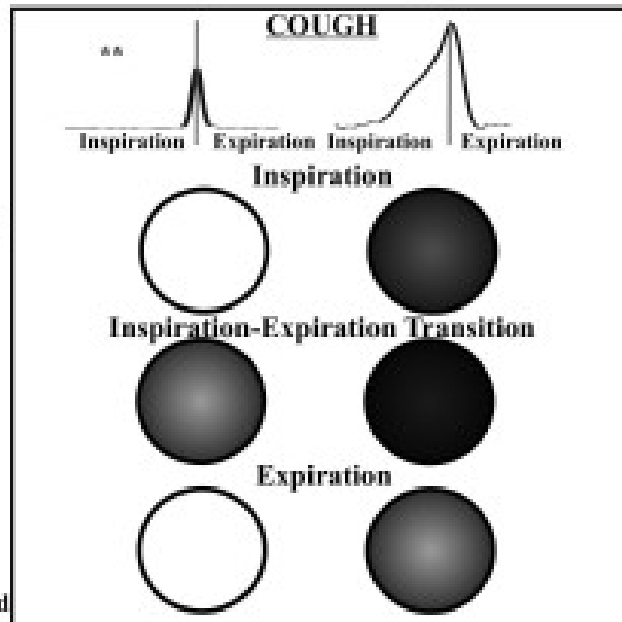
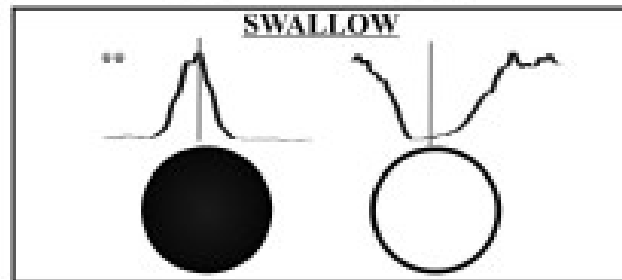
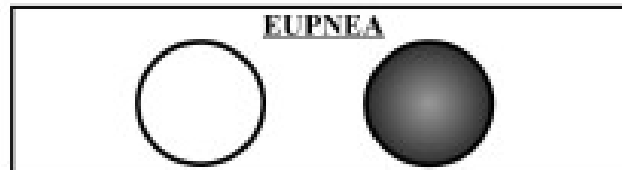
Traction on UES to stretch it open



# Dual Valve System

LARYNX      UPPER-ESOPH.  
GLOTTIS      SPHINCTER

Thyroarytenoid      Cricopharyngeus

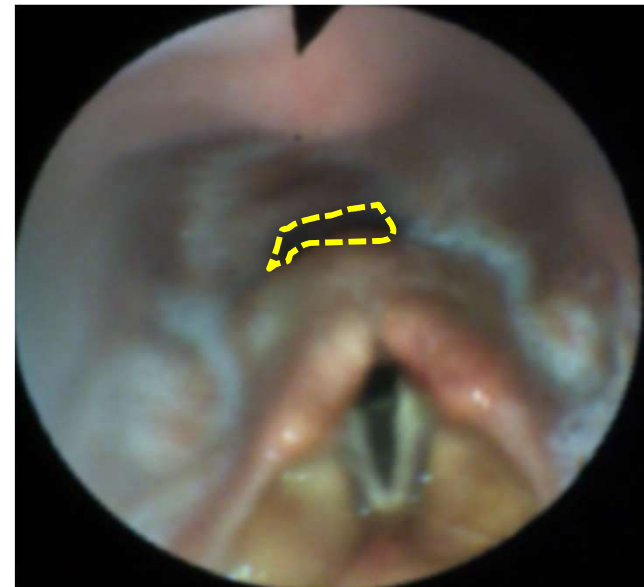


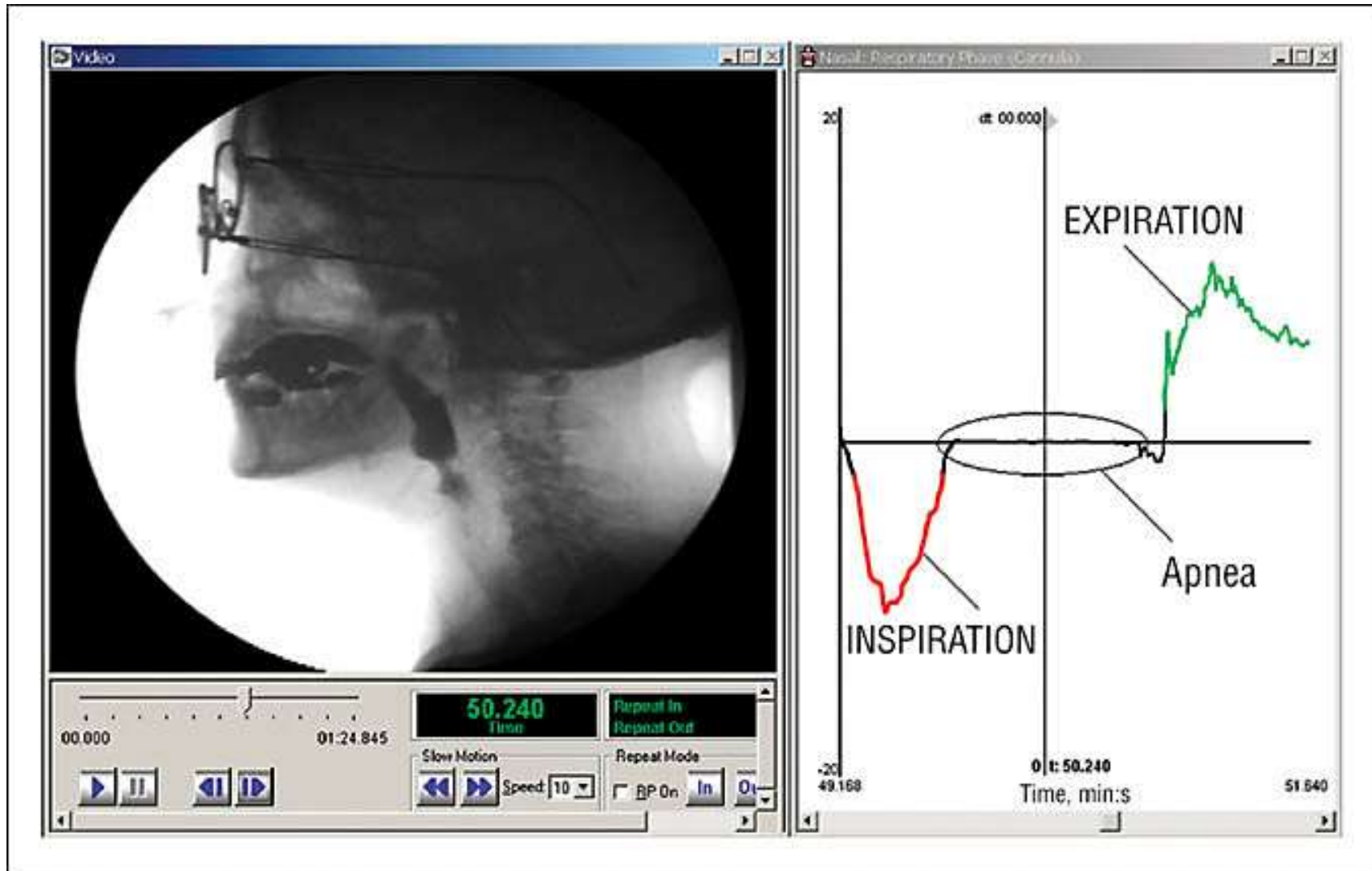
# UES opening

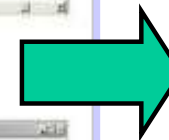
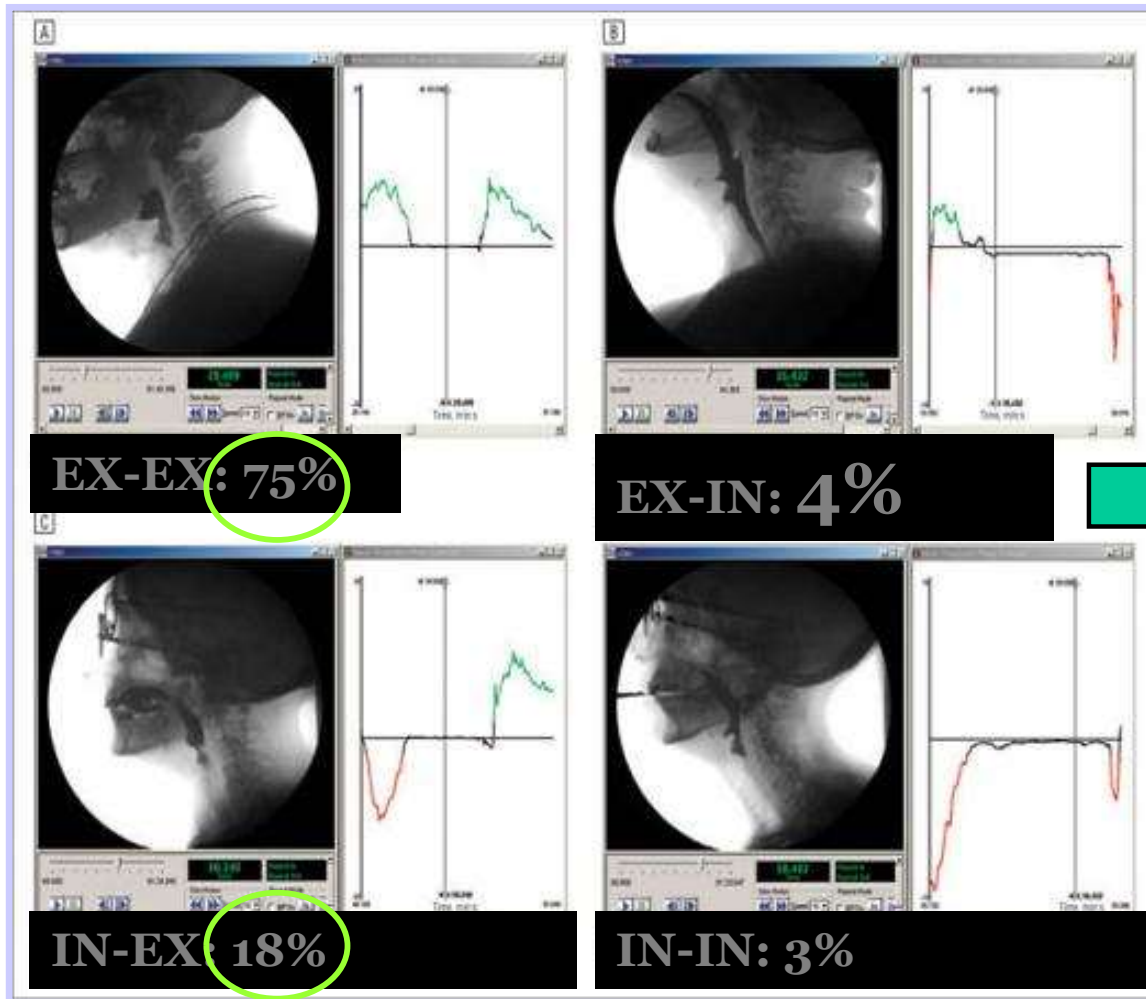
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4 main factors contribute to UES elevation:

- Laryngeal anteriorization (and elevation)
- UES compliance
- UES relaxation
- Bolus weight







**Espirazione post-deglutitoria nel 93% delle deglutizioni**

- La durata dell' **apnea deglutitoria** si colloca tra **1.0 e 1.5 sec.** durante l' assunzione dei liquidi.

(Hiss et al; 2001)

## Lung volume effects on pharyngeal swallowing physiology

Table 1. Mean, SD, SE, and number of subjects for the three lung conditions (TLC, FRC, RV)

	Mean	SD	SE	n
<i>EMG amplitude, mV</i>				
TLC	5.37	4.36	1.17	14
FRC	5.30	4.03	1.08	14
RV	5.11	4.00	1.07	14
<i>EMG duration, ms</i>				
TLC	952.00	118.00	31.50	14
FRC	902.00	166.00	44.50	14
RV	1,000.00	126.00	33.70	14
<i>Bolus transit time, ms</i>				
TLC	521.00	81.40	17.40	22
FRC	527.20	55.70	11.90	22
RV	520.00	72.40	15.40	22
<i>Pharyngeal activity duration, ms</i>				
TLC	690.00	112.00	24.00	22
FRC	694.00	122.00	26.00	22
RV	719.50	105.00	22.30	22

n, No. of subjects. EMG, electromyography; TLC, total lung capacity; FRC, functional residual capacity; RV, residual volume.

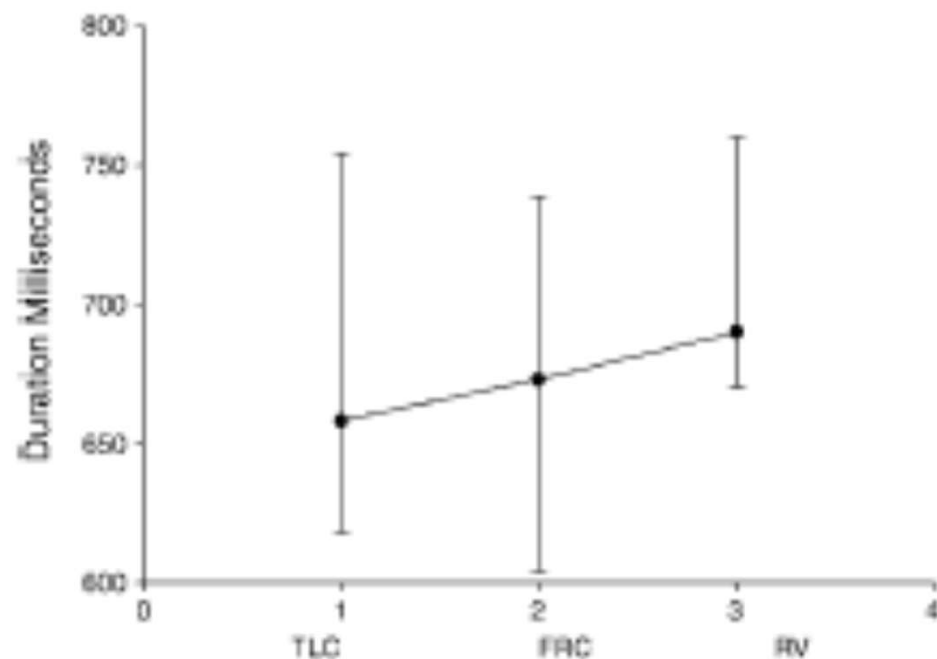


Fig. 1. Pharyngeal activity duration (PAD). Median, 25th, and 75th quartiles are shown. TLC, total lung capacity; FRC, functional residual capacity; RV, residual volume.



## Direct Measurement of Subglottic Air Pressure While Swallowing

Roxann Diez Gross, PhD; Kimberly M. Steinhauer, PhD; David J. Zajac, PhD;  
 Mark C. Weessler, MD

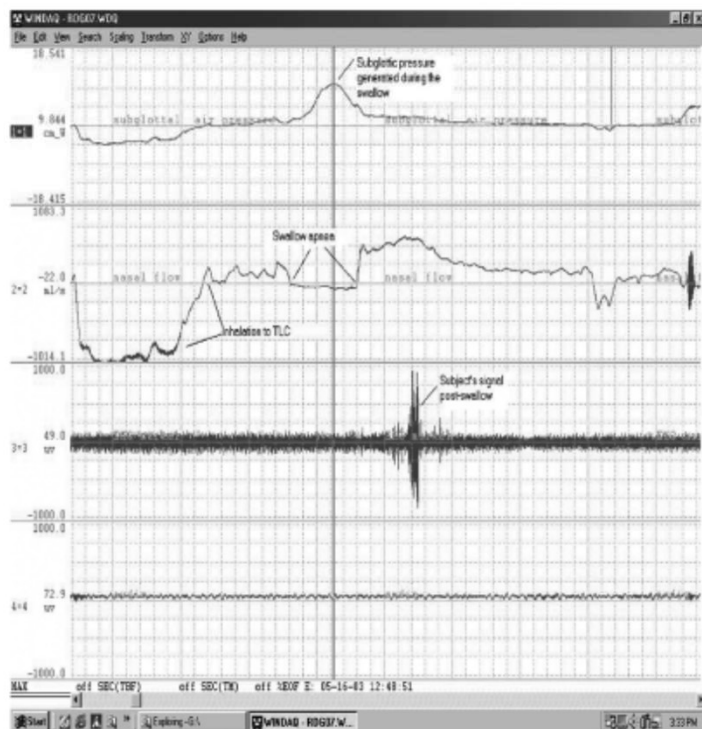


TABLE I.  
 Subglottic Air Pressures Measured While Swallowing at Different Lung Volumes.

Lung Volume	cm H <sub>2</sub> O	cm H <sub>2</sub> O	cm H <sub>2</sub> O	cm H <sub>2</sub> O
Total lung capacity	7.37	9.84	10.76	7.54
Tidal volume	2.03	2.56	1.97	2.04
Functional residual capacity	1.41	0.20	0.95	1.34
Residual volume	-4.14	-4.12	-4.39	-4.48

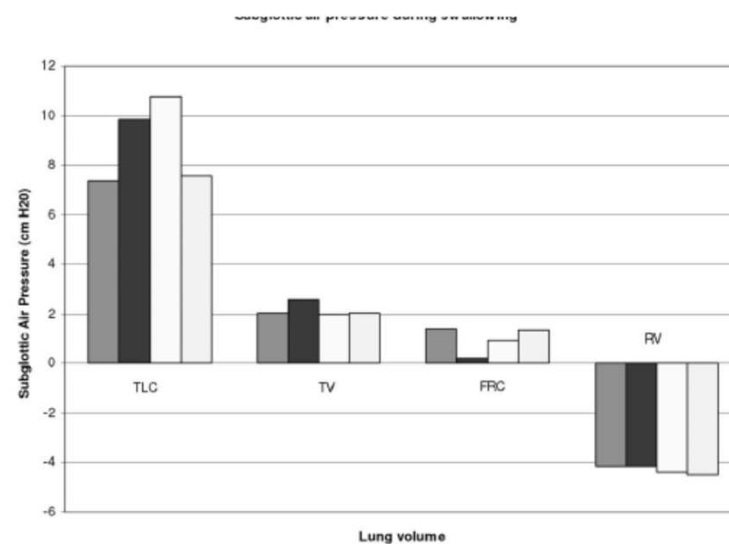
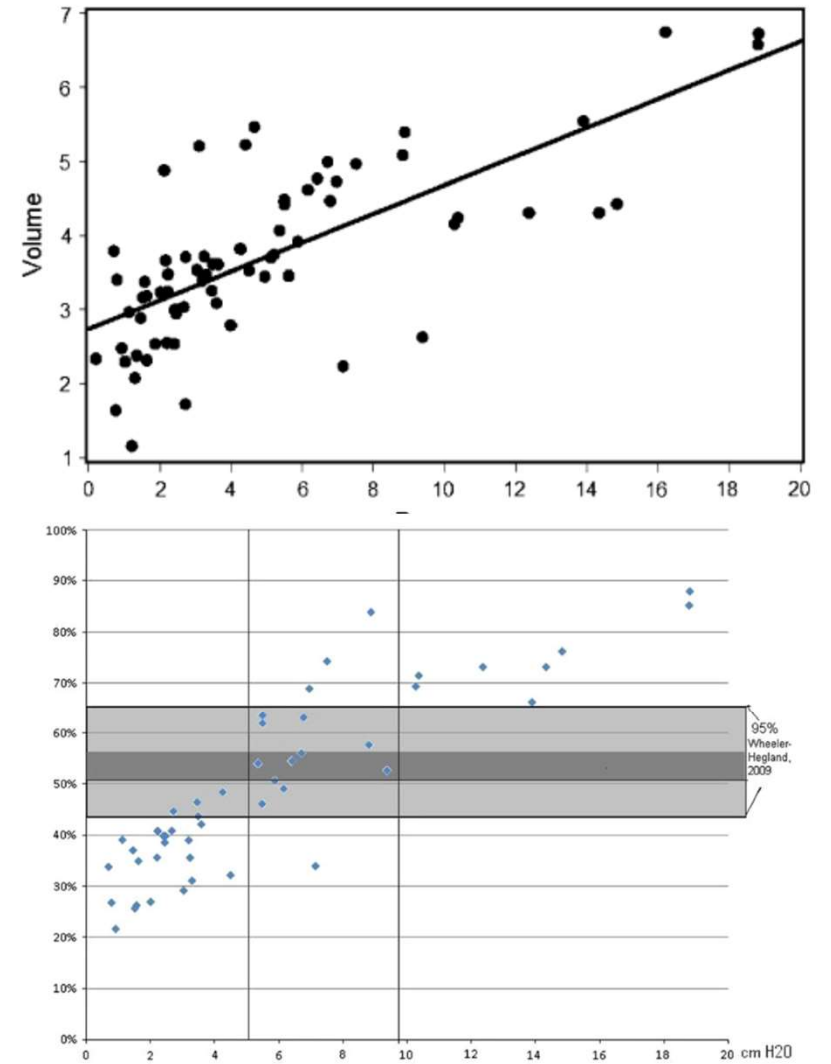
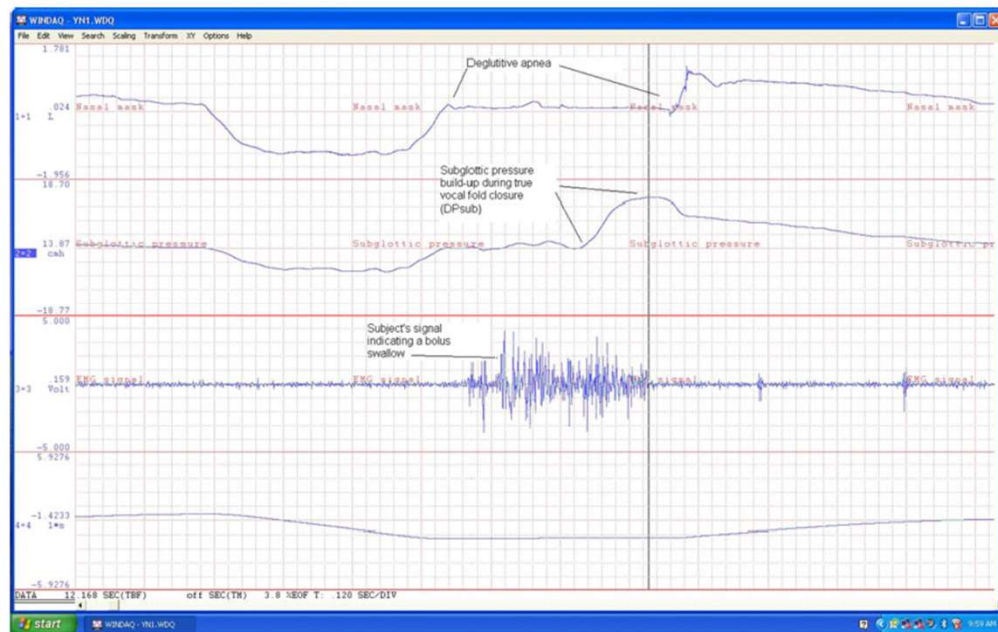


Fig. 1. TLC = total lung capacity; TV = tidal volume; FRC = functional residual capacity; RV = residual volume. Each shaded bar represents a swallow.

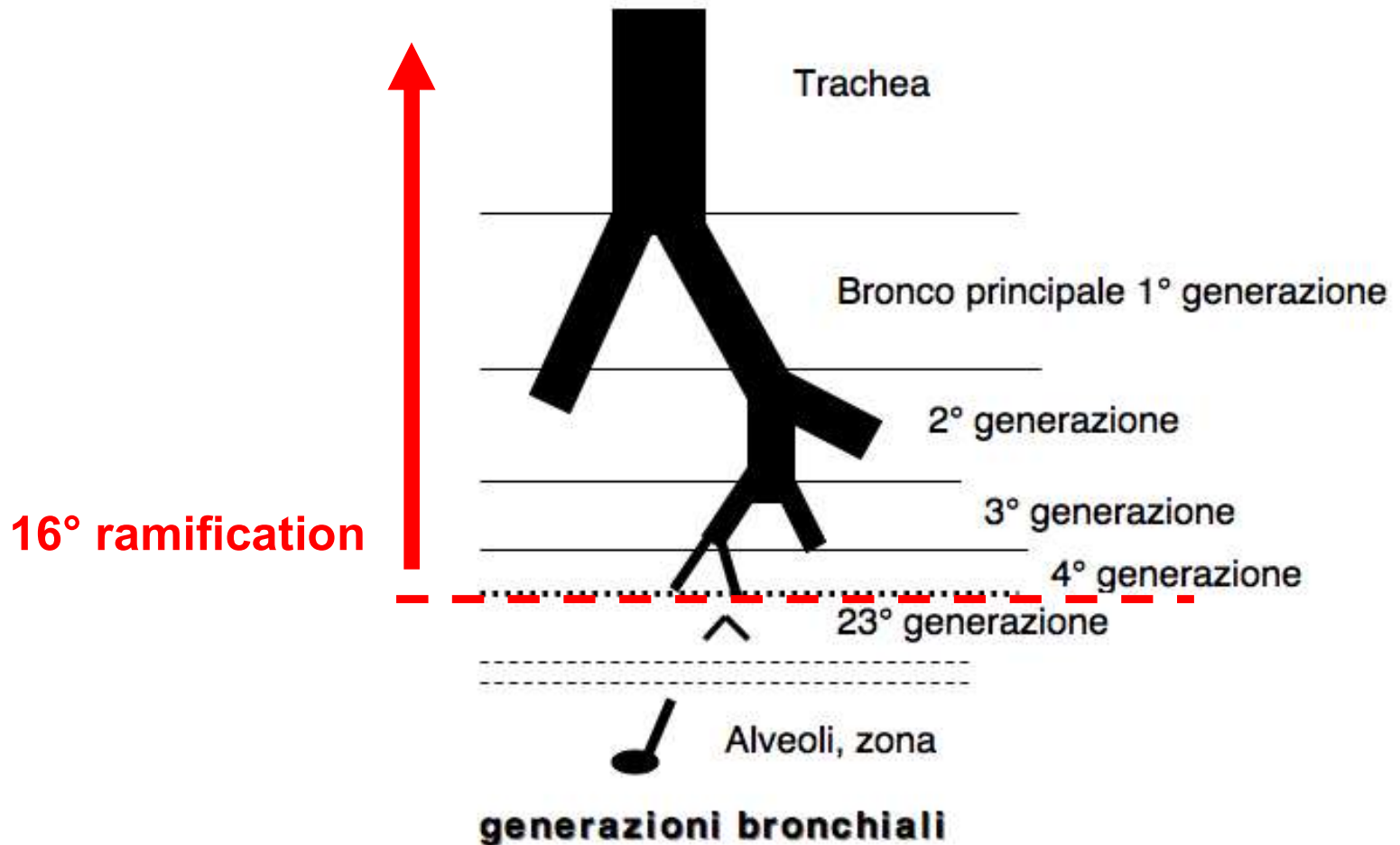
## Deglutitive Subglottic Air Pressure and Respiratory System Recoil

Roxann Diez Gross · Ricardo L. Carrau ·  
William A. Slivka · Ronit G. Gisser ·  
Libby J. Smith · David J. Zajac · Frank C. Sciurba



# MUCOCILIARY ACTION and COUGH

When do they come in to action?



# COUGH

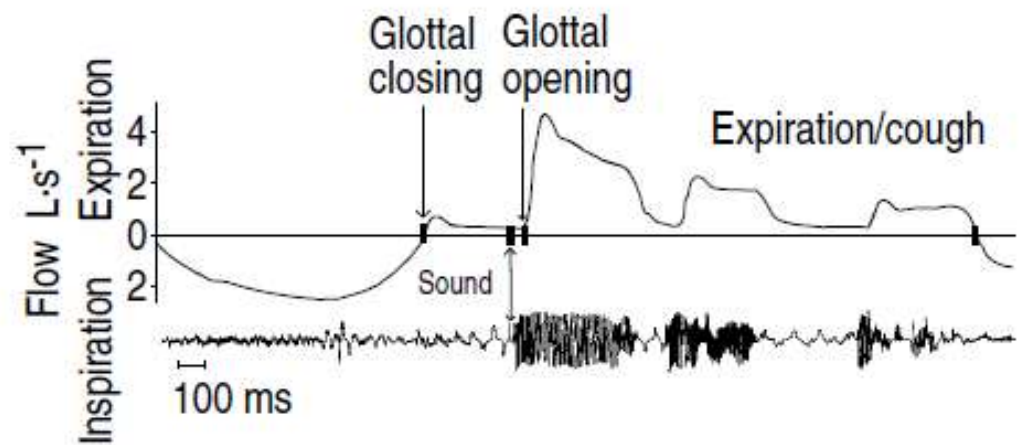
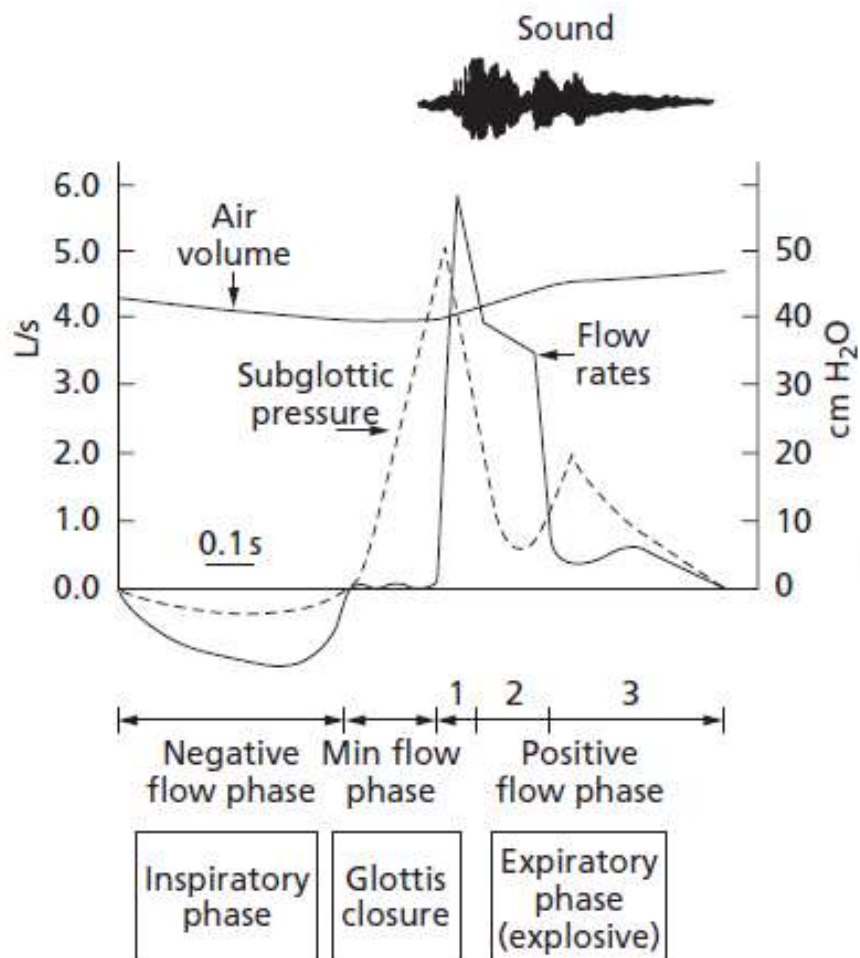
Cough is a mechanism used to clear lower airways

Reflexive cough is more important than voluntary cough

However

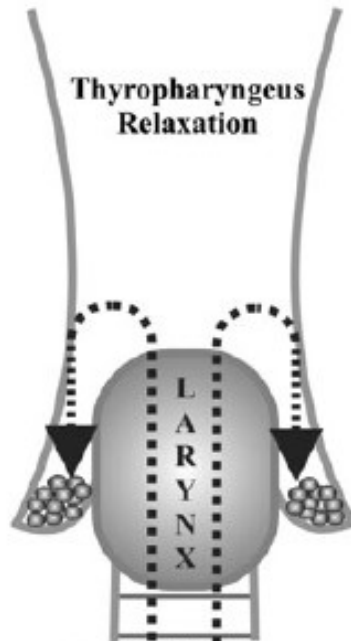
Expulsive phase rise time of voluntary cough significantly correlates with aspiration status (in stroke patients)

*(Hammond & Goldstein 2006; Chest 129: 154S-168S)*



A

COUGH



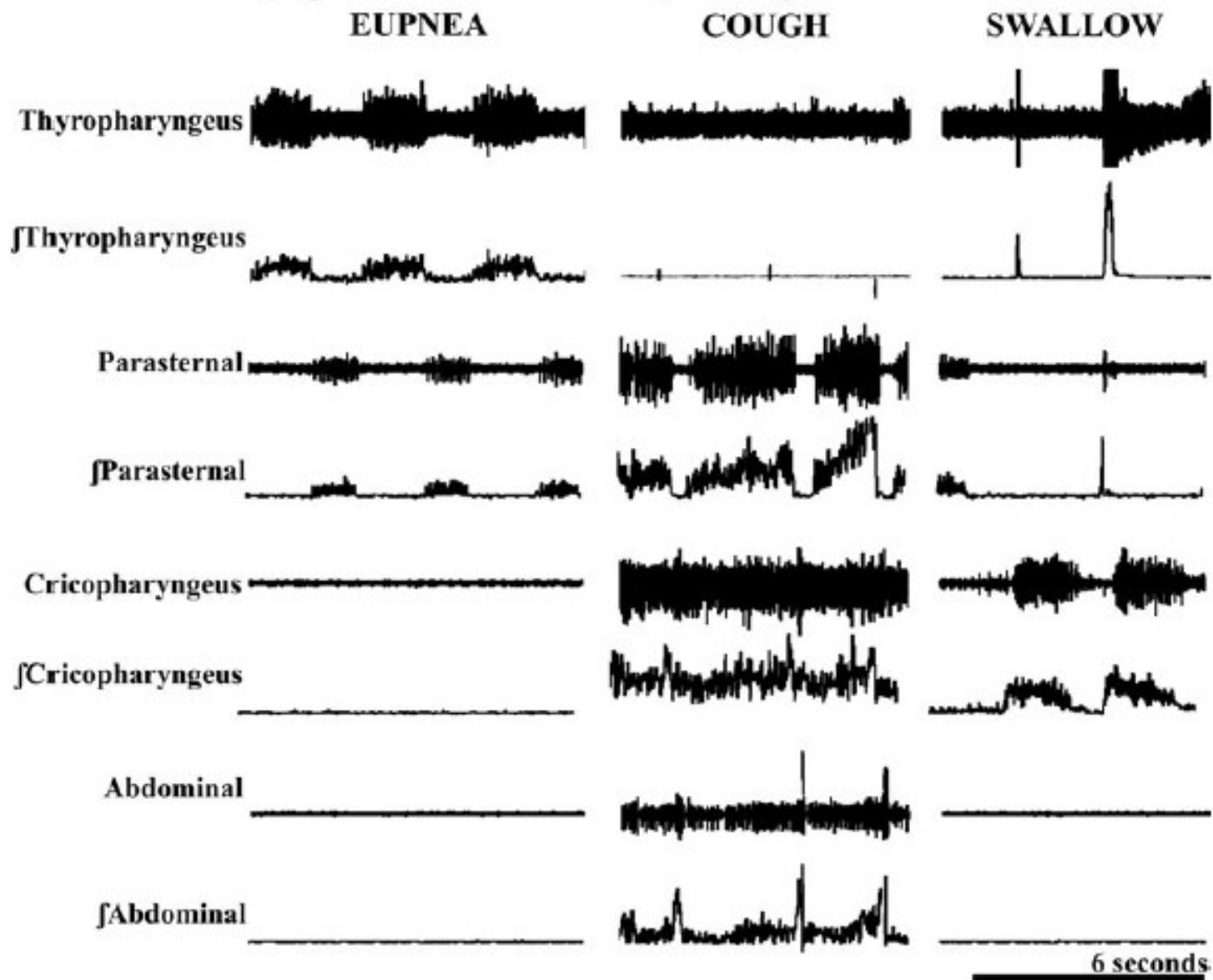
Large un-aerosolized particles removed from the trachea during cough and deposited into the *pyriform sinus*.  
T  
R  
A  
C  
H  
E  
A

SWALLOW



Particles removed from the *pyriform sinus* during subsequent swallow.  
E  
S  
O  
P  
H  
A  
G  
U  
S

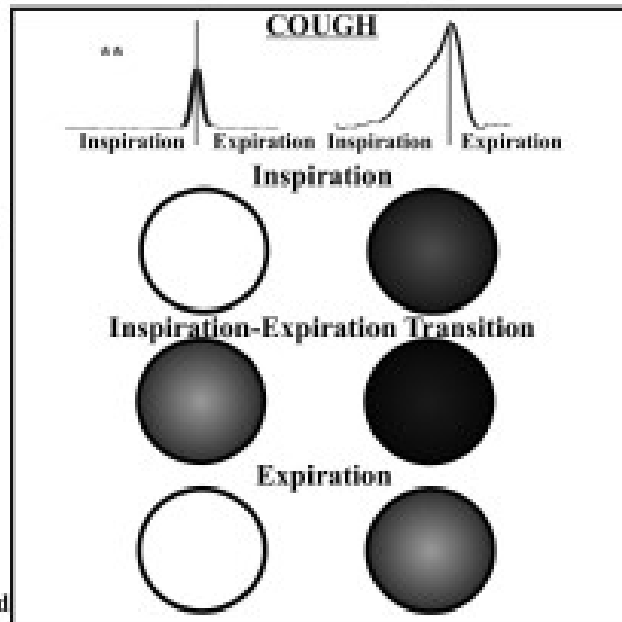
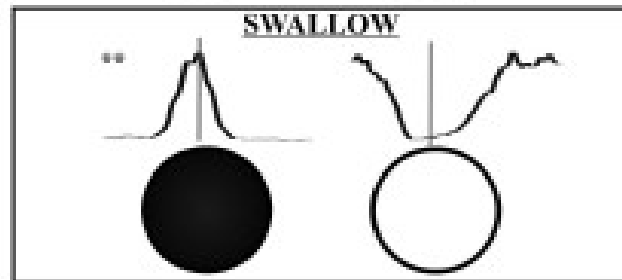
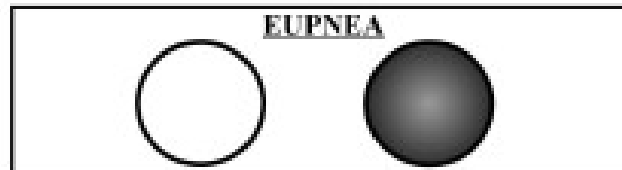
### Electromyogram of muscle activity during various behaviors



# Dual Valve System

LARYNX      UPPER-ESOPH.  
GLOTTIS      SPHINCTER

Thyroarytenoid      Cricopharyngeus





# COUGH (1)

Reflexive cough has not been study thouroughlly

Reflexive cough arise following laryngeal vestibule receptors stimulation



# LYMPHATIC CLEARANCE

Clearing of lung liquids: 400-700 ml/day!

Factors limiting lymphatic clearance: ↓

- decreased osmotic gradient (serum albumin concentration: cirrhosis, nephrotic syndrome)
- high hydrostatic pressure (congestive heart failure)

Consequences of decreased lymphatic clearance:

- pleural effusion
- lung stuff with fluid

# ALVEOLAR MACROPHAGE

1-2 macrophage/alveolus



phagocytosis



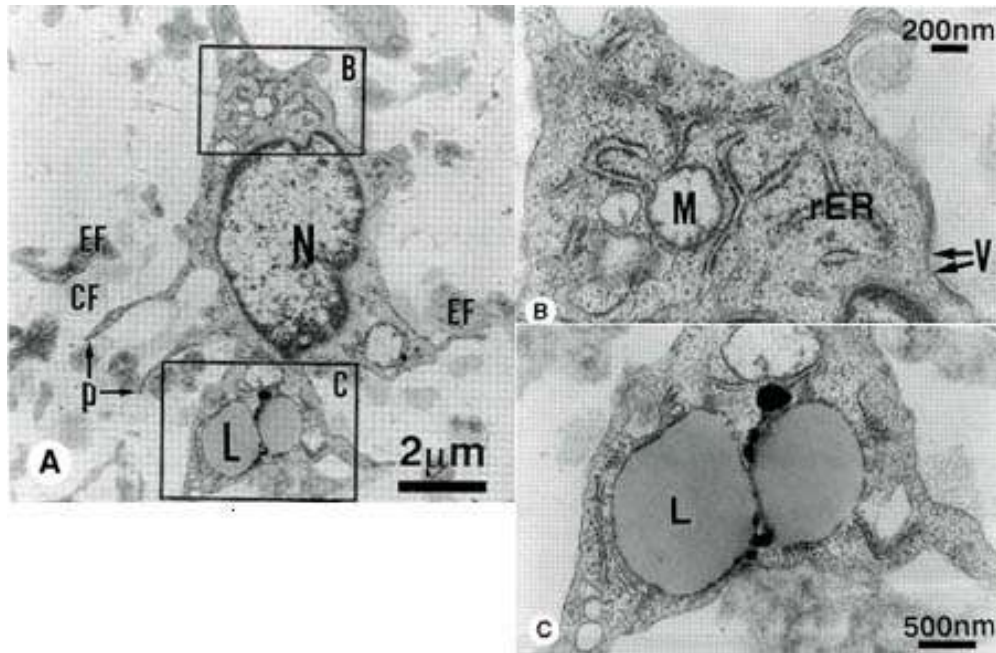
lymph node



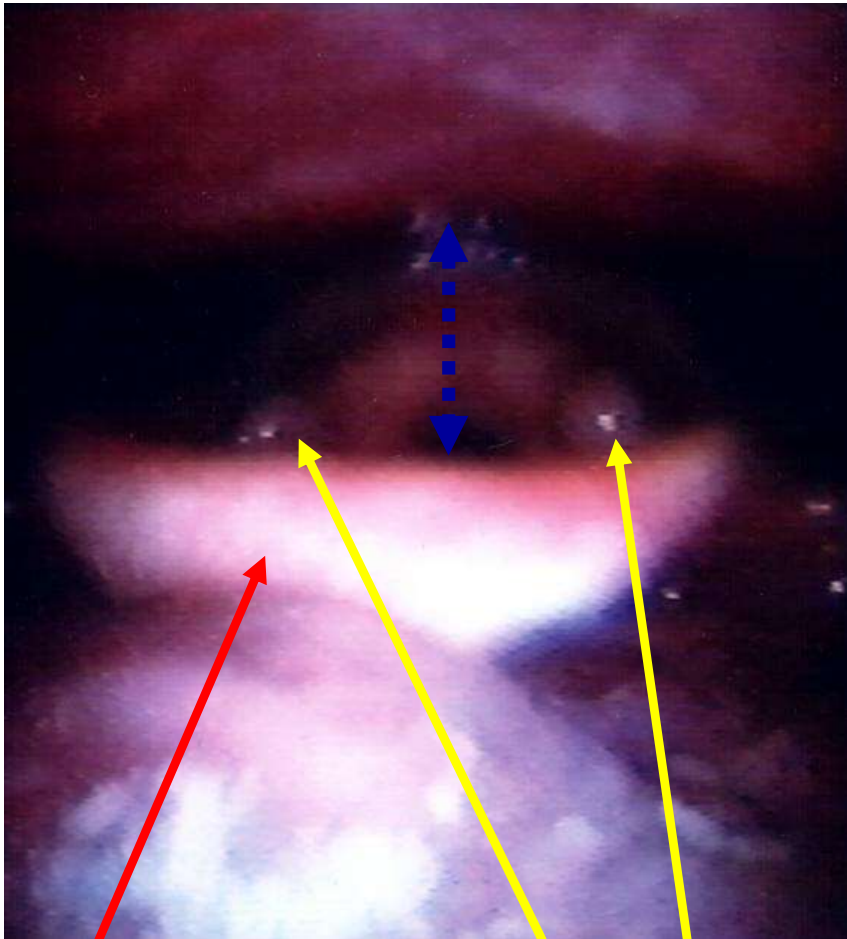
immune response

# LYMPHOCYTES

# NEUTROPHILS

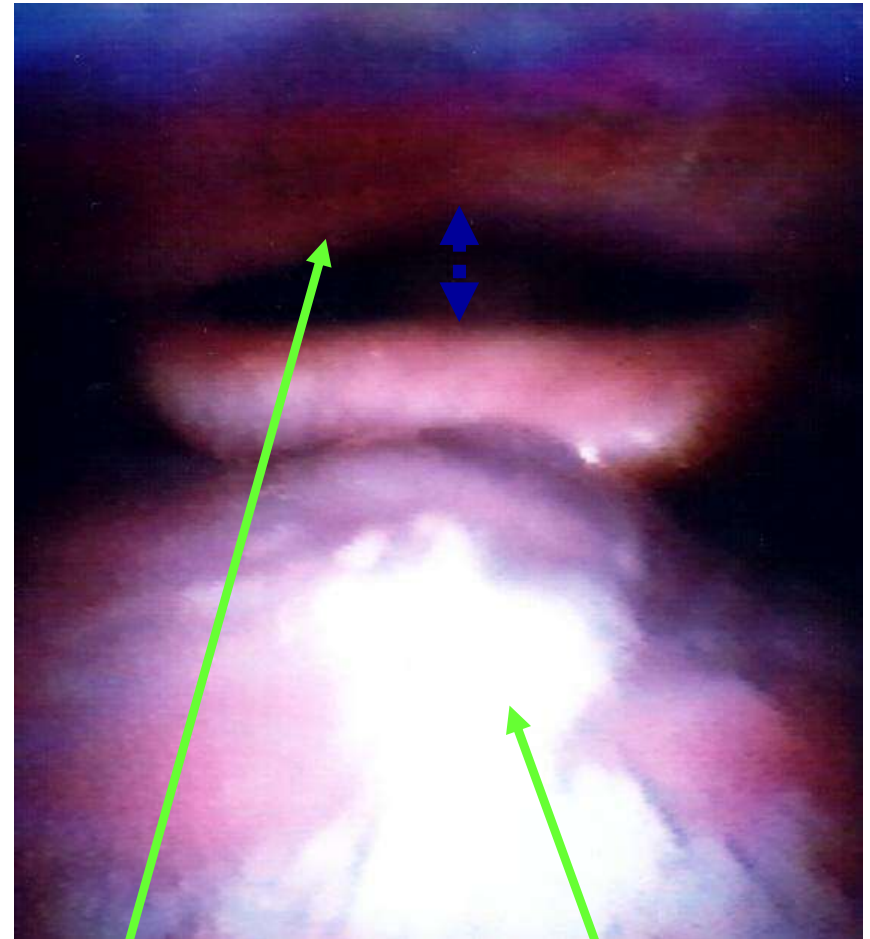


# TONGUE BASE BACKWARD MOVEMENT



**EPIGLOTTIS**

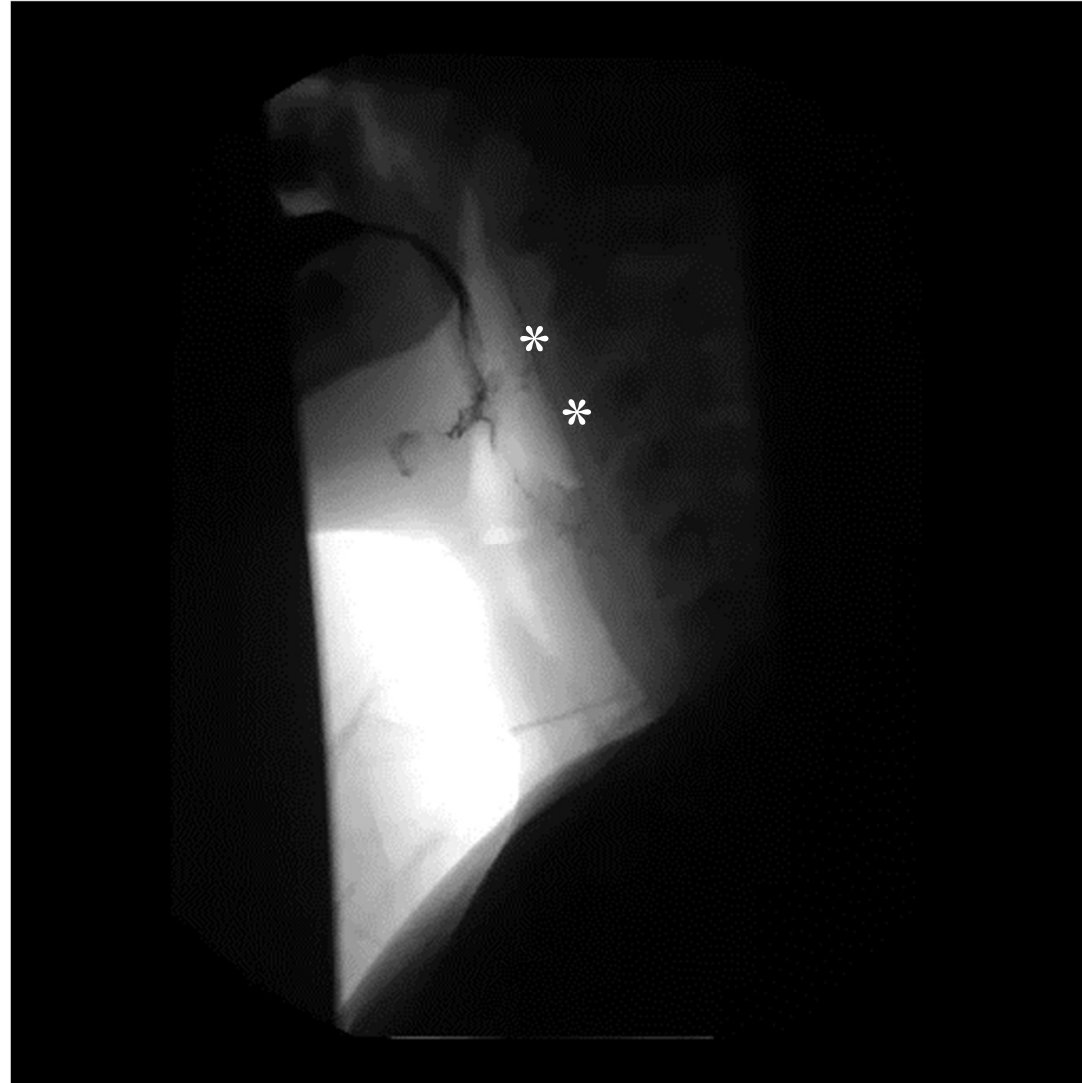
**ARITENOIDI**



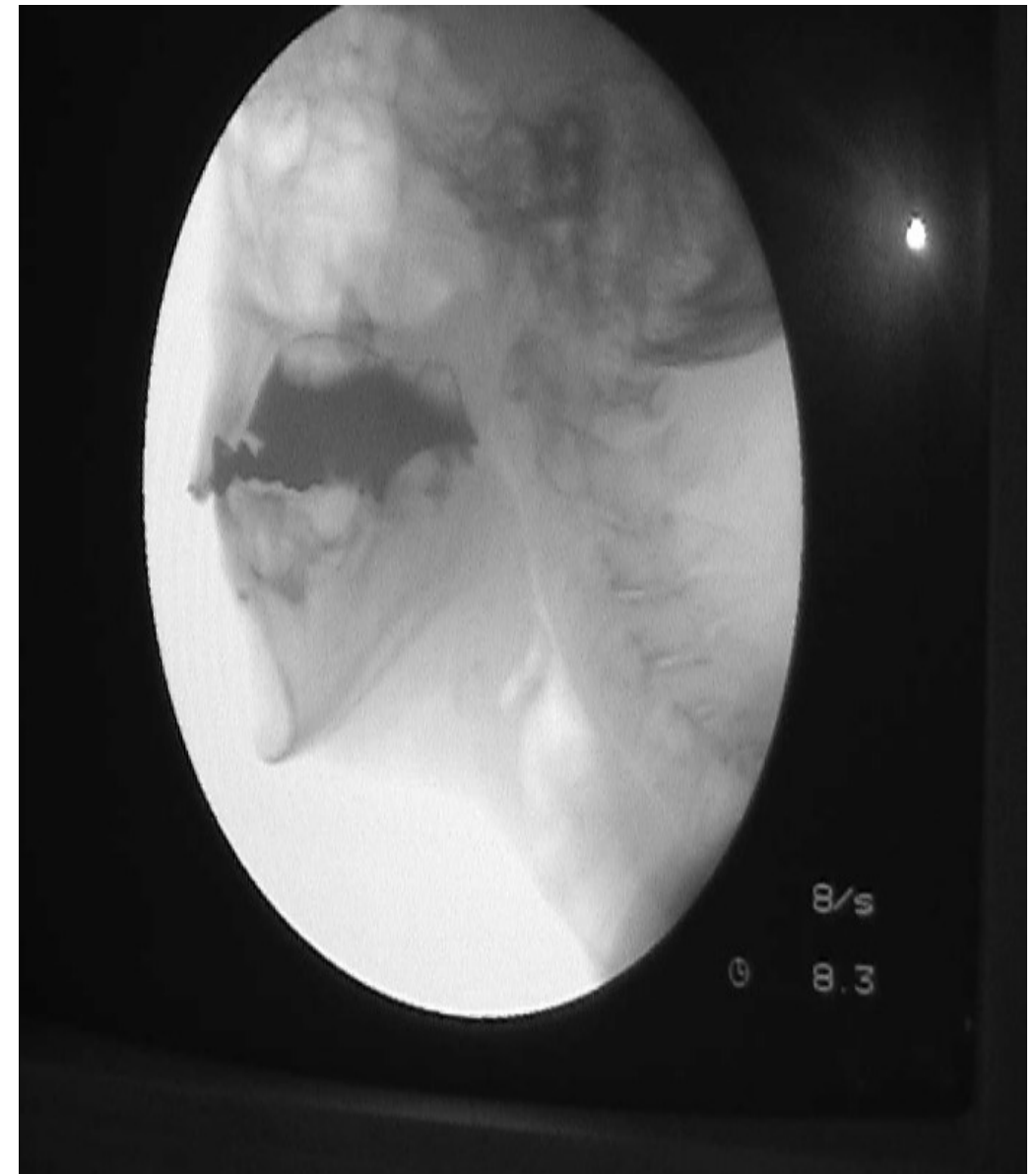
**POSTERIOR  
PHARYNGEAL  
WALL**

**TONGUE  
BASE**

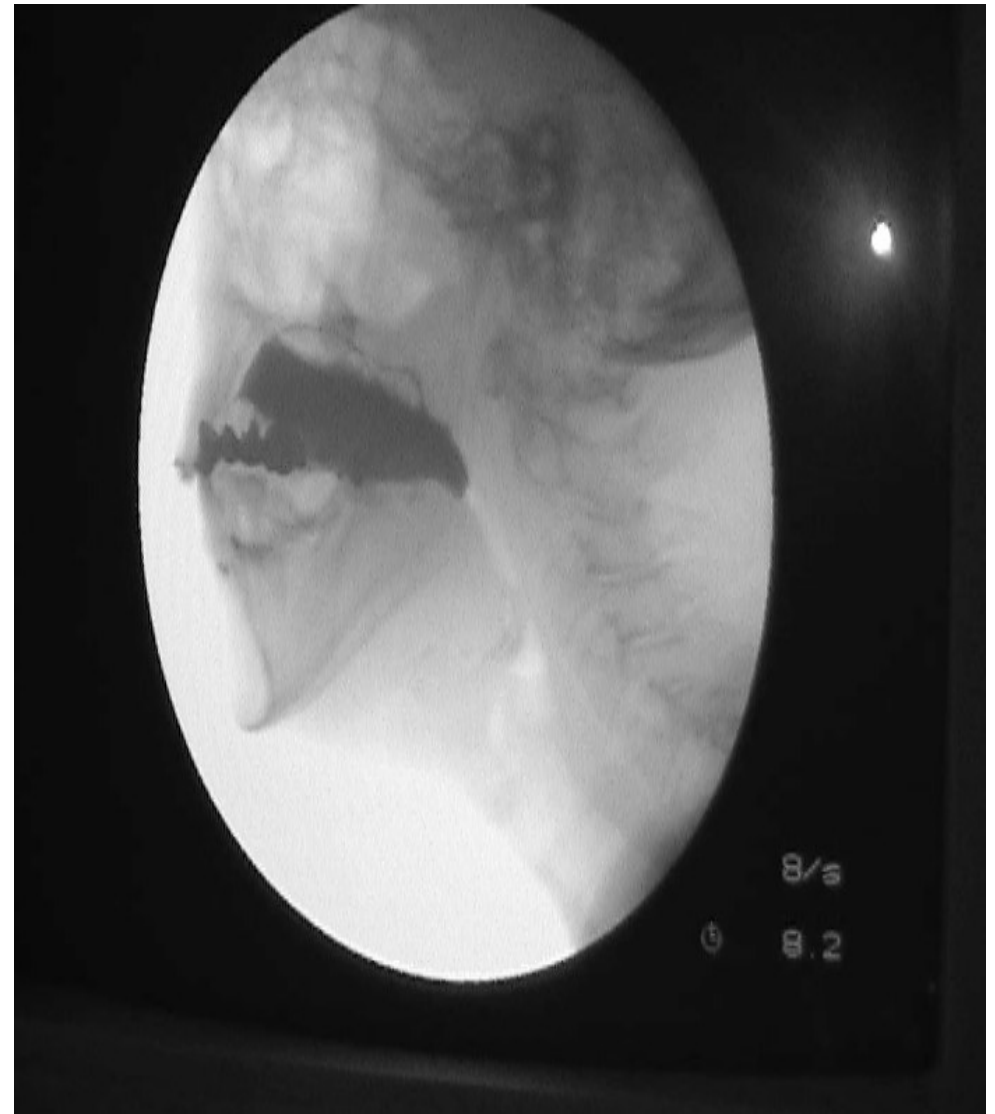
# STRIPPING WAVE



# PHARYNGEAL PHASE



# PHARYNGEAL PHASE



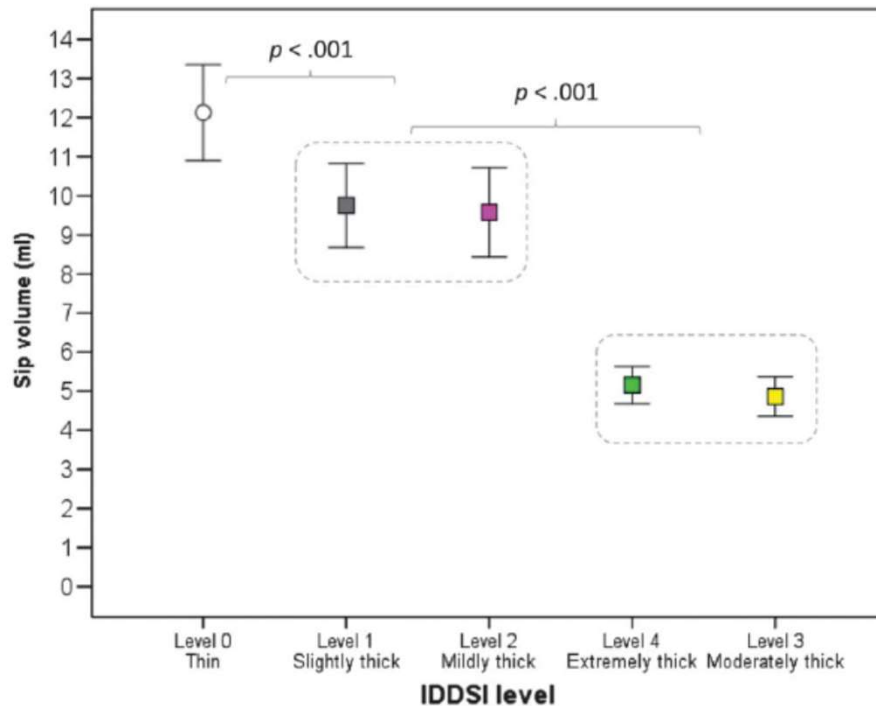


# PHARYNGEAL PHASE



# Reference Values for Healthy Swallowing Across the Range From Thin to Extremely Thick Liquids

Catriona M. Steele,<sup>a,b</sup> Melanie Peladeau-Pigeon,<sup>a</sup> Carly A. E. Barbon,<sup>a,b</sup> Brittany T. Guida,<sup>a</sup>  
Ashwini M. Namasivayam-MacDonald,<sup>a,b,c</sup> Weslania V. Nascimento,<sup>a,d</sup> Sana Smaoui,<sup>a,b</sup>  
Melanie S. Tapson,<sup>a,b</sup> Teresa J. Valenzano,<sup>a,b</sup> Ashley A. Waito,<sup>a,b</sup> and Talia S. Wolkin<sup>a</sup>



**Table 1.** Descriptive statistics for sip volume (milliliters) by consistency, for thin and xanthan gum–thickened barium stimuli (20% w/v).

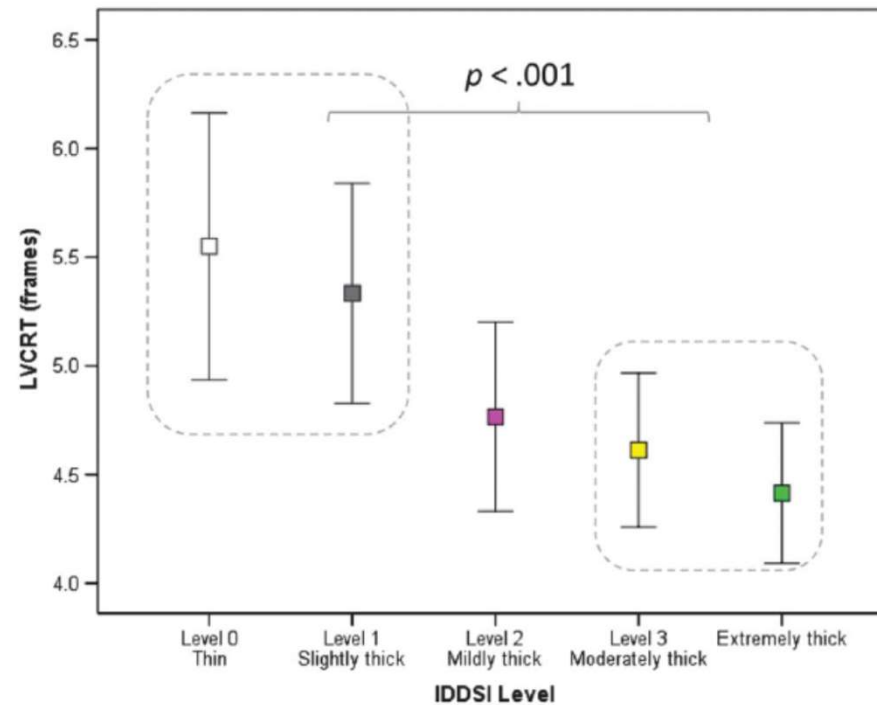
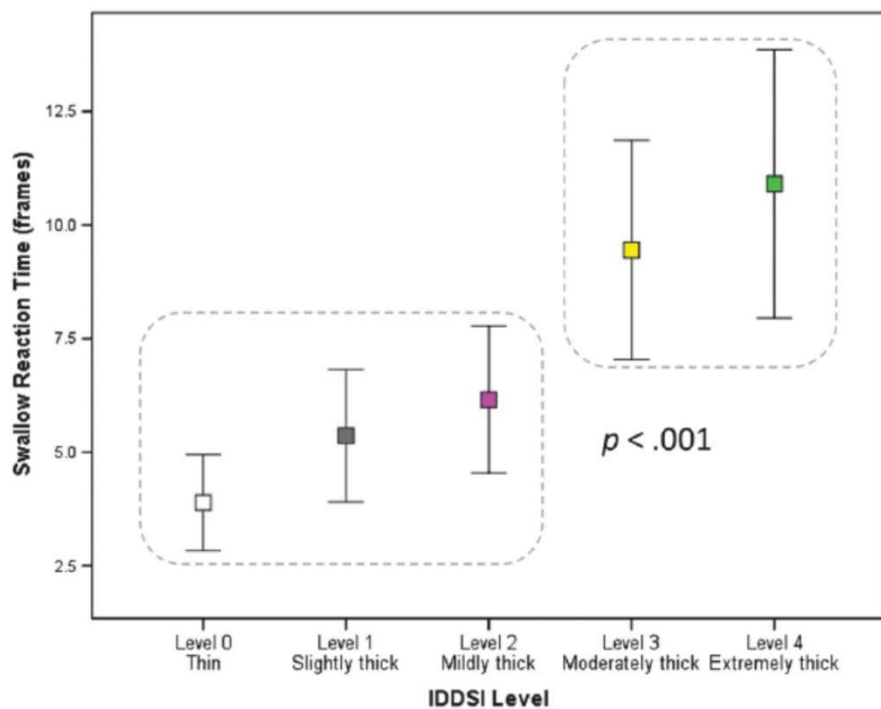
Consistency	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	95% confidence interval	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
Thin	12.13	6.68	10.90	13.36
Slightly thick	9.75	5.87	8.68	10.83
Mildly thick	9.58	6.23	8.44	10.72
Moderately thick	4.86	2.76	4.36	5.37
Extremely thick	5.15	2.59	4.68	5.63

Timing measure	Consistency	Event latency in frames			
		<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	95% confidence interval	
				Lower bound	Upper bound
Swallow Reaction Time (i.e., bolus passing the mandible to hyoid burst onset)	Thin	3.25	5.32	2.06	4.44
	Slightly thick	5.32	8.07	3.71	6.93
	Mildly thick	5.95	8.33	4.29	7.61
	Moderately thick	9.22	12.05	6.79	11.65
	Extremely thick	10.41	14.11	7.55	13.26
Hyoid burst onset to UES opening	Thin	3.48	1.45	3.16	3.81
	Slightly thick	3.70	1.82	3.33	4.06
	Mildly thick	3.83	1.74	3.48	4.18
	Moderately thick	4.55	1.65	4.21	4.88
UES opening duration	Extremely thick	4.65	1.52	4.34	4.95
	Thin	13.72	1.88	13.30	14.14
	Slightly thick	13.18	1.89	12.81	13.56
	Mildly thick	13.26	2.26	12.81	13.71
	Moderately thick	12.31	2.09	11.89	12.73
LVC Reaction Time (i.e., hyoid burst onset to LVC)	Extremely thick	12.05	2.02	11.64	12.46
	Thin	5.38	3.00	4.71	6.05
	Slightly thick	5.33	2.70	4.79	5.87
	Mildly thick	4.82	2.36	4.35	5.29
	Moderately thick	4.55	1.88	4.17	4.93
LVC duration	Extremely thick	4.30	1.63	3.97	4.63
	Thin	13.06	3.24	12.34	13.79
	Slightly thick	12.36	2.69	11.83	12.90
	Mildly thick	12.96	2.99	12.36	13.56
	Moderately thick	13.01	2.71	12.46	13.56
	Extremely thick	13.08	2.50	12.58	13.59

*Note.* UES = upper esophageal sphincter; LVC = laryngeal vestibule closure.

# Reference Values for Healthy Swallowing Across the Range From Thin to Extremely Thick Liquids

Catriona M. Steele,<sup>a,b</sup> Melanie Peladeau-Pigeon,<sup>a</sup> Carly A. E. Barbon,<sup>a,b</sup> Brittany T. Guida,<sup>a</sup>  
Ashwini M. Namasivayam-MacDonald,<sup>a,b,c</sup> Weslania V. Nascimento,<sup>a,d</sup> Sana Smaoui,<sup>a,b</sup>  
Melanie S. Tapson,<sup>a,b</sup> Teresa J. Valenzano,<sup>a,b</sup> Ashley A. Waito,<sup>a,b</sup> and Talia S. Wolkin<sup>a</sup>



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**Table 3.** Descriptive statistics for the timing of maximum pharyngeal constriction, expressed as a percentage of upper esophageal sphincter opening duration.

Consistency	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	95% confidence interval	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
Thin	49.5	12.1	46.6	52.4
Slightly thick	48.8	11.0	46.1	51.5
Mildly thick	48.9	11.5	46.2	51.5
Moderately thick	44.3	10.1	41.5	47.1
Extremely thick	44.1	10.2	41.3	46.8

# Reference Values for Healthy Swallowing Across the Range From Thin to Extremely Thick Liquids

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Ashwini M. Namasivayam-MacDonald,<sup>a,b,c</sup> Weslania V. Nascimento,<sup>a,d</sup> Sana Smaoui,<sup>a,b</sup>  
Melanie S. Tapson,<sup>a,b</sup> Teresa J. Valenzano,<sup>a,b</sup> Ashley A. Waito,<sup>a,b</sup> and Talia S. Wolkin<sup>a</sup>

**Table 7.** Descriptive statistics for maximum diameter of upper esophageal sphincter opening, expressed as percentage of the C2–C4 reference scalar.

Consistency	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	95% confidence interval	
			Lower bound	Upper bound
Thin	20.6	6.6	19.3	21.8
Slightly thick	18.7	5.8	17.7	19.8
Mildly thick	18.3	5.1	17.4	19.3
Moderately thick	15.6	5.3	14.7	16.6
Extremely thick	16.9	4.7	16.0	17.7

## TAKE HOME MESSAGE

Pharyngeal phase of swallowing is a very rapid phenomenon

Timing in biomechanical events is crucial

Other key factors are:

- Tongue strength to move the bolus
- Laryngeal elevation to open the UES

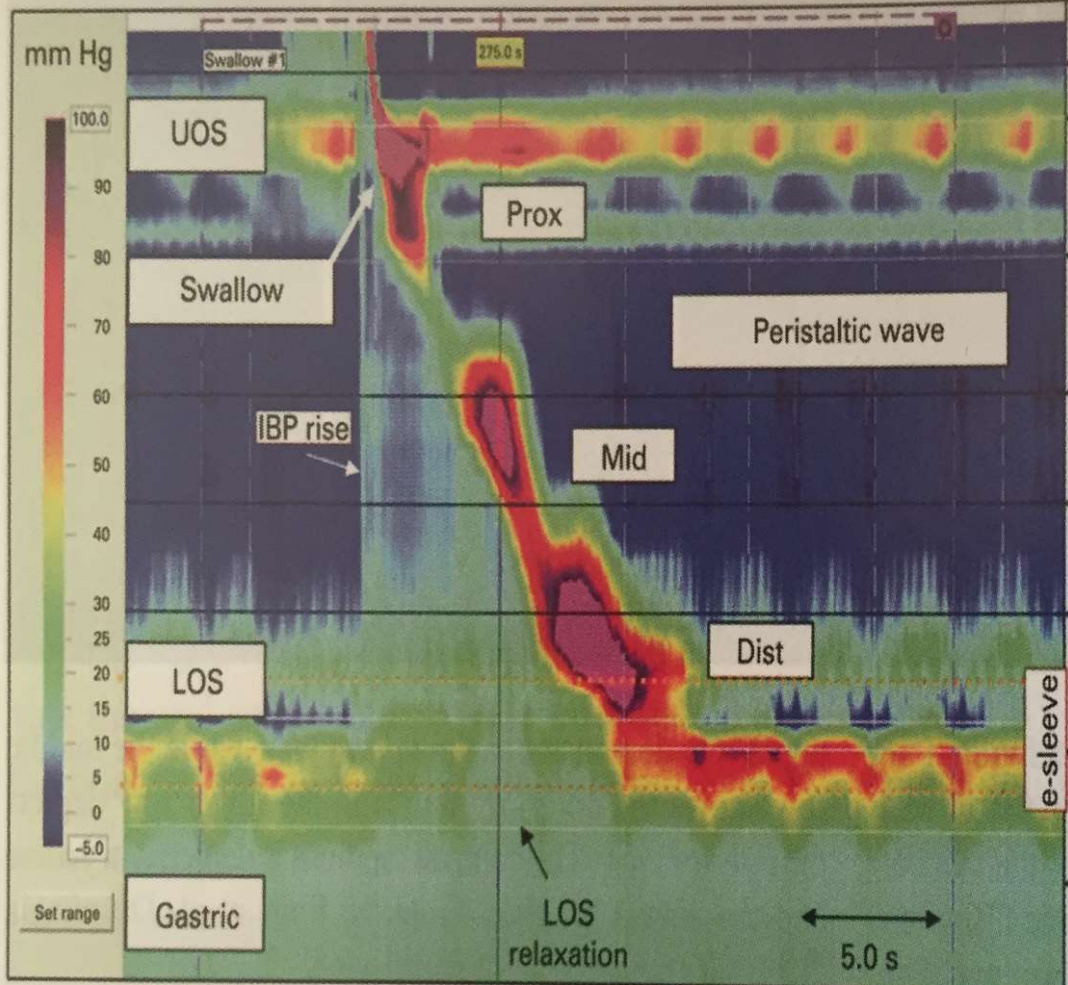
# OUTLINE

- Swallowing and body functions
- The oral phase
- The pharyngeal phase
- **The esophpgeal phase**
- The neural circuities underlying swallowing
- Swallowing physiology in the elderly

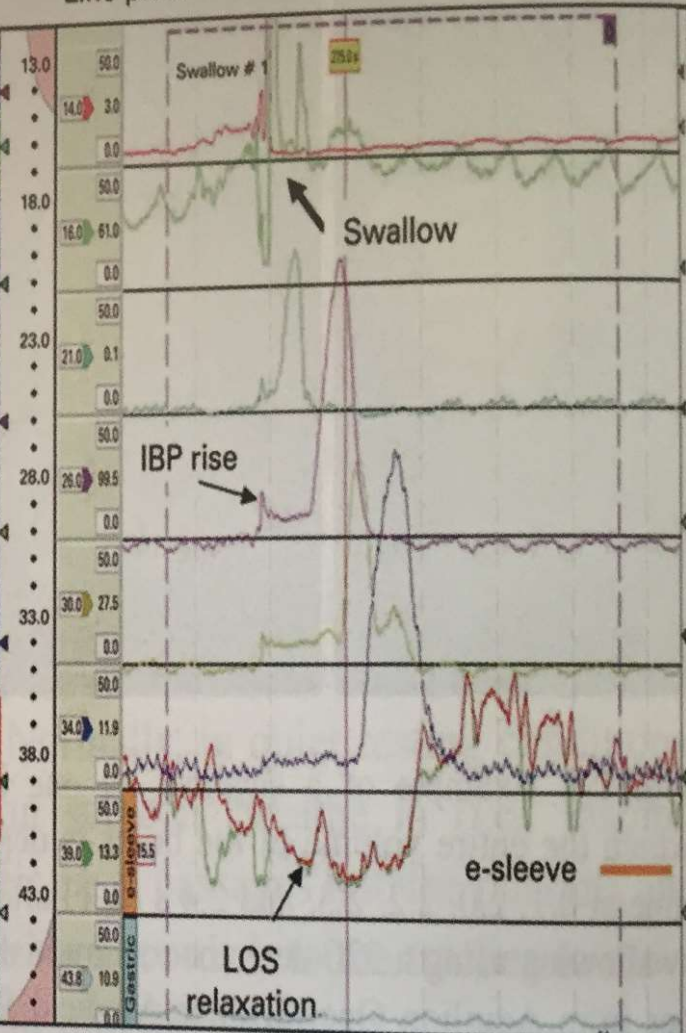




Spatiotemporal plot



Line plots



# FASE GASTRICA

**E' il punto finale della deglutizione.**

**Anche questa fase è governata dal funzionamento di una muscolatura liscia compresa fra due sfinteri (il cardias e il piloro)**



**VELO-FARINGEAL**

**GLOSSO-PALATAL**

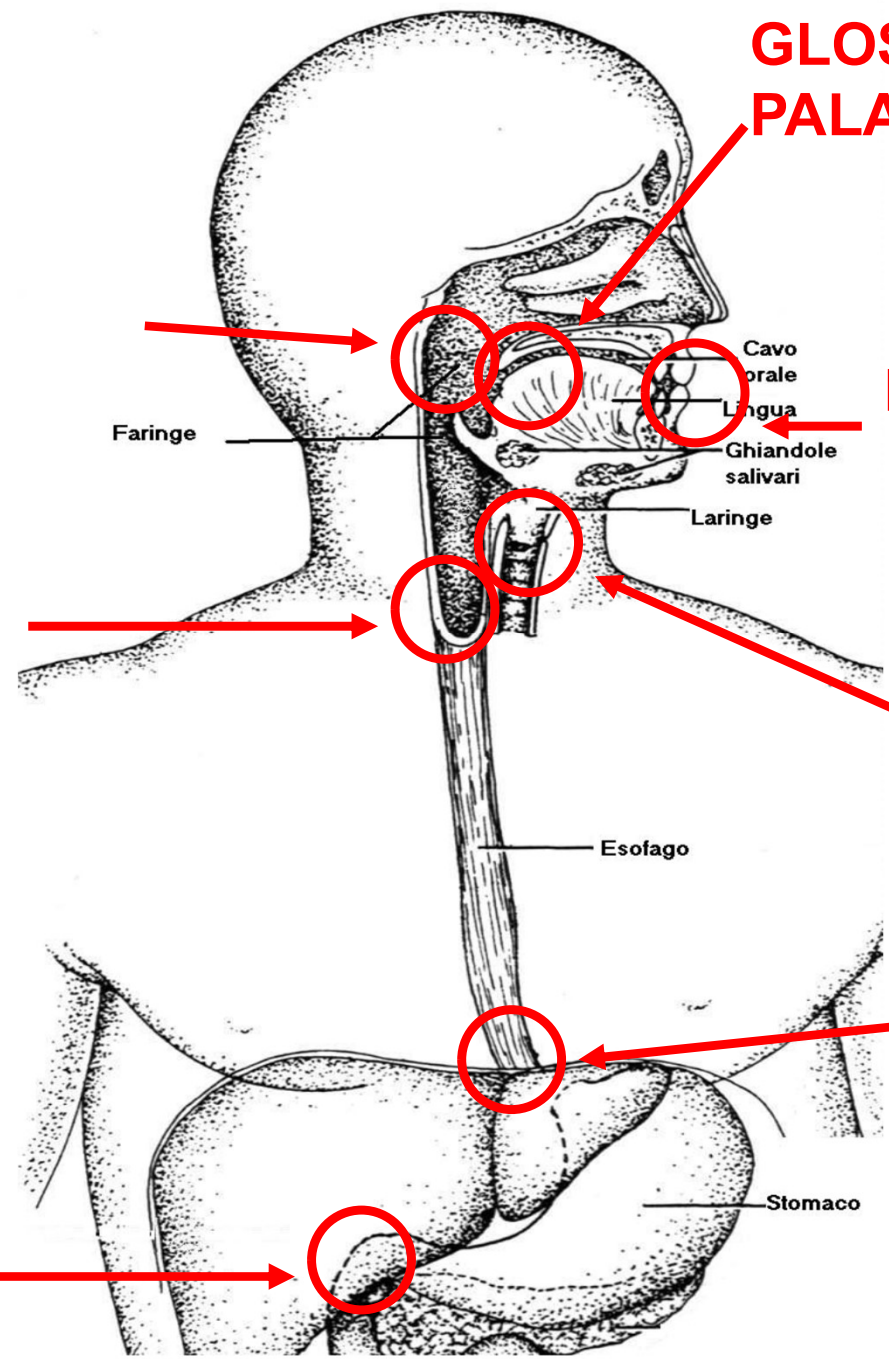
**LABIAL**

**UES**

**LARINGEAL**

**LES**

**PILORUS**



Faringe

Cavo orale

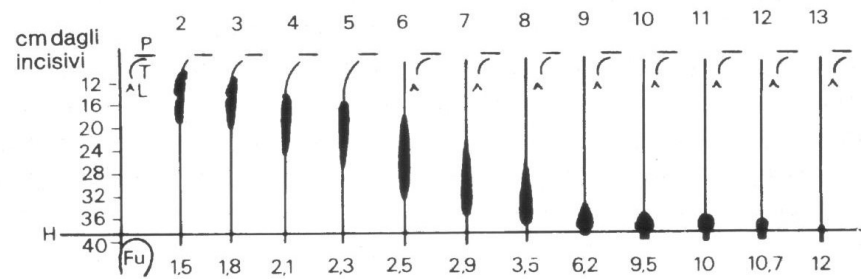
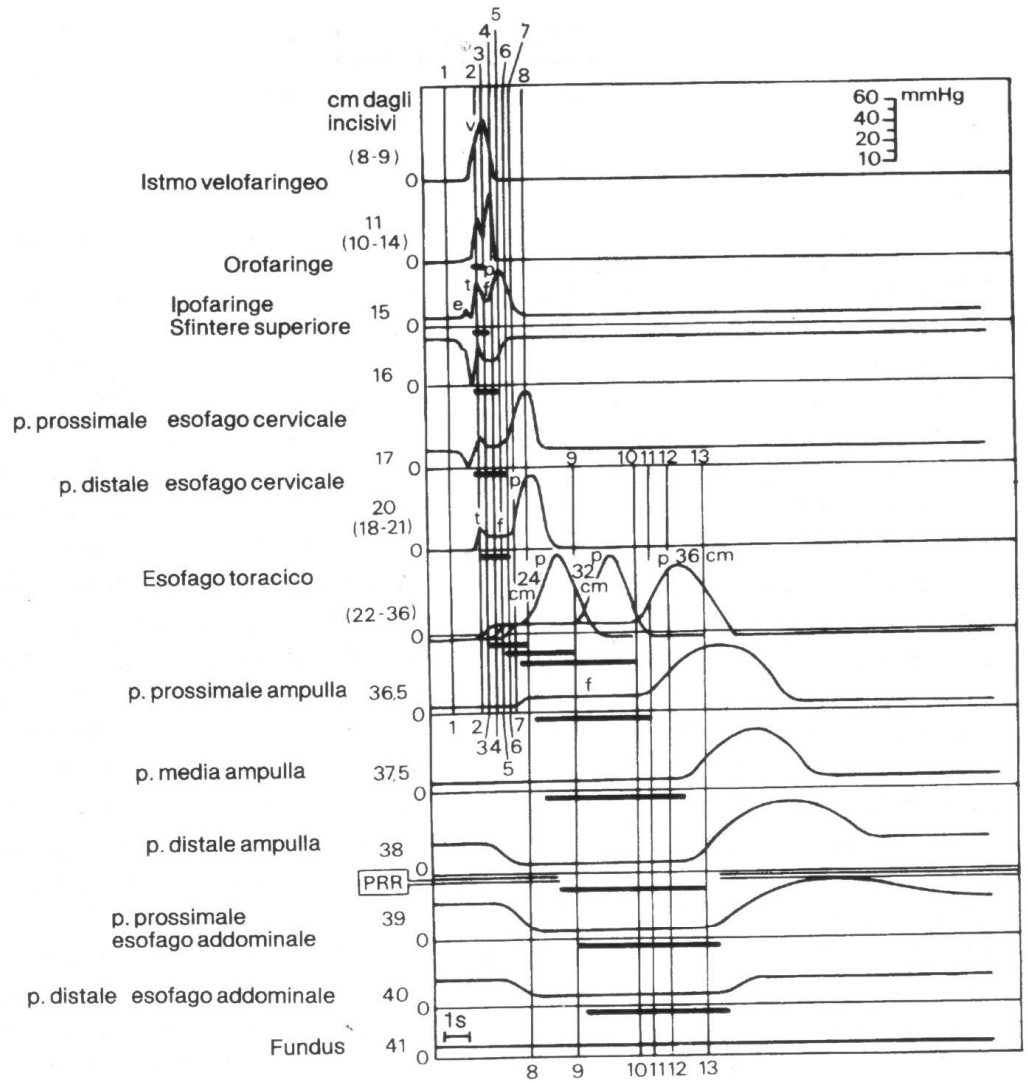
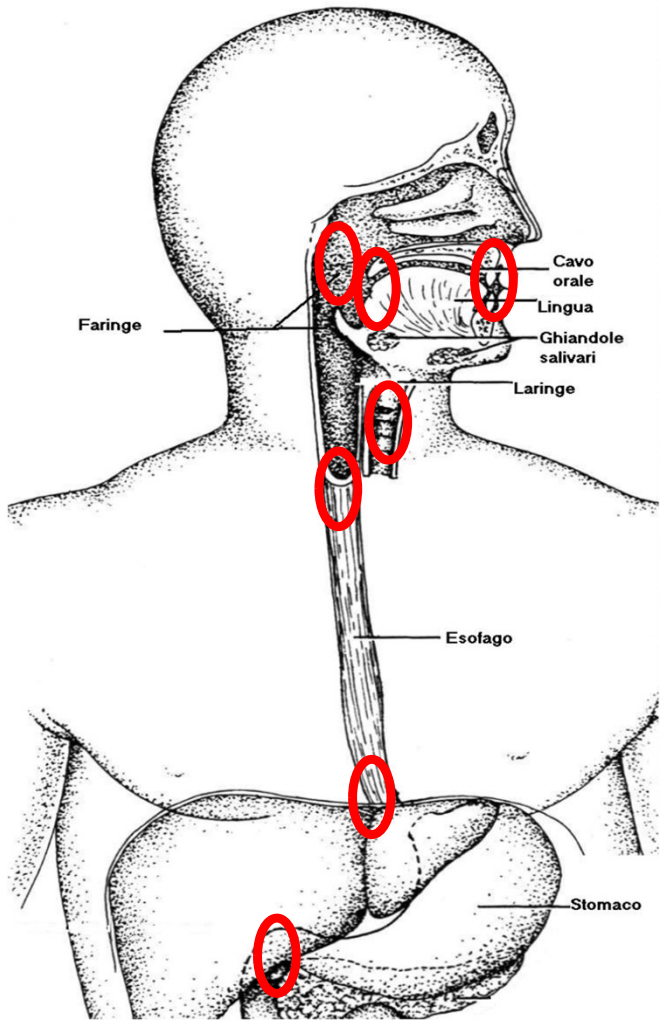
Lingua

Ghiandole salivari

Laringe

Esofago

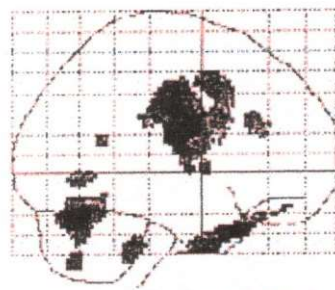
Stomaco



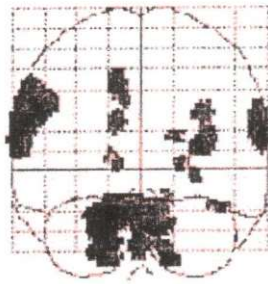
# OUTLINE

- Swallowing and body functions
- The oral phase
- The pharyngeal phase
- The esophageal phase
- **The neural circuits underlying swallowing**
- Swallowing physiology in the elderly

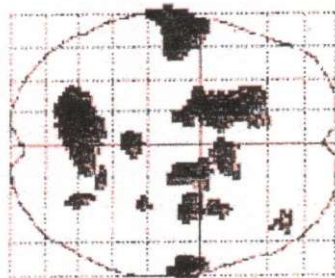
# MECCANISMI NEURALI



SAGITTAL

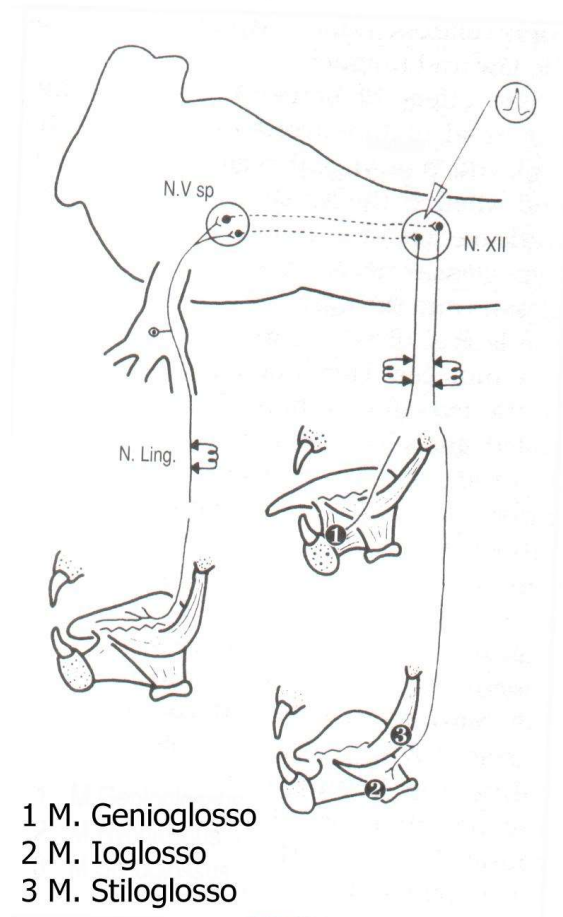


CORONAL



TRANSVERSE

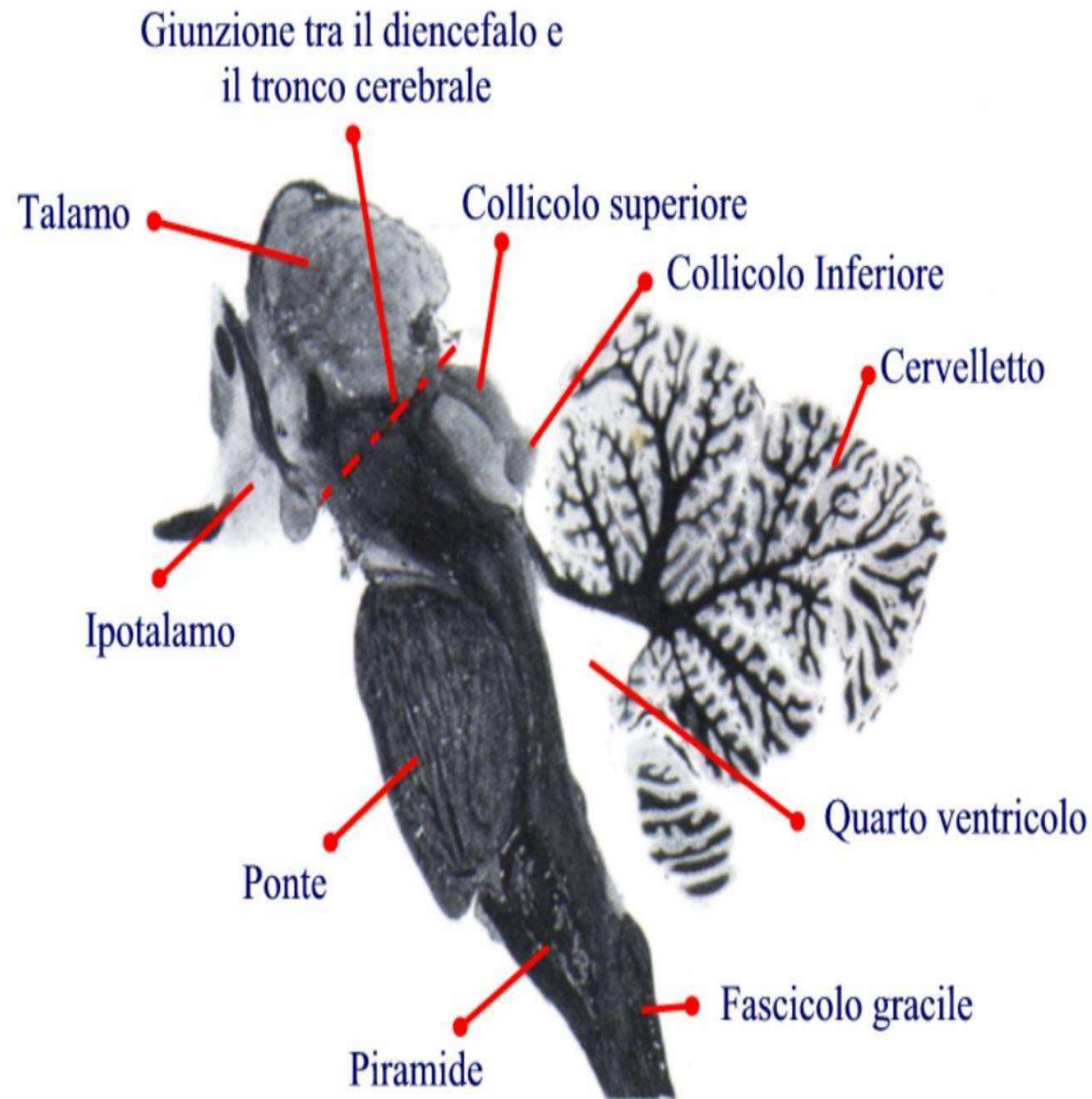
SPM {z}  
P<0.001

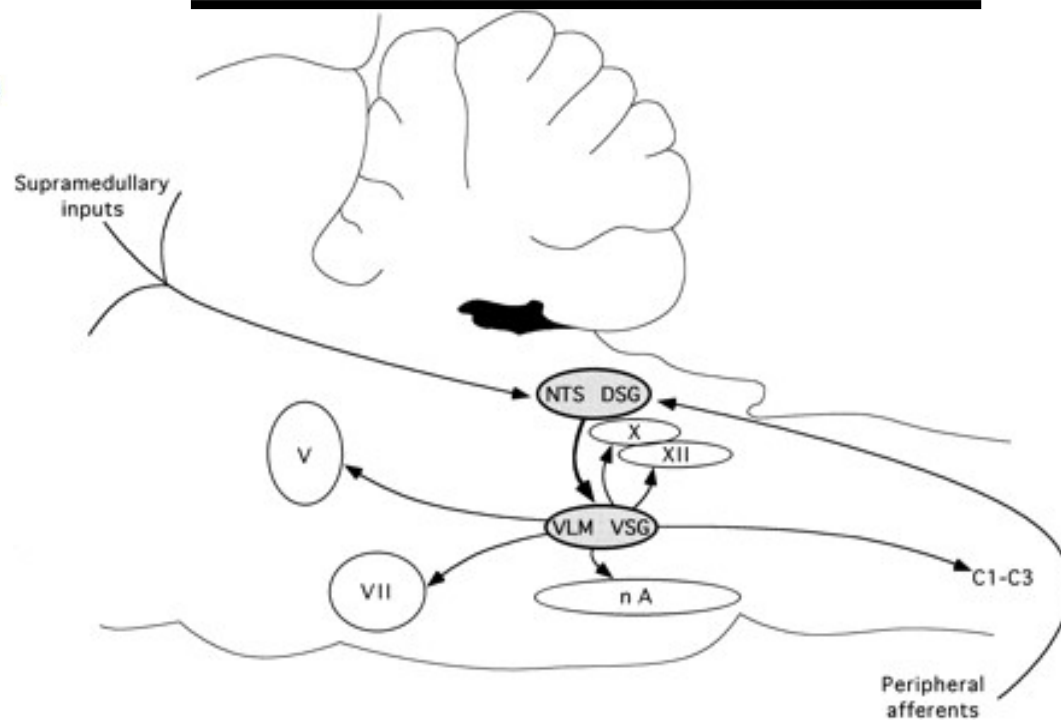
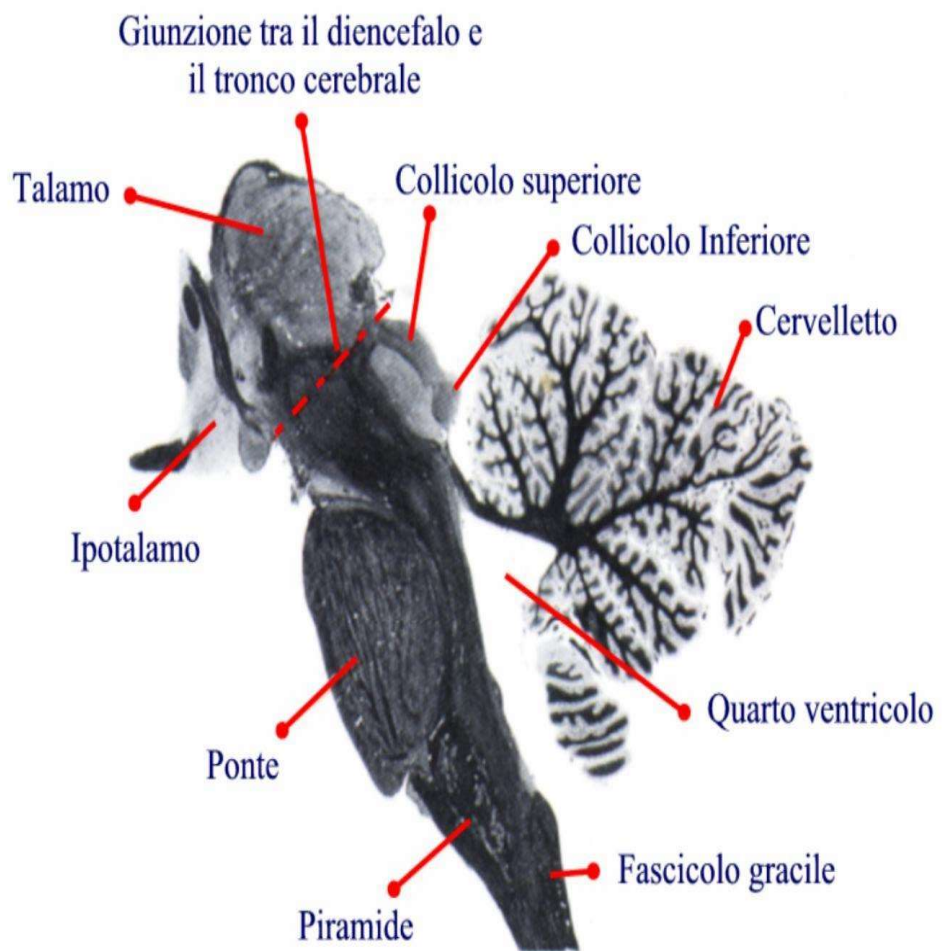






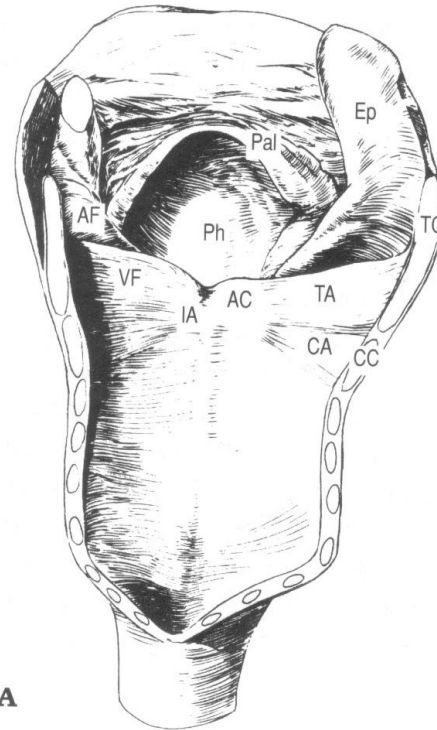
# TRONCO DELL'ENCEFALO: INPUT-OUTPUT



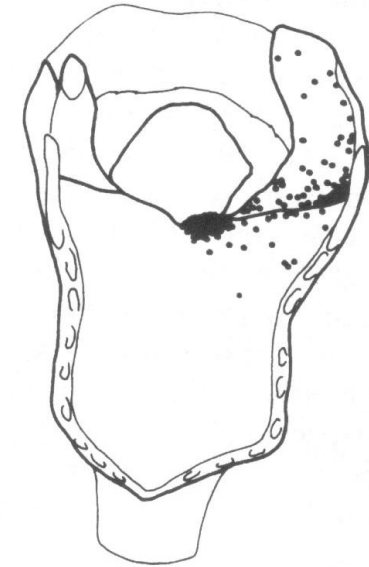


# RECETTORI

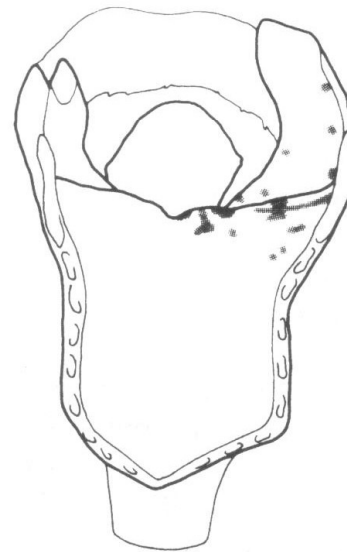
- visivi (II NC)
- olfattivi (I NC)
- tattili (V/IX/X NC)
- termici (V/IX/X NC)
- dolorifici (V/IX/X NC)
- osteomuscolari (V/IX/X NC)
- articolari (V/IX/X NC)
- gustativi (VII/IX/X NC)



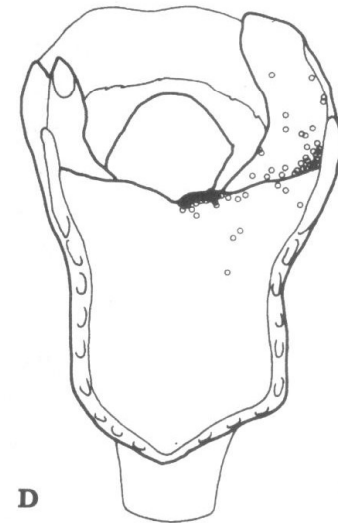
A



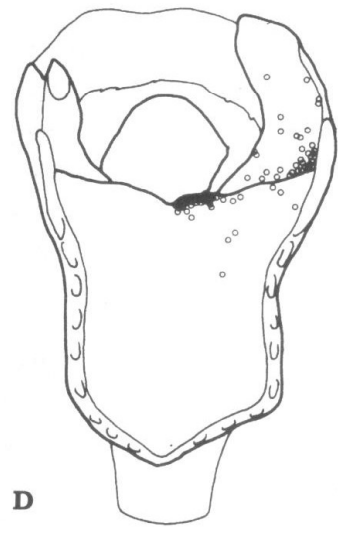
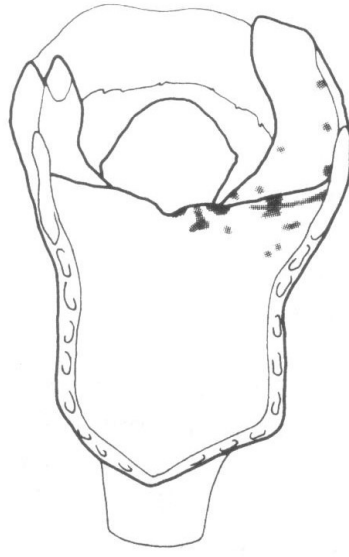
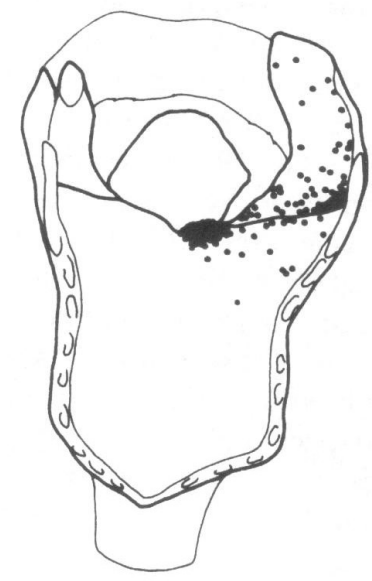
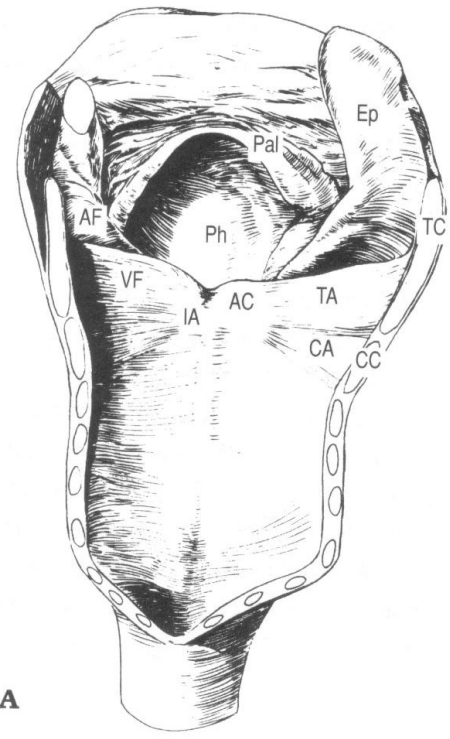
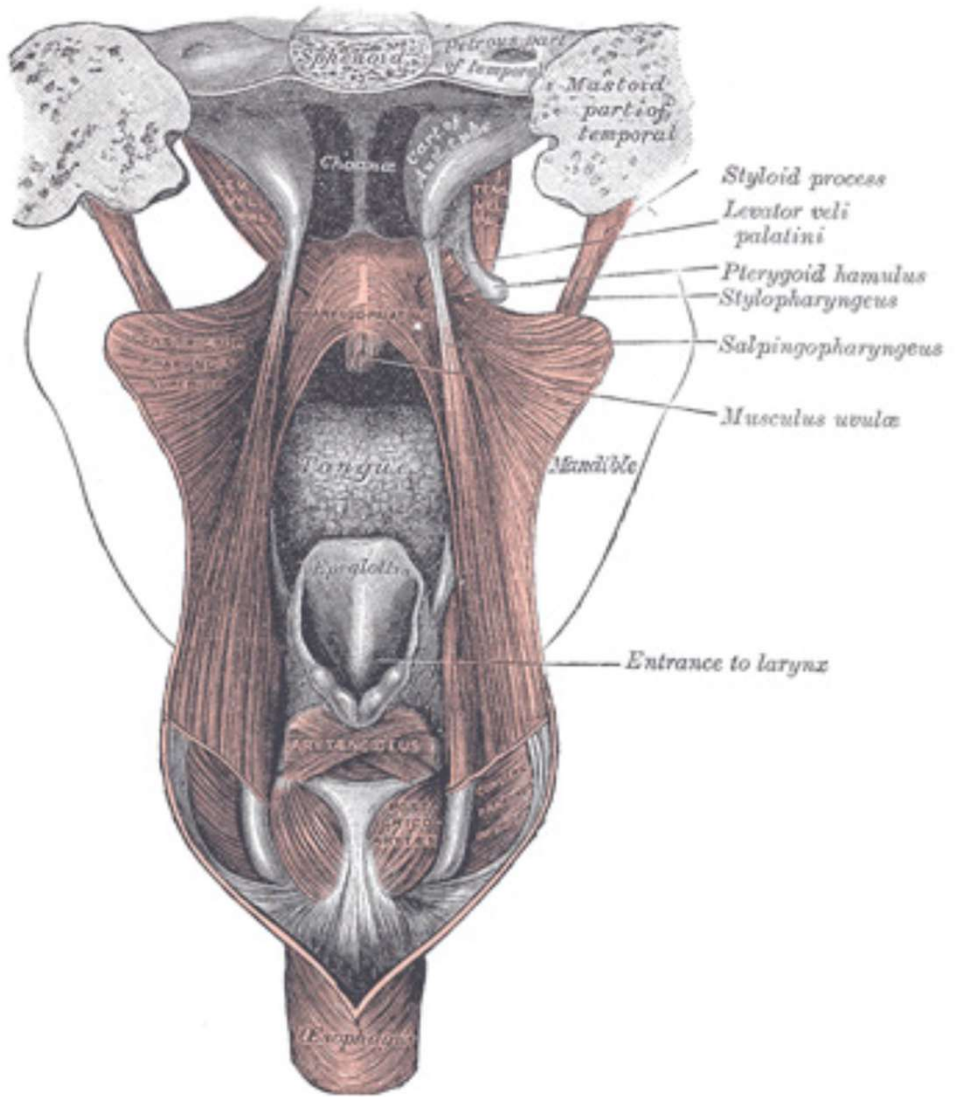
B



C



D



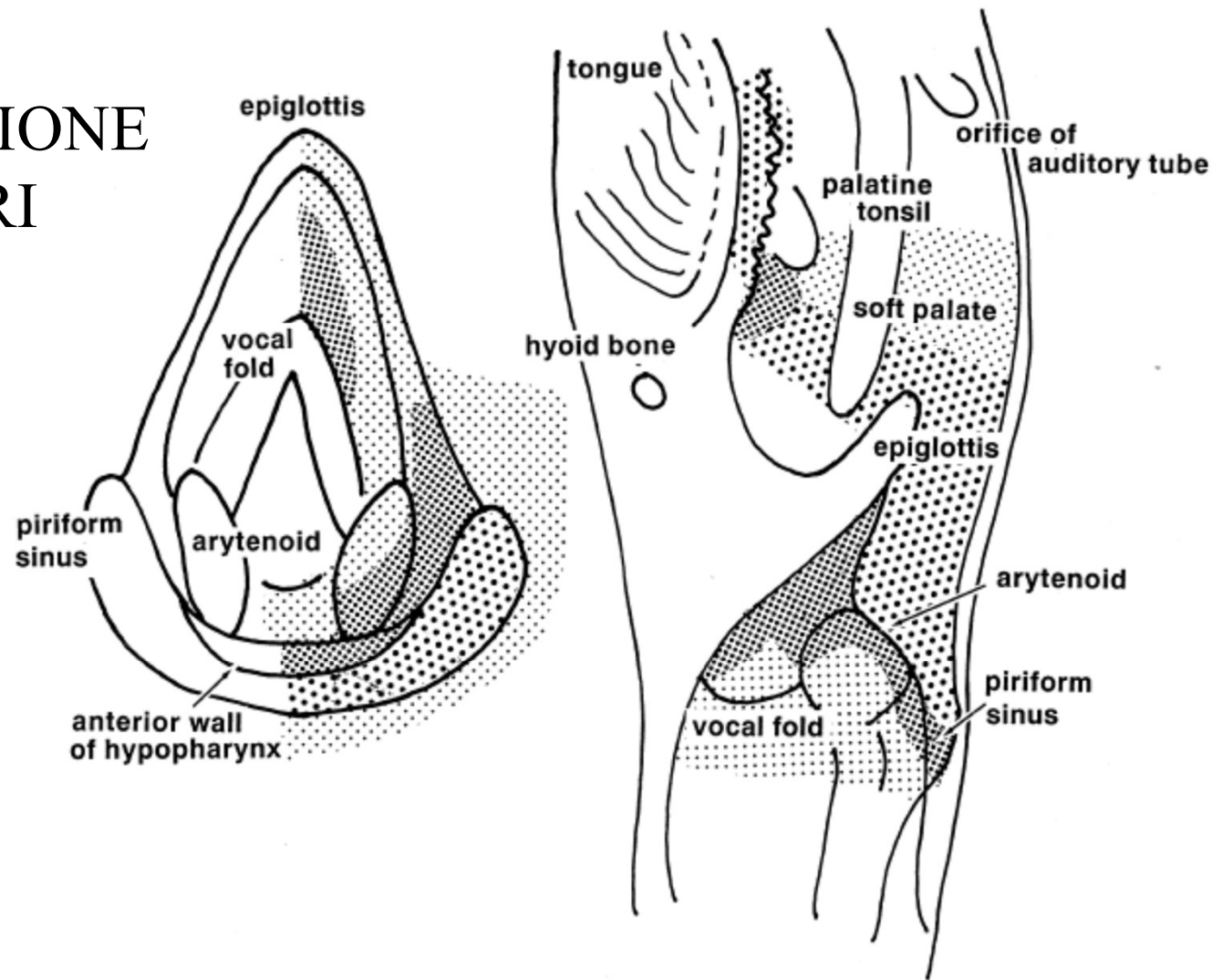
A

B

C

D

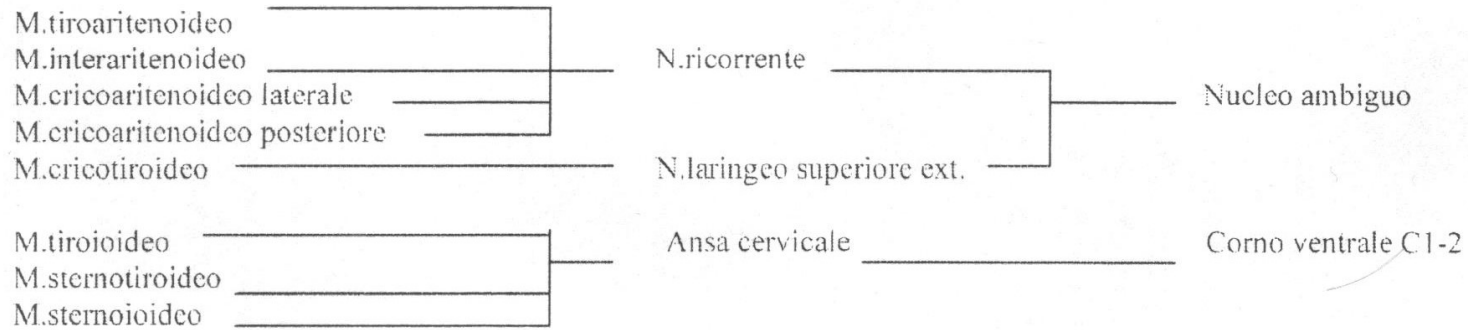
# CONCENTRAZIONE DEI RECETTORI



# MUSCOLI, NERVI, NUCLEI NERVOSI

Muscoli laringei  
Estrinseci

## Componente laringea

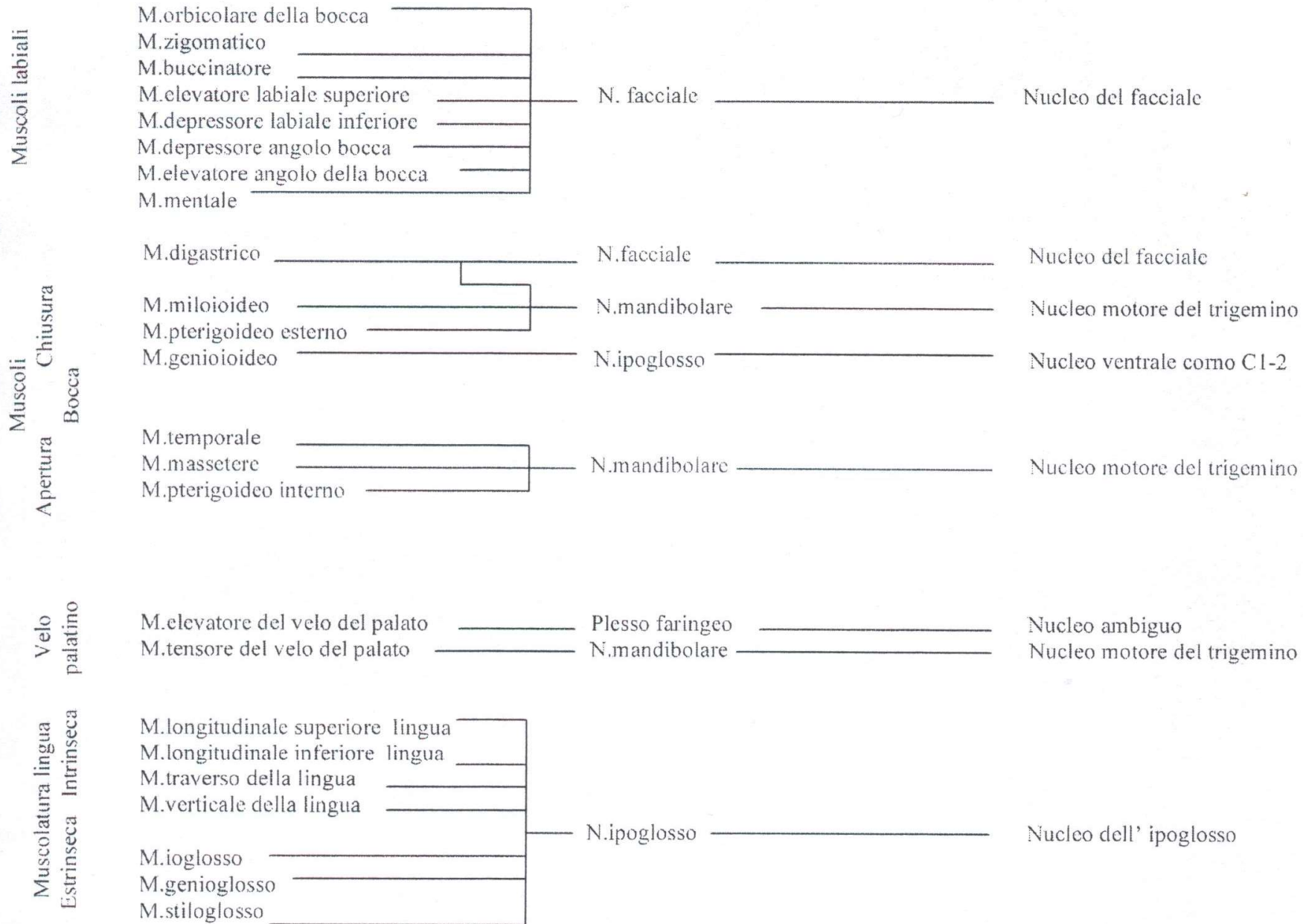


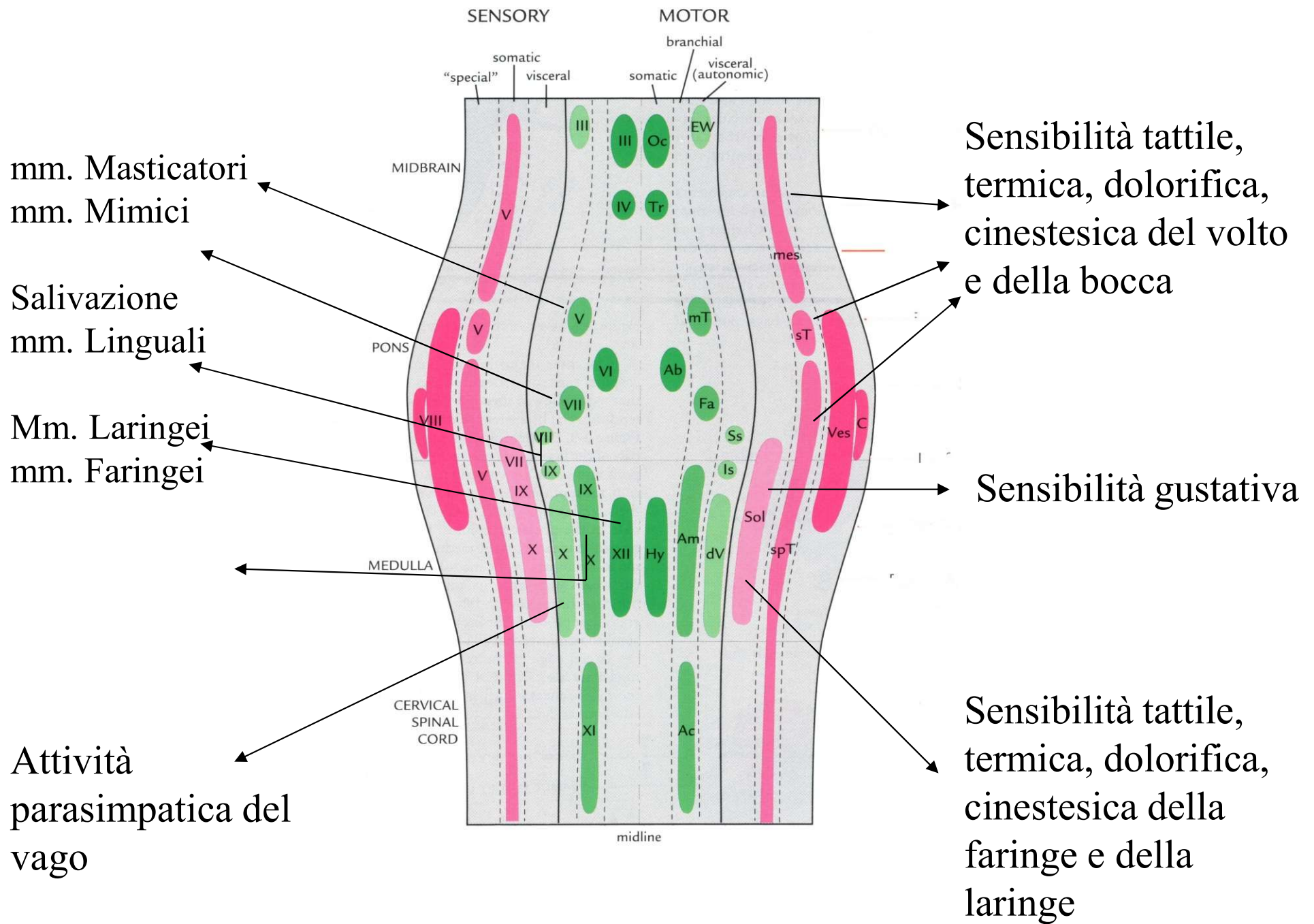
Muscoli  
Toracici  
Addominali

## Componente respiratoria



# Componente sovralaringea

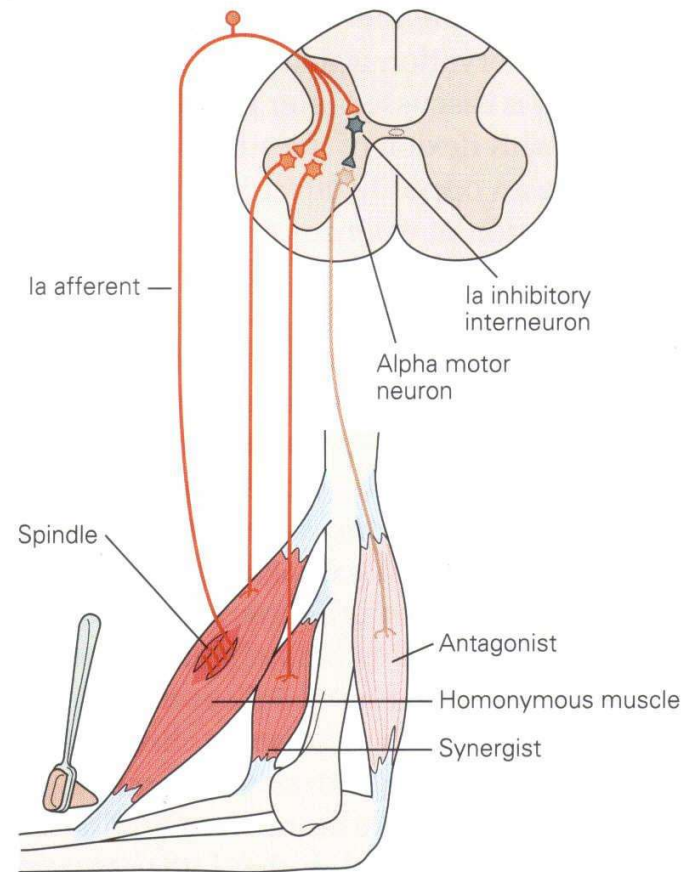


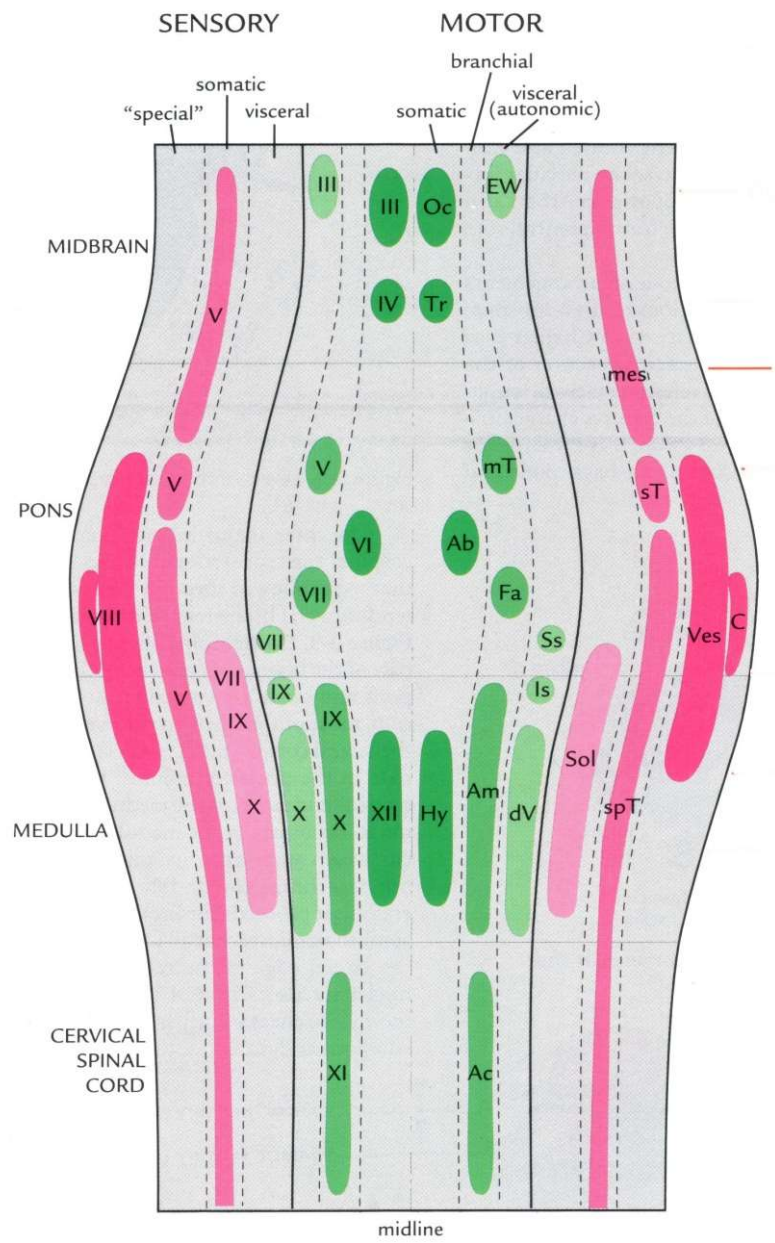


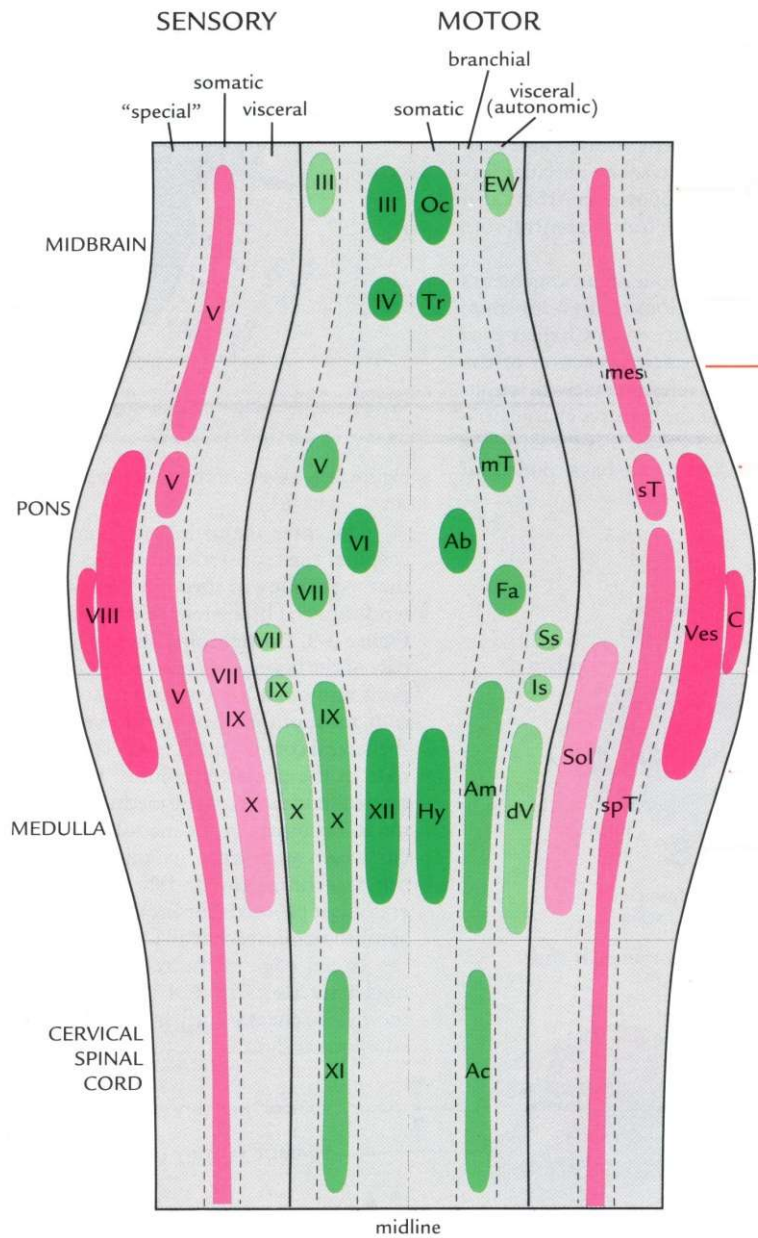


# IL RIFLESSO DA STIRAMENTO INPUT-OUTPUT

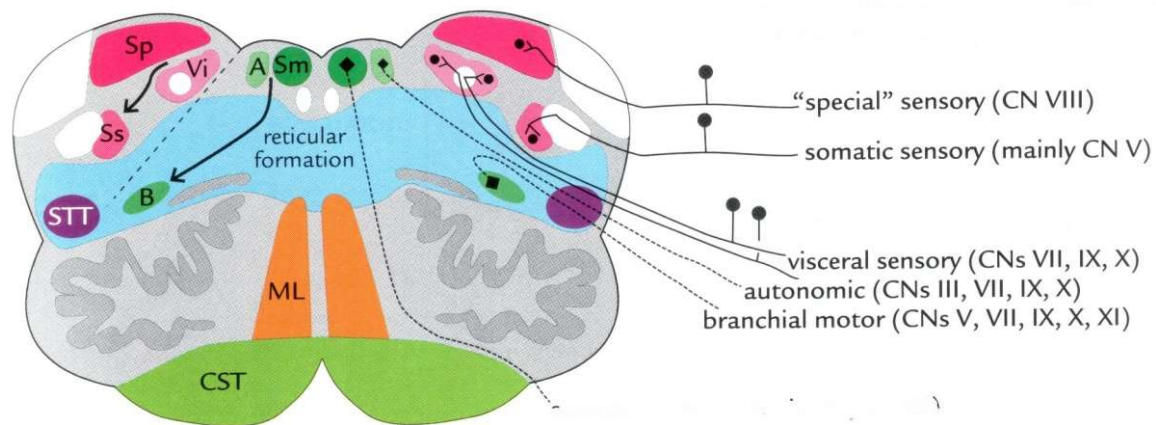
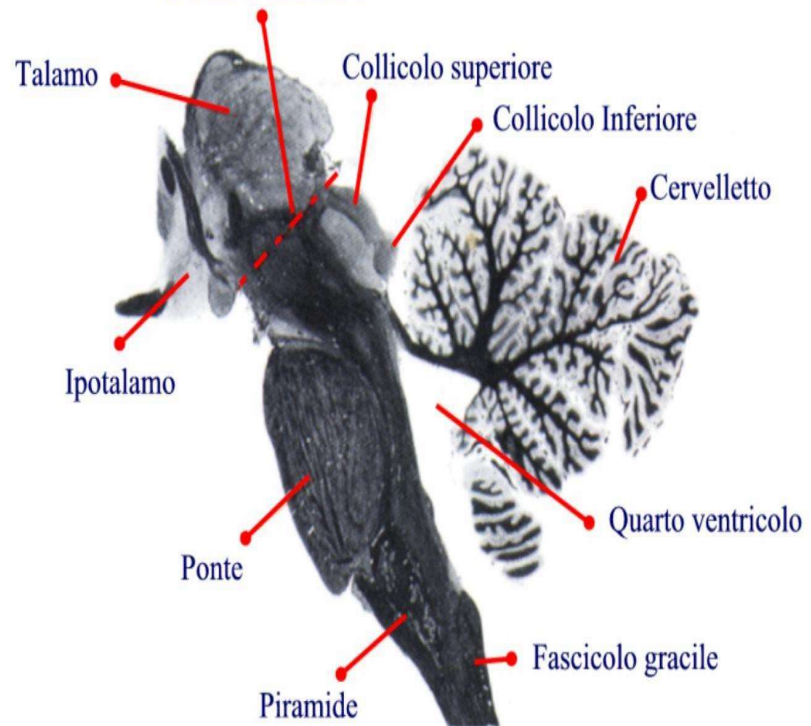
B<sub>1</sub> Stretch reflex





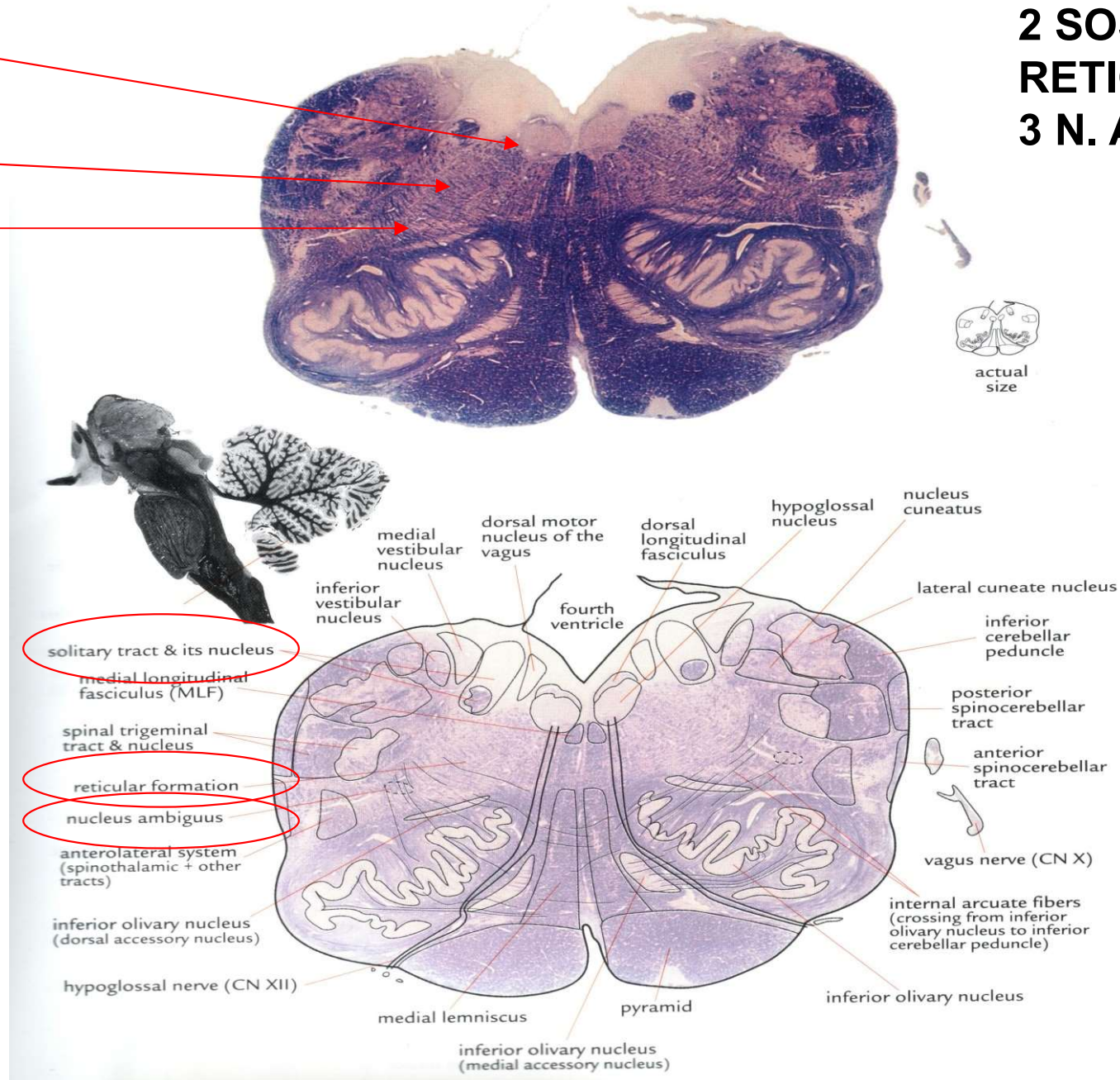


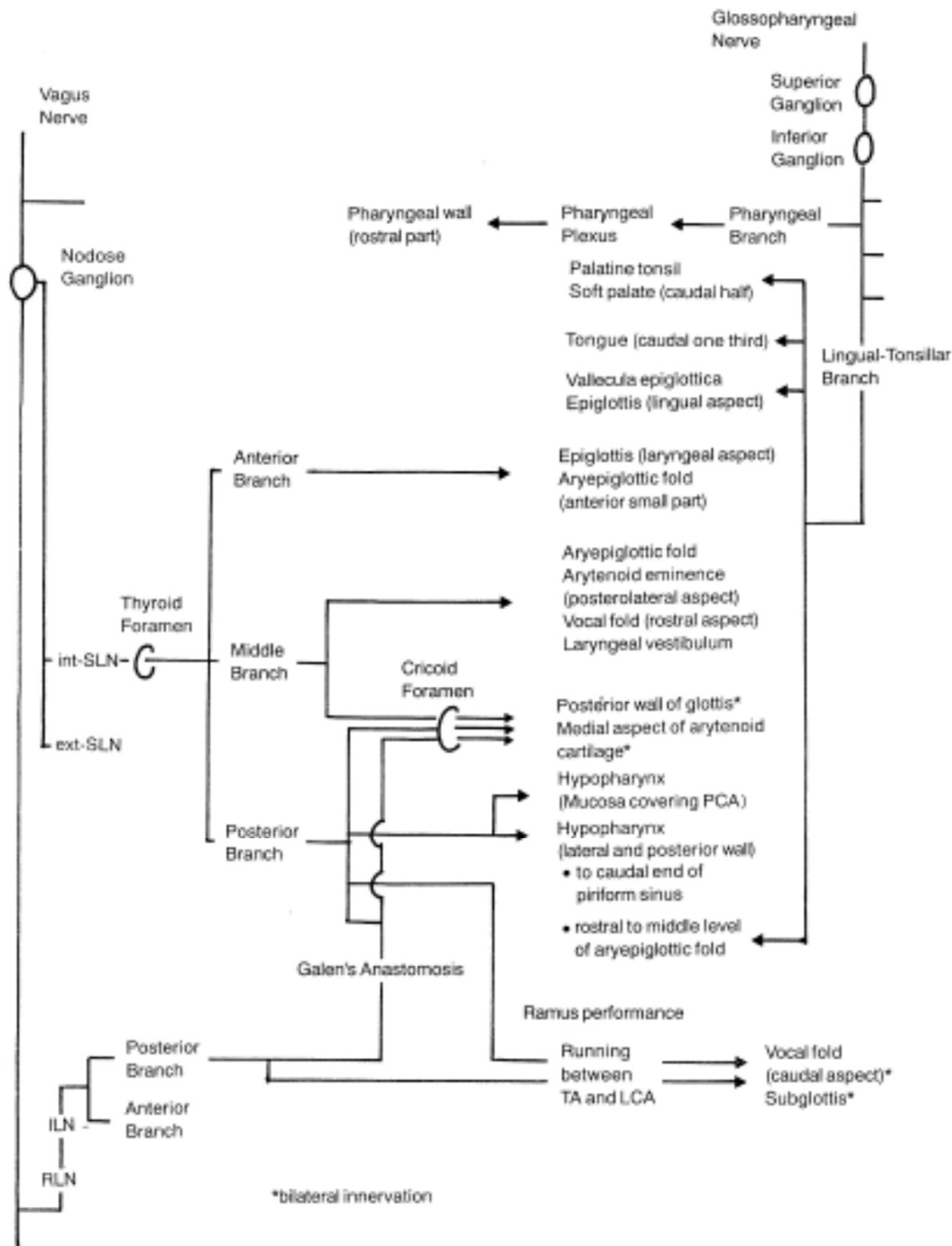
Giunzione tra il diencefalo e il tronco cerebrale



1 N. TRATTO  
 SOLITARIO  
 2 SOSTANZA  
 RETICOLARE  
 3 N. AMBIGUO

1  
 2  
 3



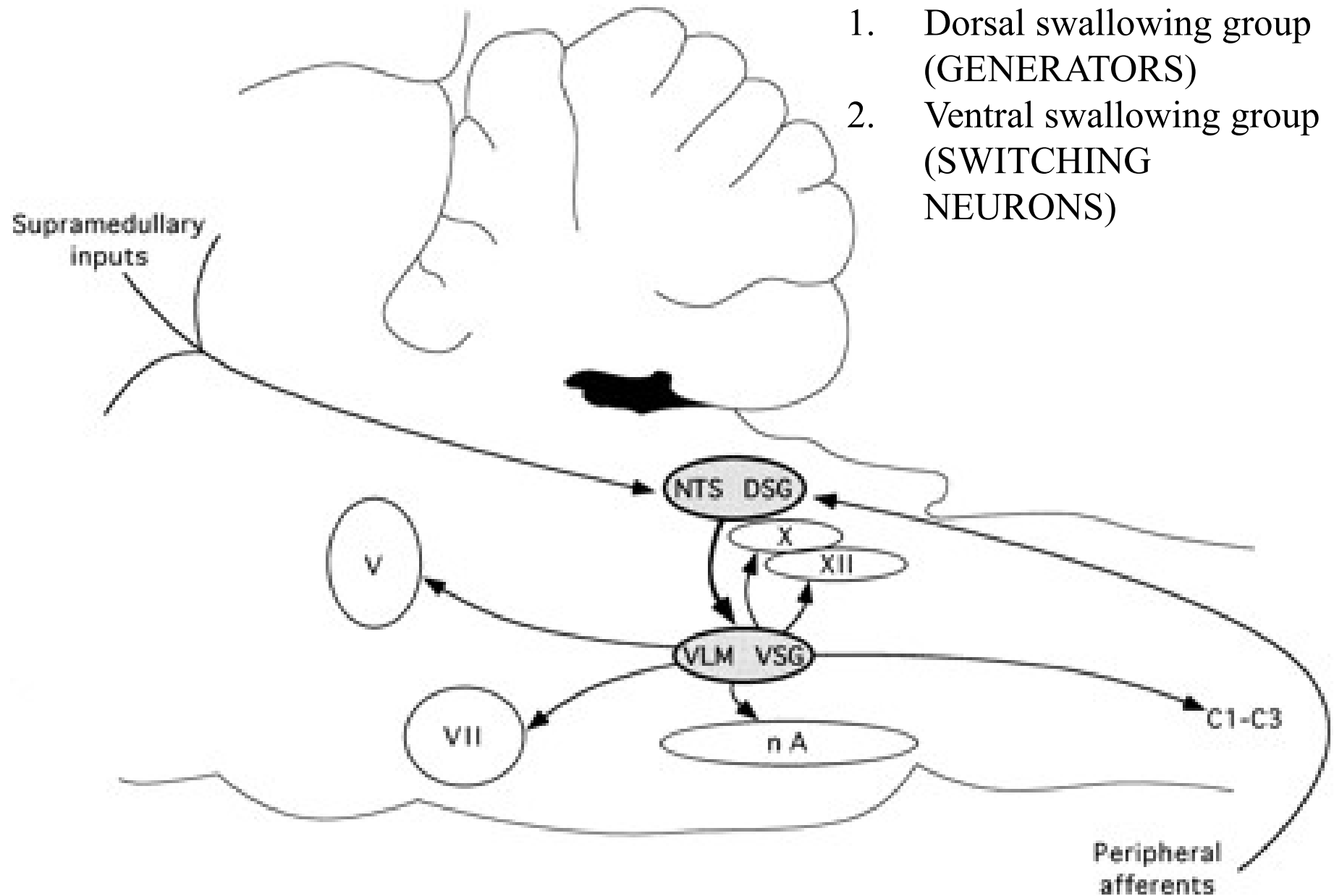


Yoshida et al;  
 Am J Med 2000;  
 108(4A): 51S-61S

# IL CENTRAL PATTERN GENERATOR

Il CPG è formato da:

1. Dorsal swallowing group (GENERATORS)
2. Ventral swallowing group (SWITCHING NEURONS)



# Fase faringea: regolazione nervosa

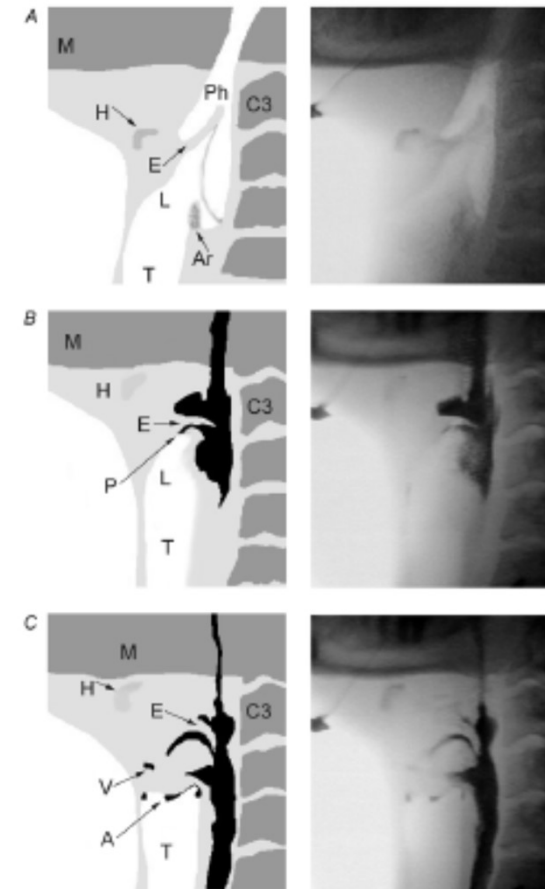
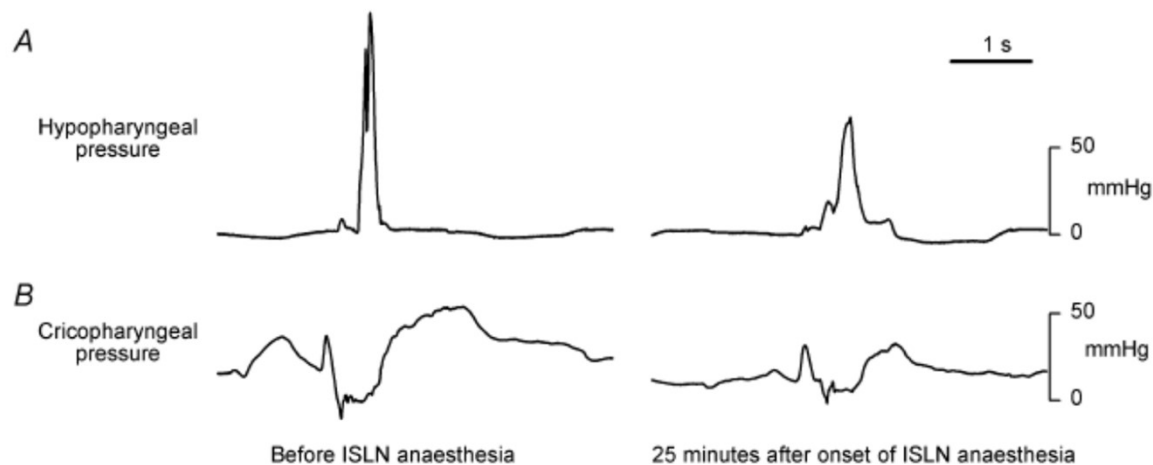
*J Physiol* (2003), 550, 1, pp. 287–304  
© The Physiological Society 2003

DOI: 10.1113/jphysiol.2003.039966  
www.jphysiol.org

## Sensory regulation of swallowing and airway protection: a role for the internal superior laryngeal nerve in humans

Samah Jafari\*, Rebecca A. Prince\*, Daniel Y. Kim† and David Paydarfar\*‡

Departments of \*Neurology, †Otolaryngology and ‡Physiology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA 01655, USA

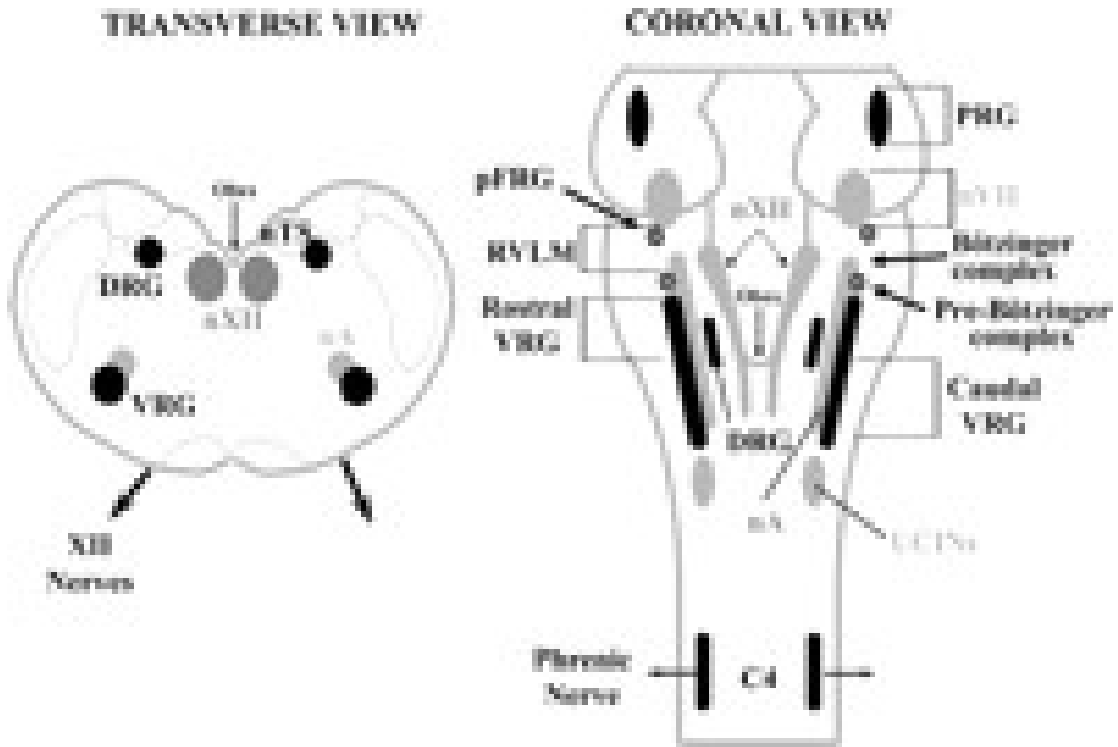


# LA NATURA DEL CENTRAL PATTERN GENERATOR

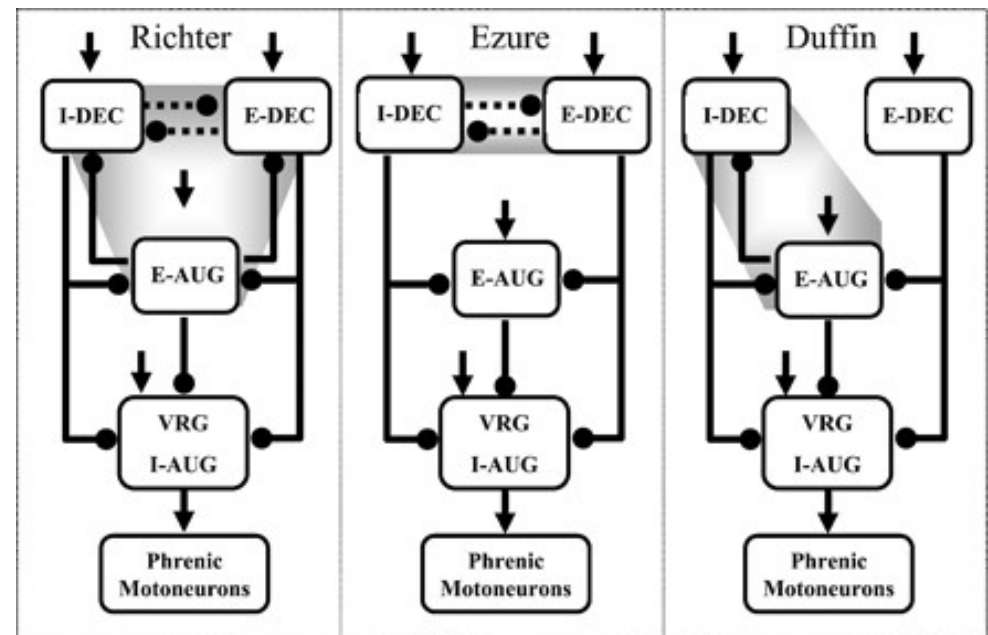
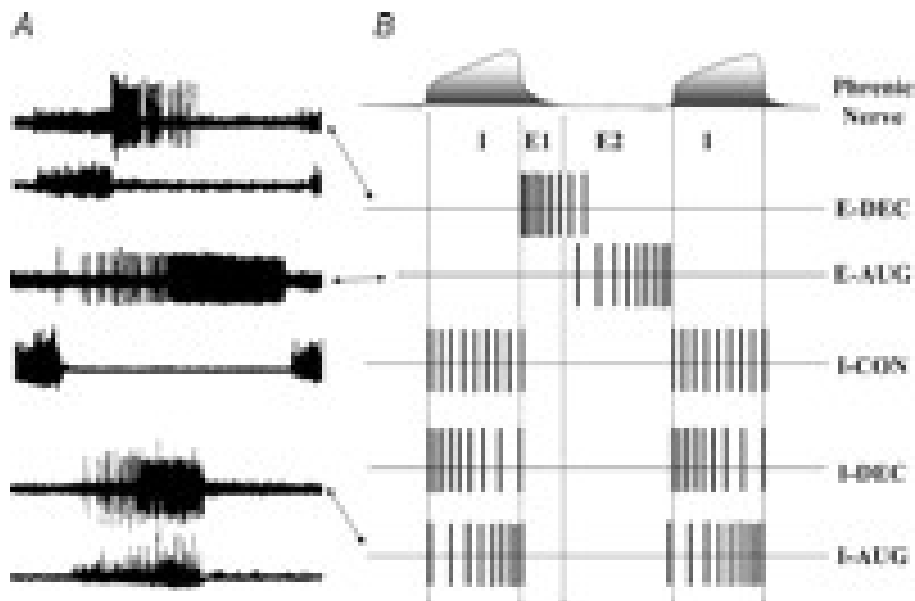


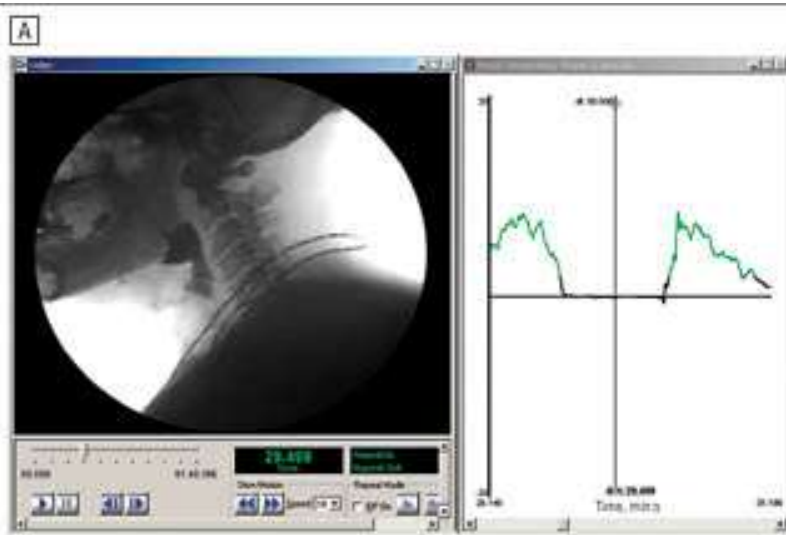


# PATTERN GENERATOR RESPIRATORIO



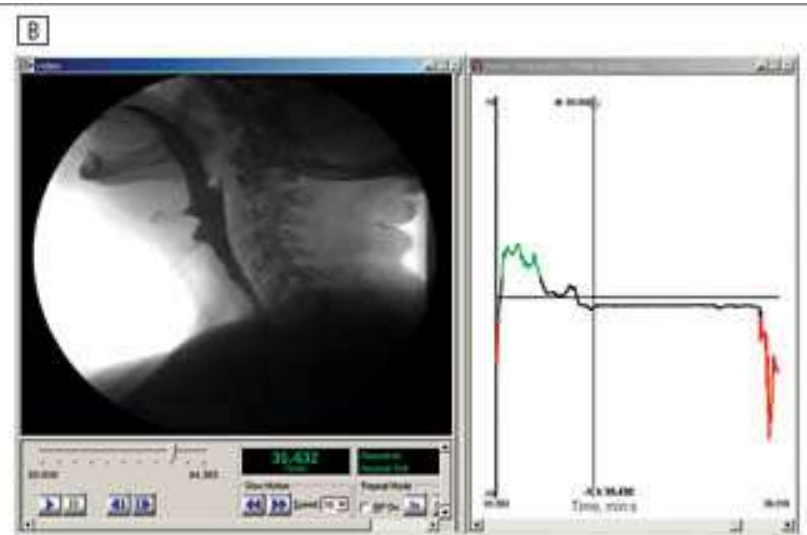
# PATTERN GENERATOR RESPIRATORIO





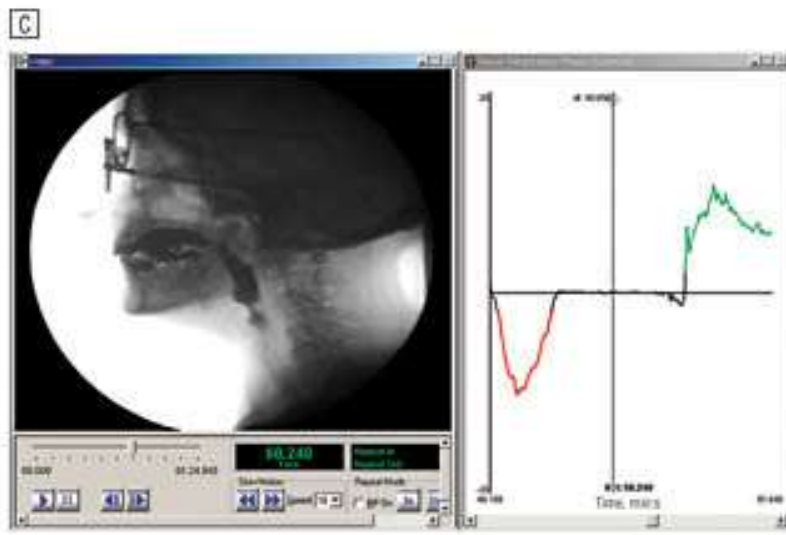
EX/EX

75%



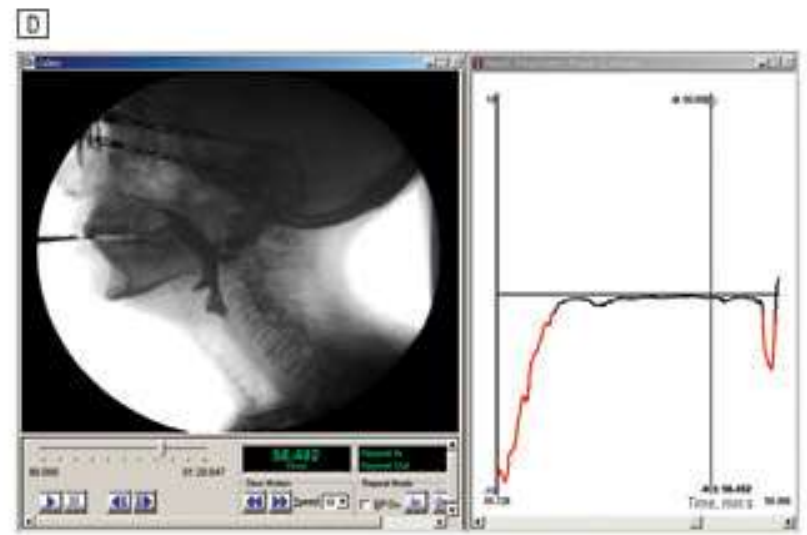
EX/IN

4%



IN/EX

18%



IN/IN

3%

**NEURONI GENERATORI**  
Nucleo del tratto solitario e  
Formazione reticolare midollare  
dorsale

**NEURONI ATTIVATORI**  
Formazione reticolare: regioni  
midollari  
dorsale e ventrale

**NUCLEO  
AMBIGUO**

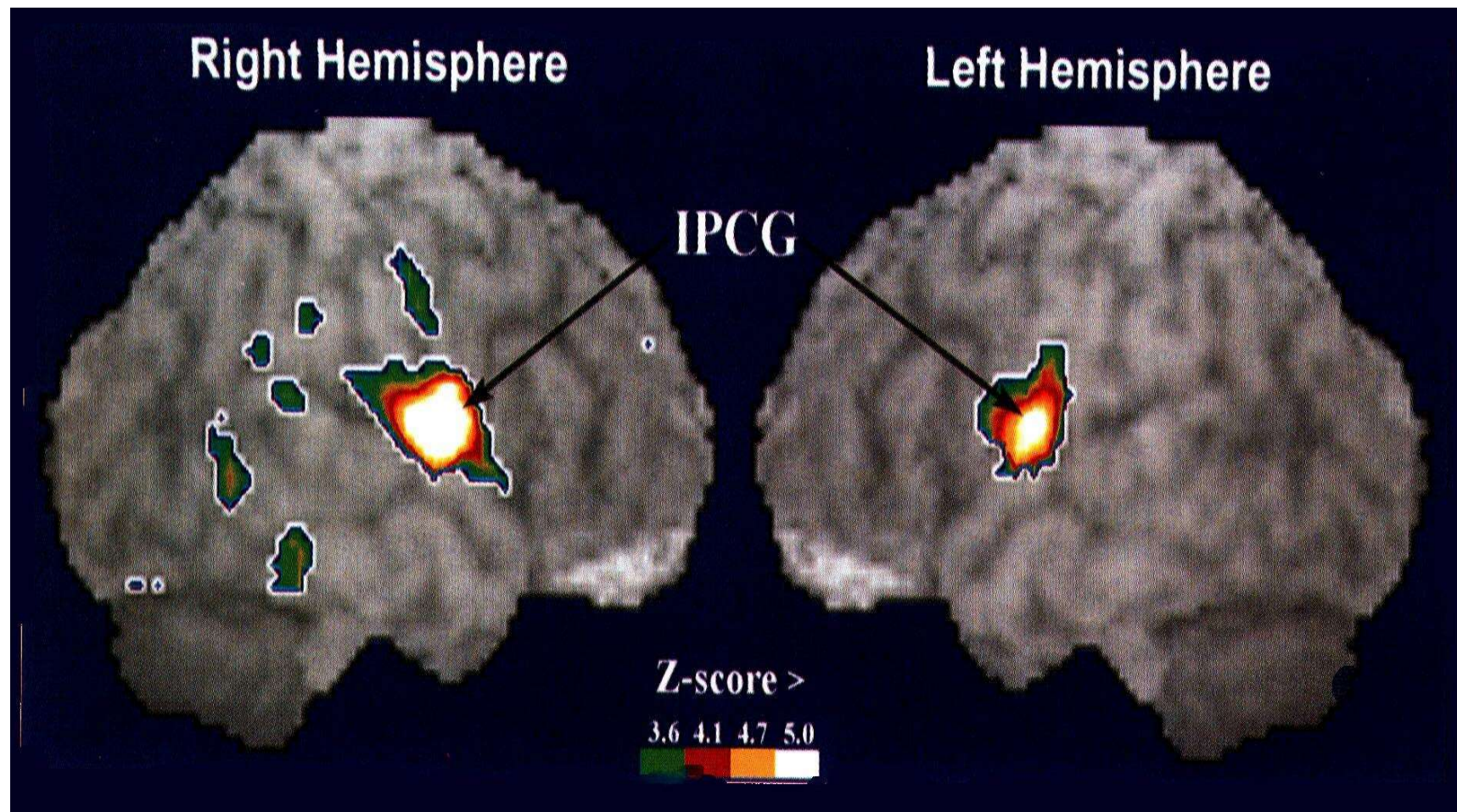
**NUCLEO  
dell'IPOGLOSSO**

**NUCLEO  
MOTORIO  
TRIGEMINALE**

**NUCLEO  
MOTORIO  
del  
FACCIALE**

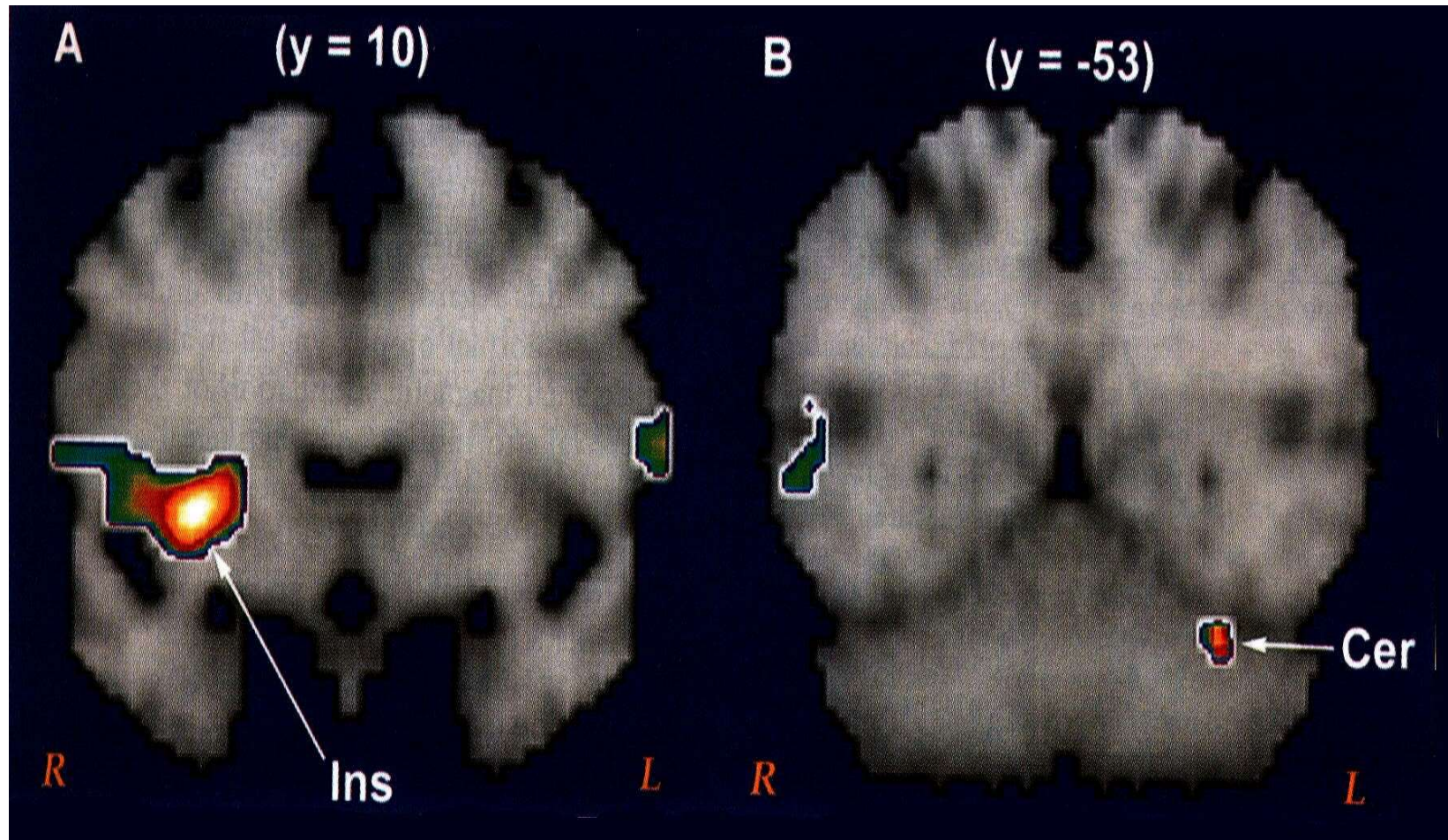
# DEGLUTIZIONE VOLONTARIA: PET

La deglutizione volontaria, confrontata con movimenti linguali volontari, determina l'attivazione del giro prefrontale bilateralmente (*Zald & Pardo, 1999*)



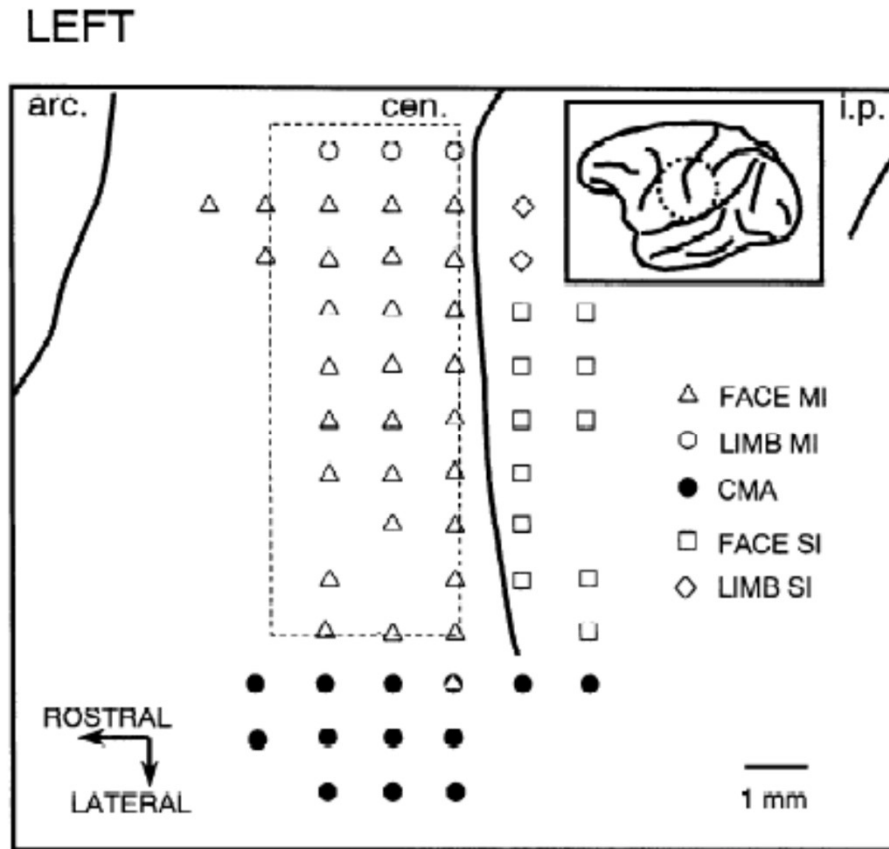
# DEGLUTIZIONE VOLONTARIA: PET

La deglutizione volontaria, confrontata con movimenti linguali volontari, determina l'attivazione dell'insula anteriore e del claustrum destri, del lobo cerebellare sinistro (Zald & Pardo, 1999)



# NEURONAL STIMULATION IN ANIMAL MODELS

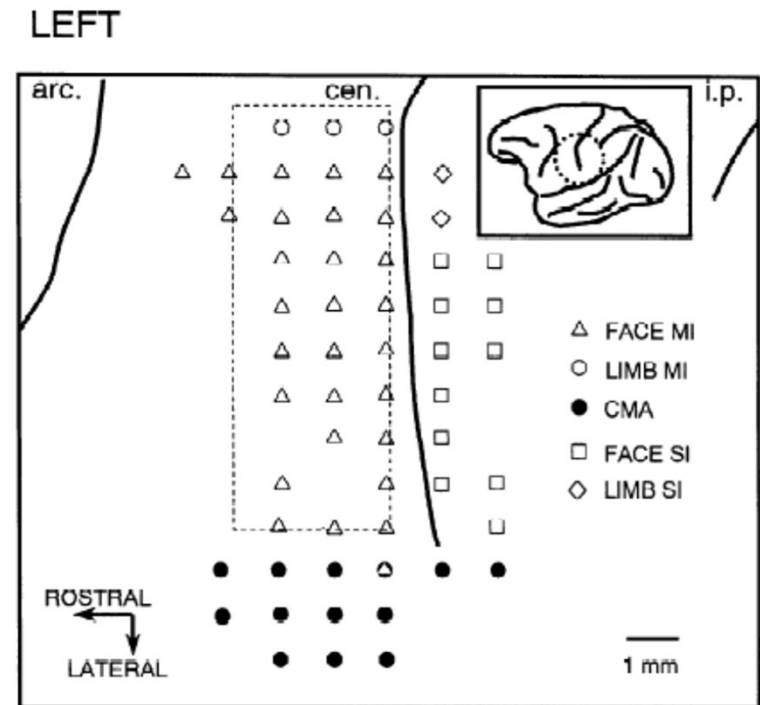
In the sheep the stimulation of the chewing area, within the fronto-orbital cortex, inhibit the CPG and suppress the muscular activity of the pharynx and of the oesophagus.



In the monkey brain cortical stimulation found the regions that trigger swallowing: the face motor cortex, the primary somatosensory cortex, the cortical masticatory area (CMA) and the white matter underlying the CMA and frontal operculum.

In most of the areas, the electrophysiological stimulation induced not only swallowing, but also other oro-facial responses.

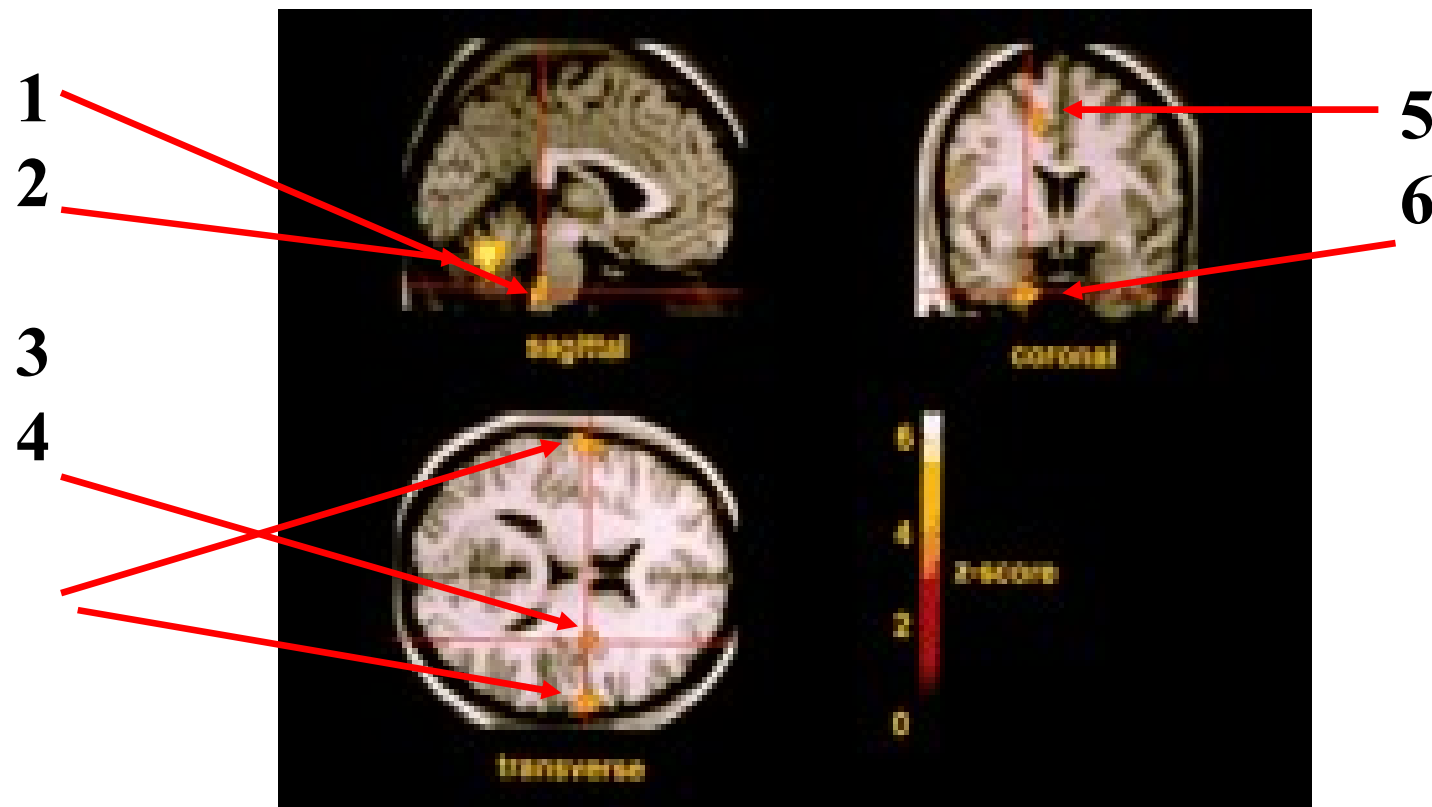
Cortical inactivation through cold block showed that while blocking the CMA markedly affected the ability to carry out swallowing, inactivation of the somatosensory cortex as well as of the primary motor cortex, preserve swallowing.





# DEGLUTIZIONE VOLONTARIA: PET

La deglutizione volontaria determina l'attivazione della parte posteriore del tronco (1), del cervelletto sn (2), dell'insula anteriore destra (3), della corteccia sensomotora bilateralmente (4), del giro del cingolo sinistro (5) e dell'amigdala sinistra (6) (*Hamdy et al, 1999*)

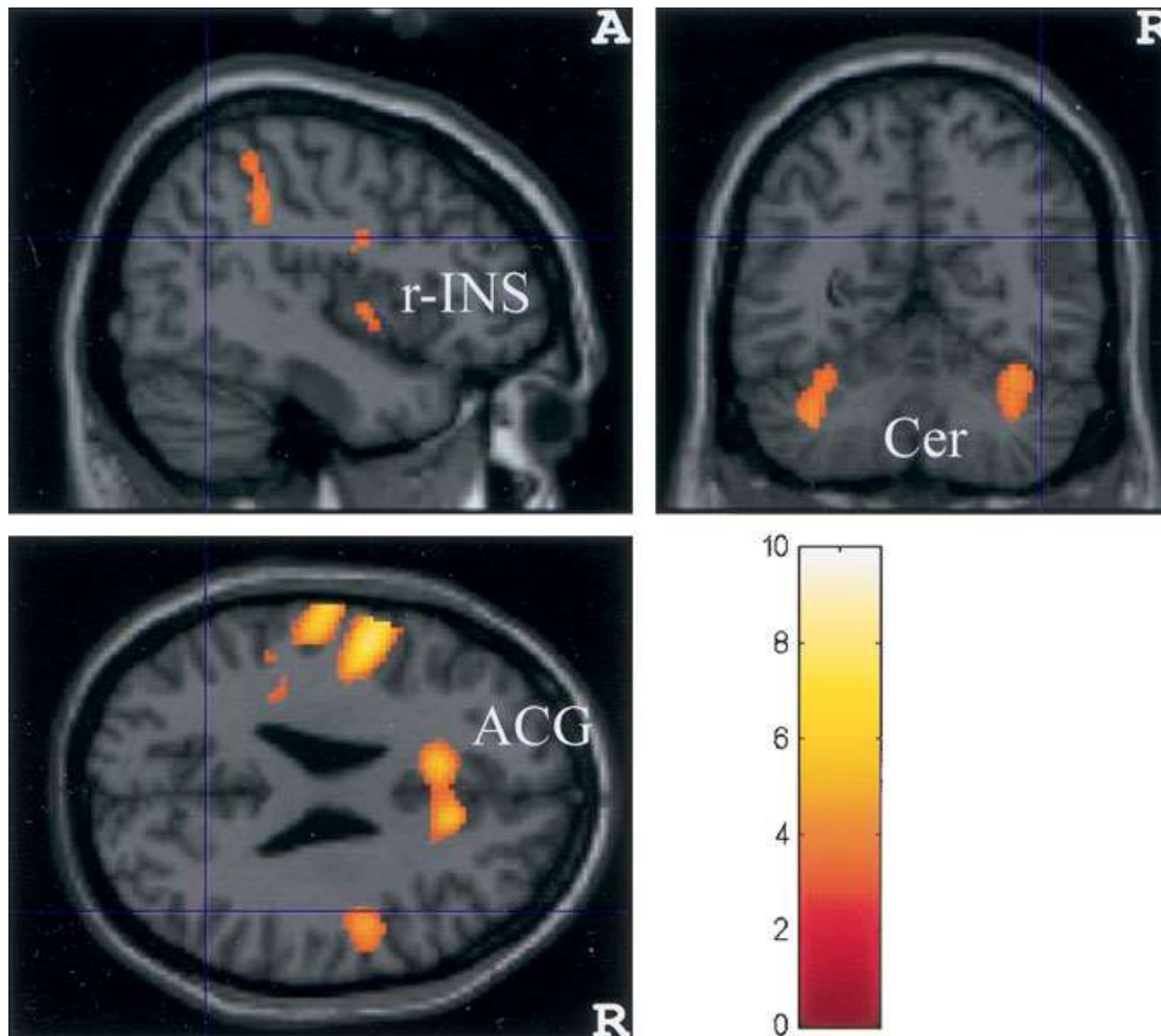


# **DEGLUTIZIONE VOLONTARIA E INVOLONTARIA**

**L'attivazione cerebrale in compiti di deglutizione volontaria e involontaria è diversa; in entrambe i casi si assiste al coinvolgimento delle aree senso-motorie, ma nella deglutizione volontaria regioni corticali parieto-occipito-frontali sono coinvolte (intenzione e programmazione?) (*Kern et al, 2001*)**

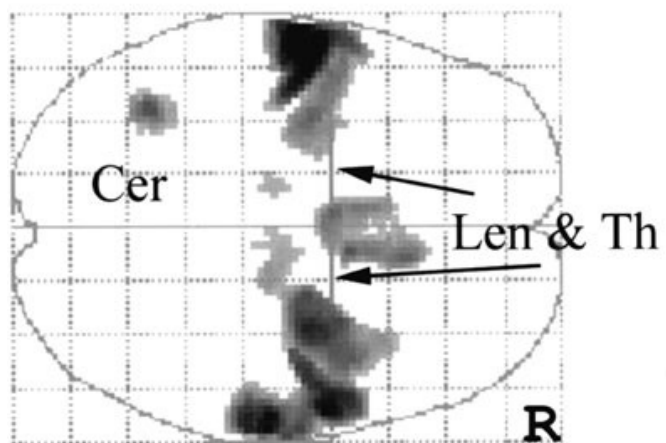
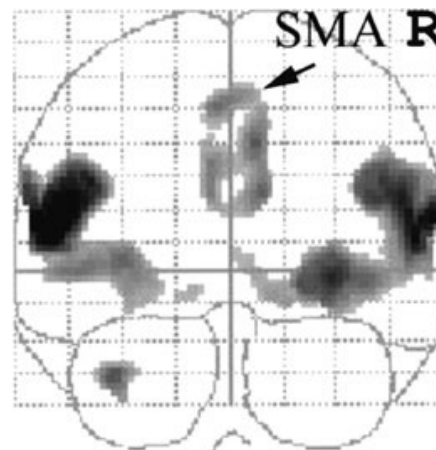
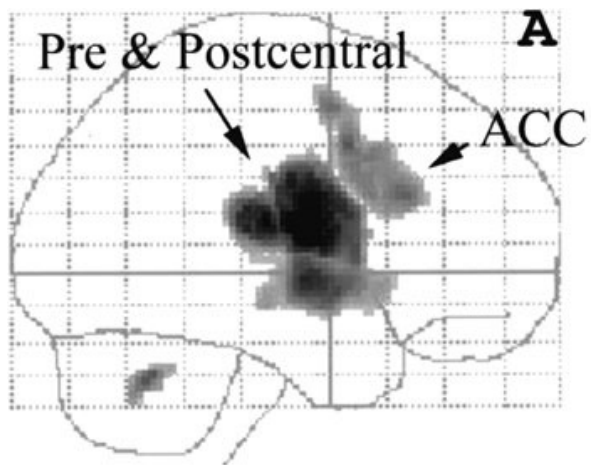
**L'attivazione corticale in compiti deglutitori e in altri compiti del vocal tract (protrusione labiale, movimenti mandibolari, movimenti linguali) non sono significativamente diversi: le regioni evidenziate potrebbero attivarsi non per la funzione deglutitoria per sé (*Kern et al, 2001*)**

# fMRI: ATTIVAZIONE CORTICALE E SOTTOCORTICALE



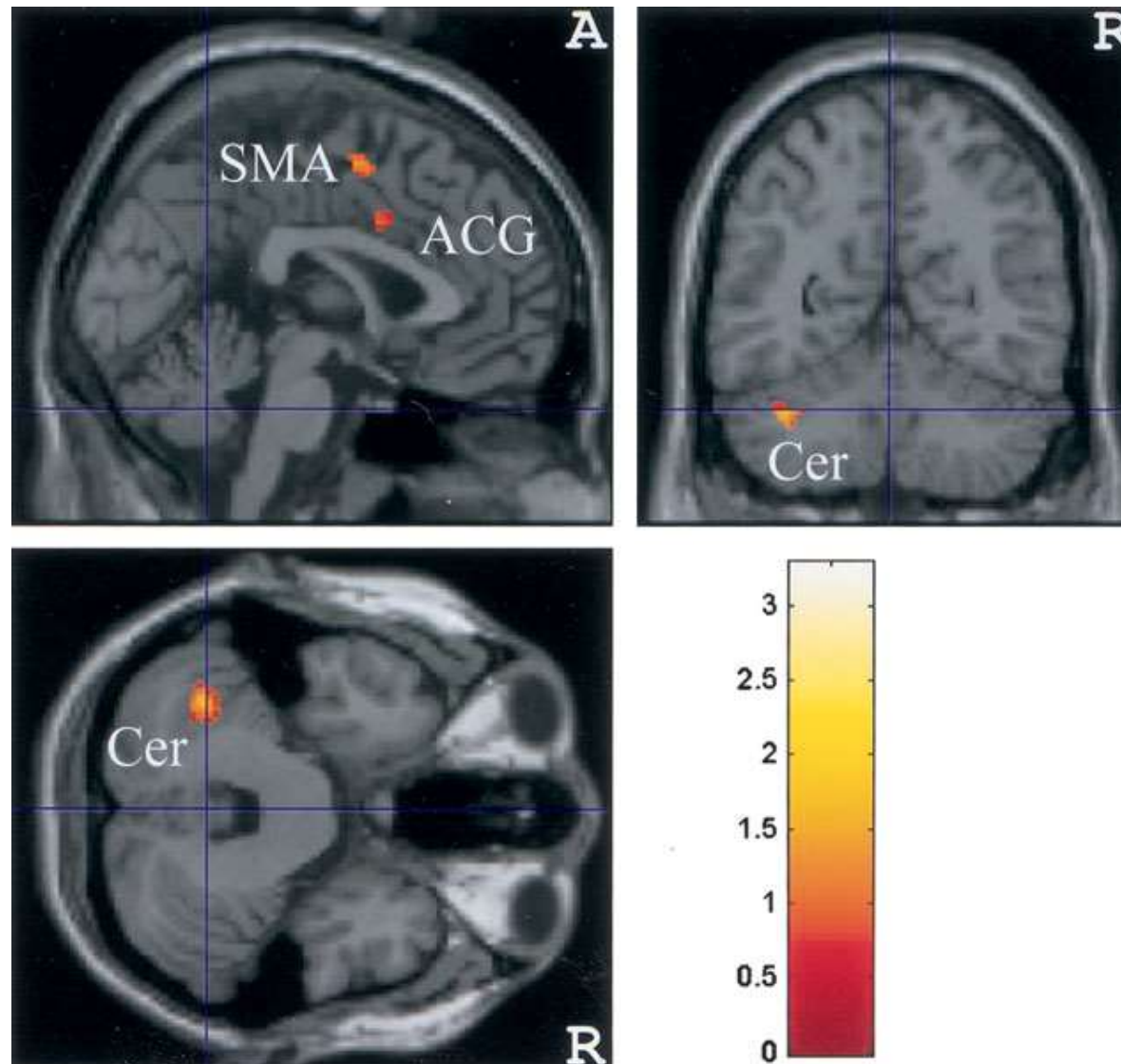
*Suzuki et al,  
2003*

# fMRI: ATTIVAZIONE CORTICALE E SOTTOCORTICALE



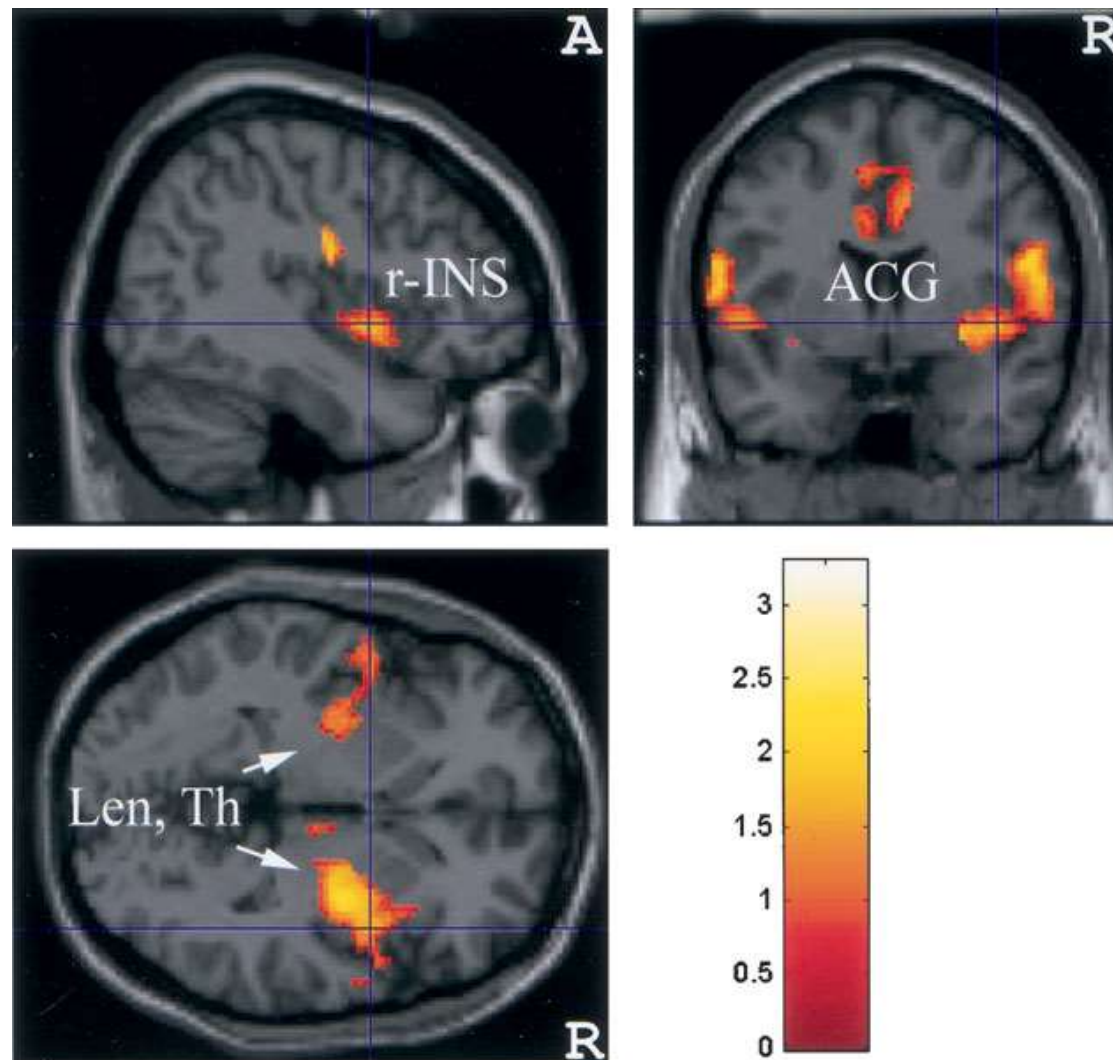
*Suzuki et al,*  
*2003*

# fMRI: ATTIVAZIONE CORTICALE E SOTTOCORTICALE



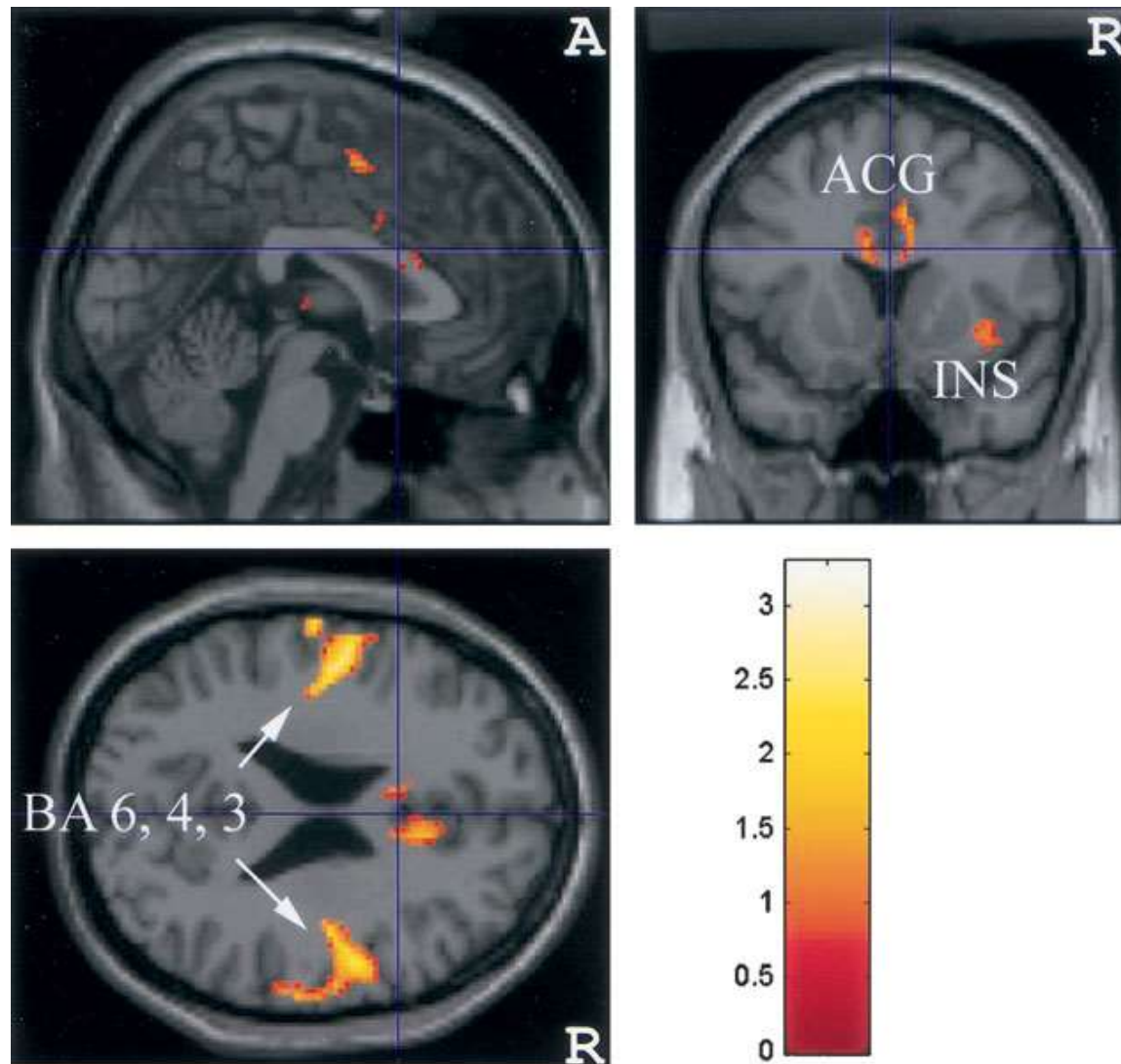
*Suzuki et al,  
2003*

# fMRI: ATTIVAZIONE CORTICALE E SOTTOCORTICALE



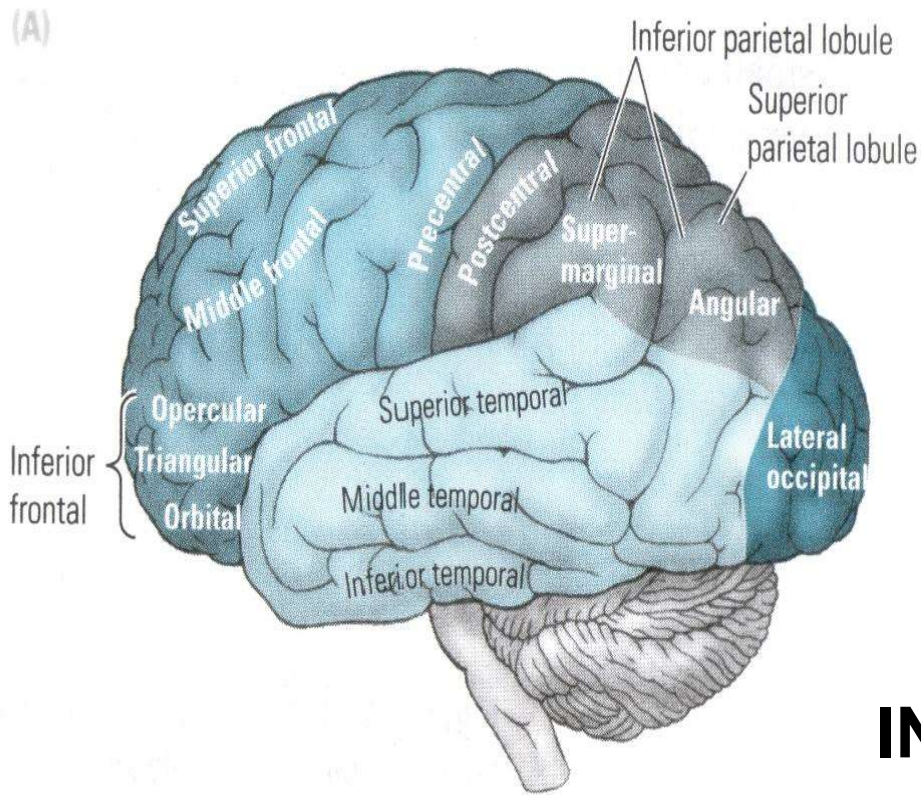
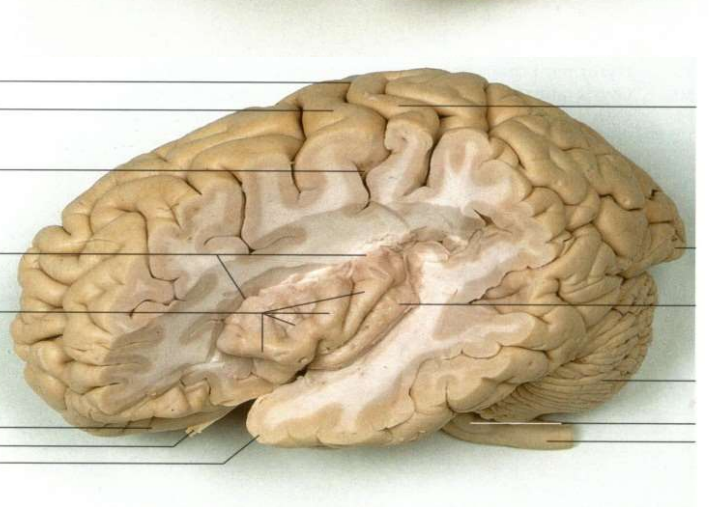
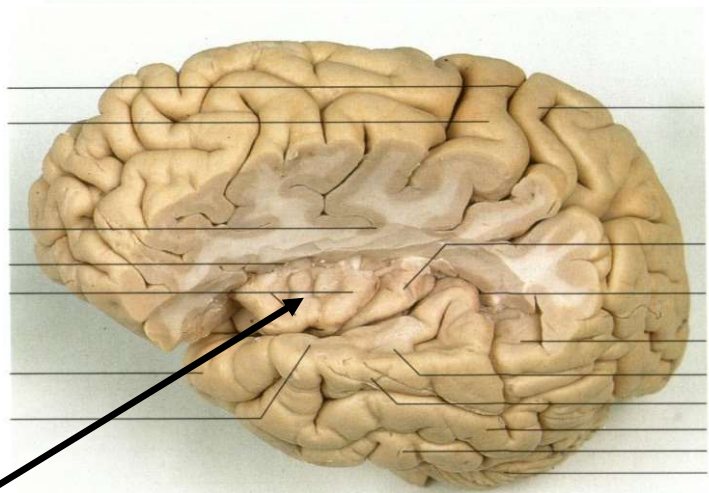
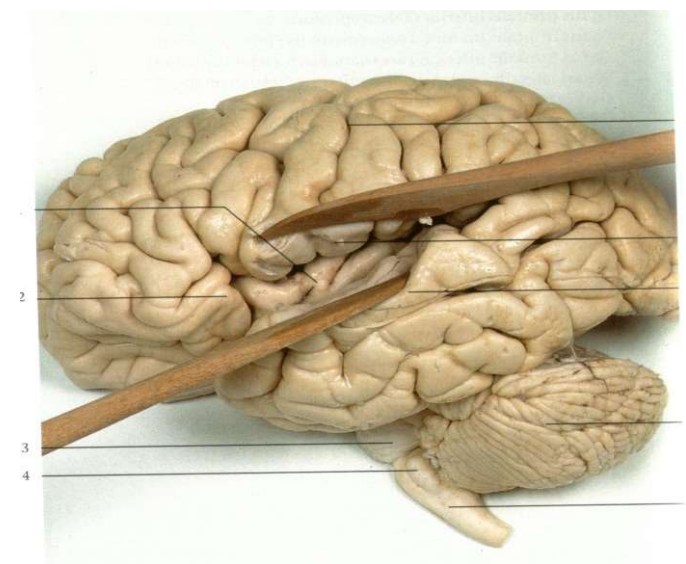
*Suzuki et al,  
2003*

# fMRI: ATTIVAZIONE CORTICALE E SOTTOCORTICALE



*Suzuki et al,  
2003*

# CORTECCIA



**INSULA**



# CORTECCIA MA NON SOLO

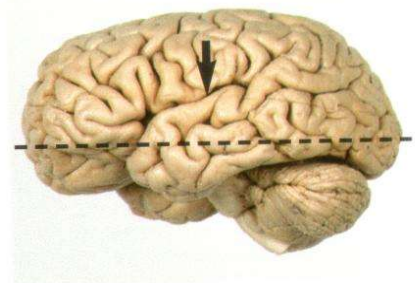
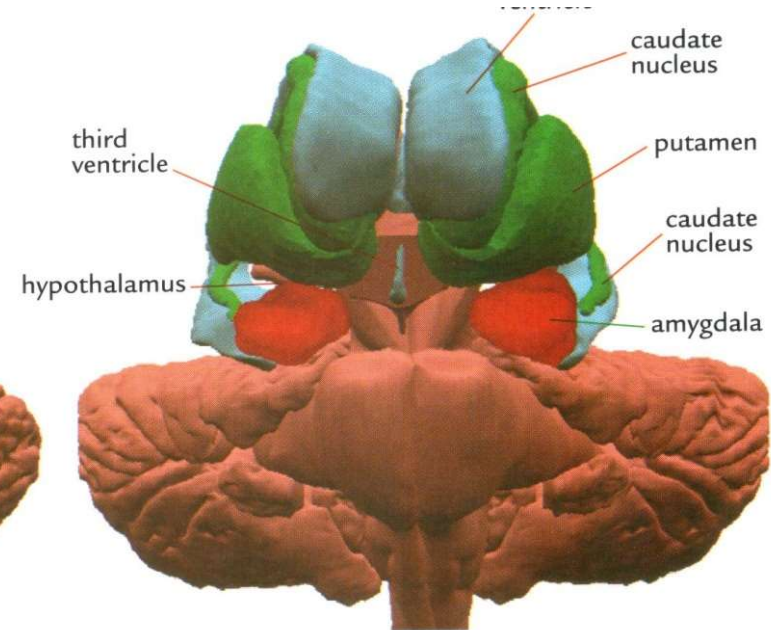
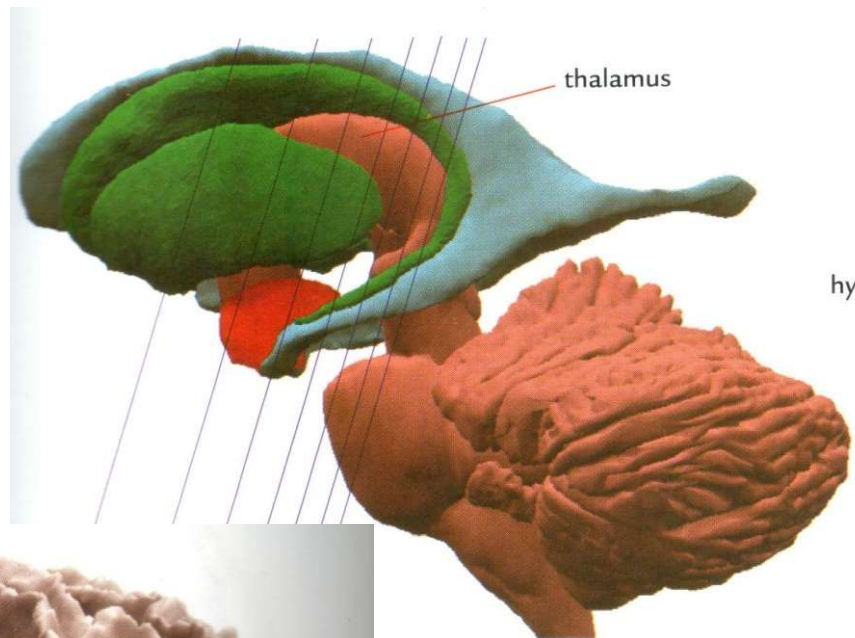
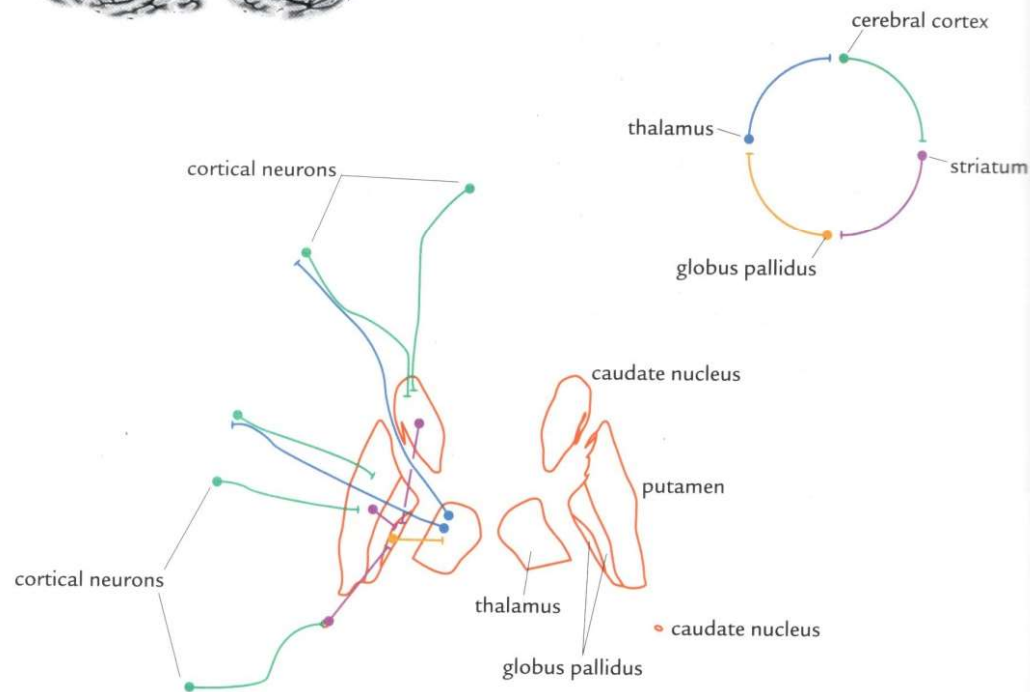
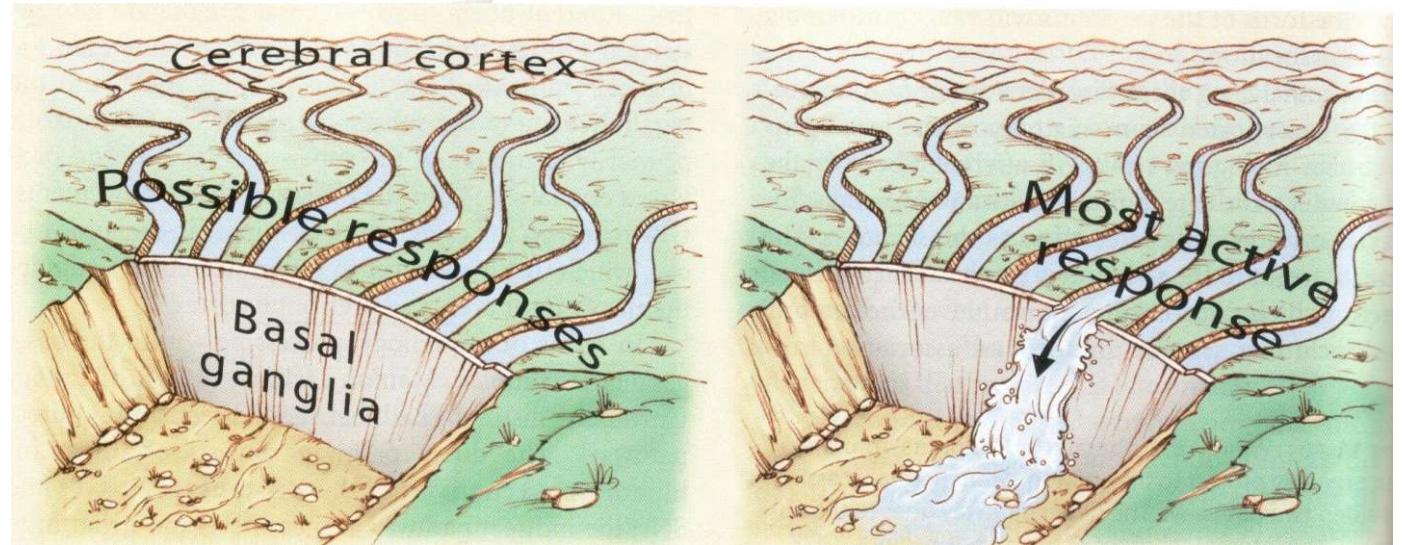
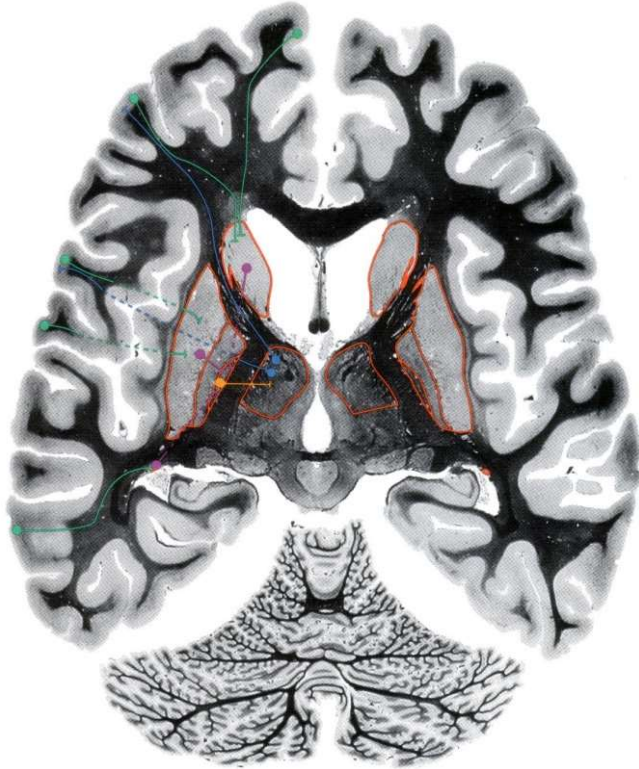
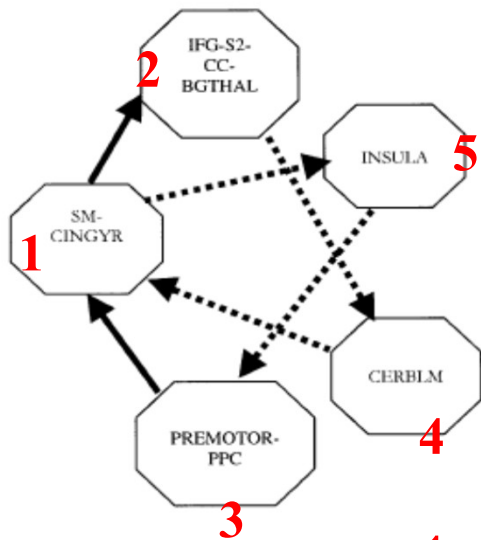


Figure 8-11. The principal circuit of the basal ganglia.



## GANGLI DELLA BASE

# NEUROIMAGING AND ELECTROPHYSIOLOGICAL STUDIES IN HUMAN SUBJECTS



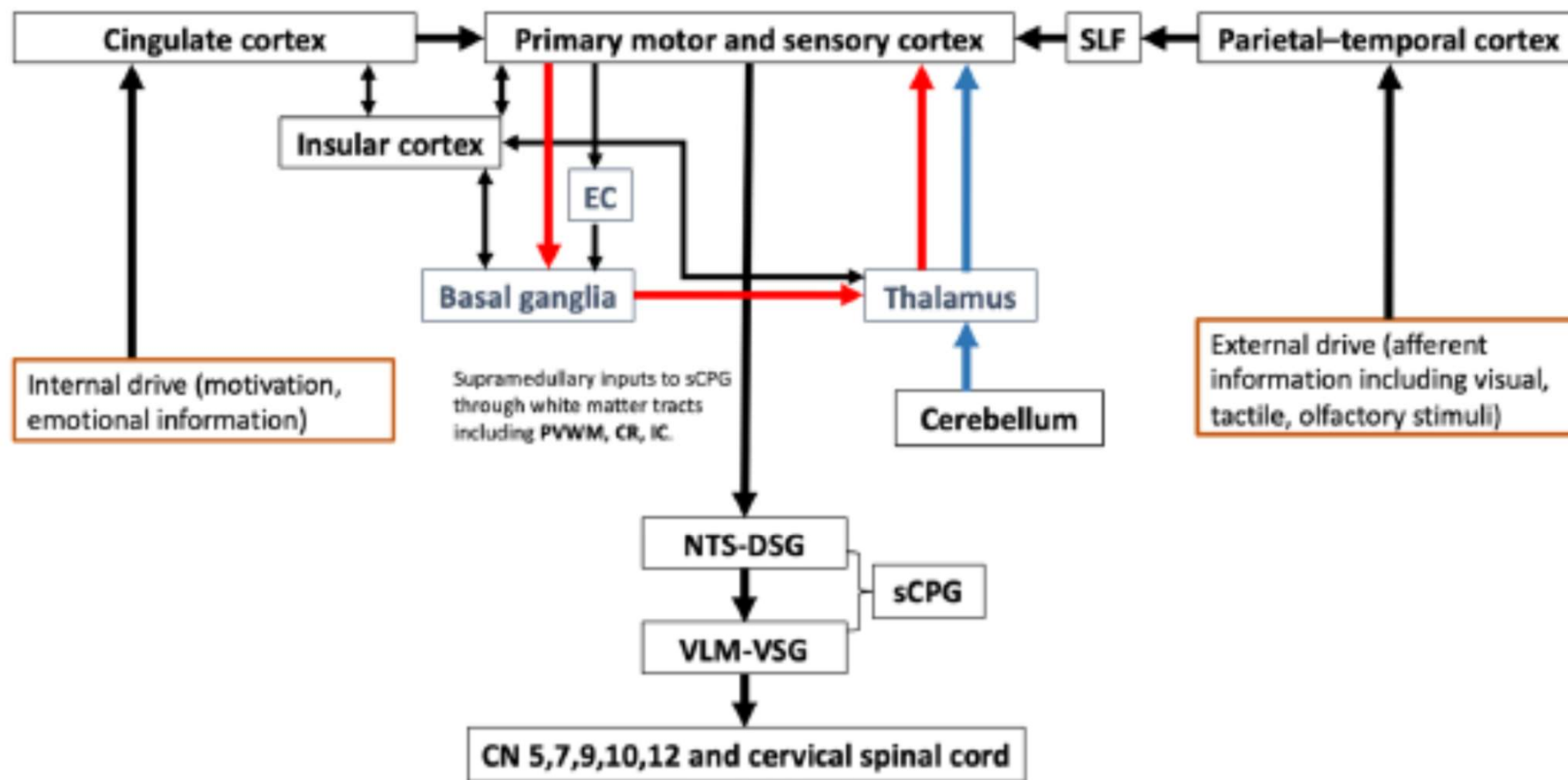
Five functional modules have been suggested:

1. **sensorimotor areas and cingulate cortex**, establishing a sensorimotor output for which other areas converge;
2. **inferior frontal gyrus, corpus callosum, basal ganglia and thalamus**, involved in movement planning and implementation to other voluntary motor behaviours;
3. **premotor cortex and posterior parietal cortex**, serving to integrate sensory information about the bolus with the internal representation of swallowing movements;
4. **cerebellum**, whose role is to facilitate modulation of the internal representation for swallowing and coordination among the multiple effectors and effectors states during swallowing;
5. **insula**, recruited for synchronizing the kinematics of the movements



## The Cortical and Subcortical Neural Control of Swallowing: A Narrative Review

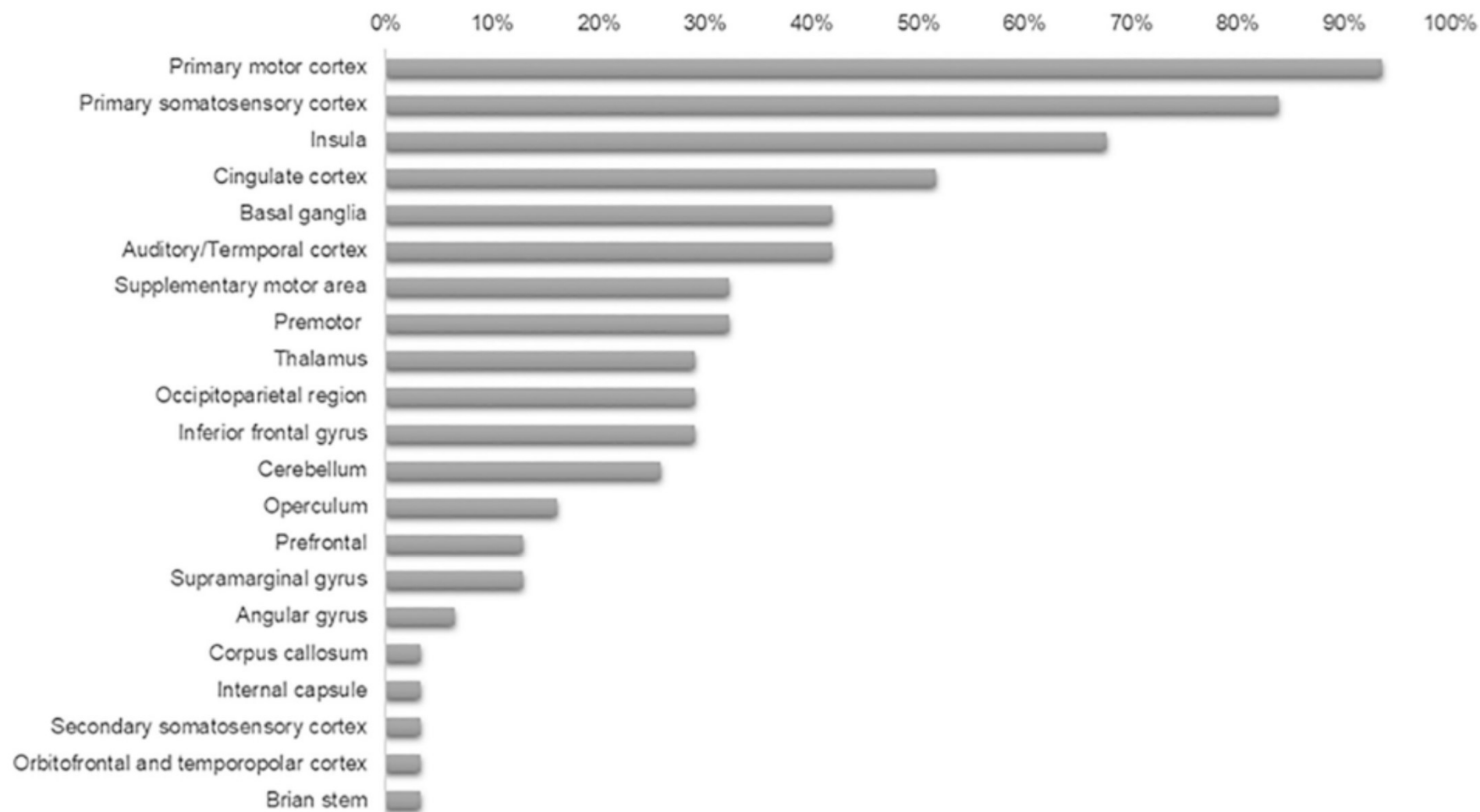
Kuo-Chang Wei<sup>2,3</sup> · Tyng-Guey Wang<sup>1,2</sup> · Ming-Yen Hsiao<sup>1,2</sup>



# Cerebral control of swallowing: An update on neurobehavioral evidence

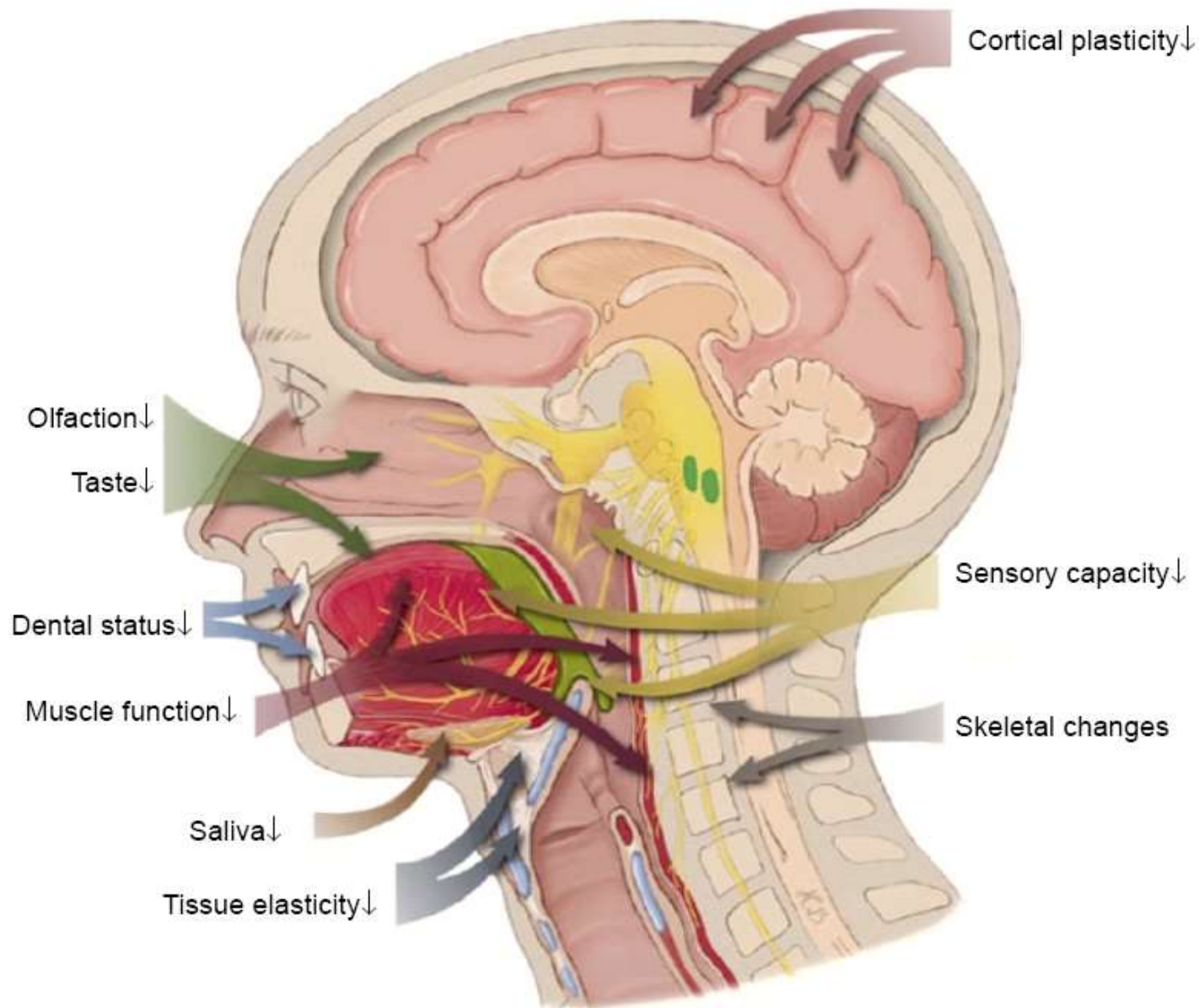


Ivy Cheng<sup>a,\*</sup>, Kazutaka Takahashi<sup>b</sup>, Arthur Miller<sup>c</sup>, Shaheen Hamdy<sup>a</sup>



# OUTLINE

- Swallowing and body functions
- The oral phase
- The pharyngeal phase
- The esophageal phase
- The neural circuits underlying swallowing
- **Swallowing physiology in the elderly**



**Figure 1** Factors associated with dysphagia in older persons.

**Note:** ↓ Indicates decreased function. Modified from Muhle P, Wirth R, Glahn J, Dziewas R. [Age-related changes in swallowing. Physiology and pathophysiology]. *Nervenarzt*. 2015;86(4):440–451.<sup>29</sup>

# ANATOMIC AND PHYSIOLOG CHANGES DURING AGING

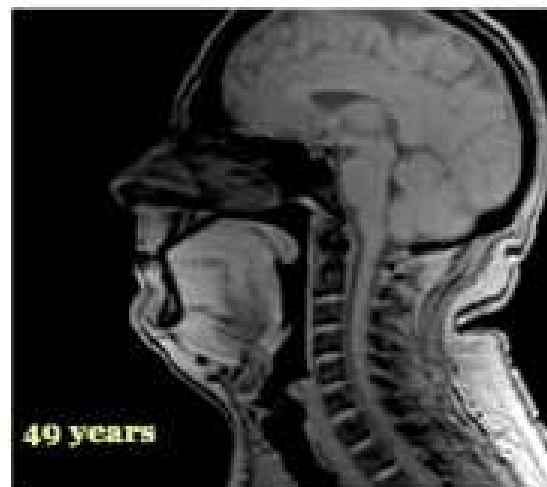
1. Teeth loss
2. Tongue weakness
3. Laryngeal weakness
4. Olfaction reduction
5. Oral sensibility reduction
6. Laryngeal sensibility reduction





## Upper Aerodigestive Tract Neurofunctional Mechanisms: Lifelong Evolution and Exercise

JoAnne Robbins, Ph.D.<sup>1,2</sup>

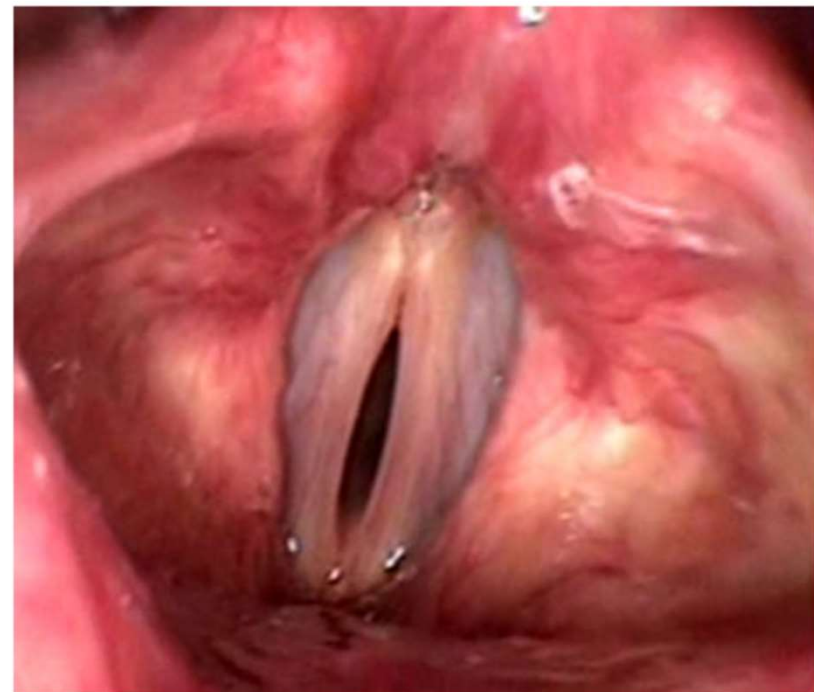


Aging Clin Exp Res (2014) 26:1–5  
DOI 10.1007/s40520-013-0143-5

REVIEW

## **Aging voice: presbyphonia**

**Regina Helena Garcia Martins · Tatiana Maria Gonçalves ·  
Adriana Bueno Benito Pessin · Anete Branco**



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## Aging Voice and the Laryngeal Muscle Atrophy

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Regina Helena Garcia Martins, MD, PhD; Adriana Bueno Benito Pessin, PhD; Douglas Jorge Nassib;  
Anete Branco, PhD; Sergio Augusto Rodrigues, PhD; Selma Maria Michelim Matheus, PhD

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TABLE I.  
Measure of the Muscle Fiber Diameter (Mean  $\pm$  SD,  $\mu\text{m}$ ) in Both Genders and Age Groups.

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Age Groups (years)	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
30–50	17.214 $\mu\text{m} \pm 1.139$	15.565 $\mu\text{m} \pm 1.899$	16.389 $\mu\text{m} \pm 1.713$
60–75	14.354 $\mu\text{m} \pm 0.627$	14.471 $\mu\text{m} \pm 0.699$	14.412 $\mu\text{m} \pm 0.617^*$
76–90	14.309 $\mu\text{m} \pm 0.452$	14.016 $\mu\text{m} \pm 0.921$	14.162 $\mu\text{m} \pm 0.701^*$
Total	15.292 $\mu\text{m} \pm 1.595$	14.684 $\mu\text{m} \pm 1.365$	14.988 $\mu\text{m} \pm 1.486$

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Statistical analysis:  $P = 0.174$  between groups  $\times$  gender;  $P = 0.131$  between genders;  $P < 0.01$  between age groups (\*).  
SD = standard deviation.

# Hyaluronic Acid Behavior in the Lamina Propria of the Larynx with Advancing Age

Anete Branco<sup>1</sup>, Sergio Augusto Rodrigues<sup>2</sup>,  
Alexandre Todorovic Fabro, MD, PhD<sup>3</sup>,  
Carlos Eduardo Fonseca-Alves<sup>4</sup>, and  
Regina Helena Garcia Martins, MD, PhD<sup>5</sup>

**Table 1.** Mean and Standard Deviation (SD) of Hyaluronic Acid (HA) Density, as Area Percentage (%), According to the Age Range and the Lamina Propria Layers.<sup>a</sup>

Age Range (years)	Mean and SD	
	Superficial Layer	Deep Layer
30-50	41.6 (10.8) <sup>B</sup>	38.5 (10.1) <sup>B</sup>
60-75	26.7 (6.1) <sup>A</sup>	24.6 (4.1) <sup>A</sup>
>76	21.8 (5.7) <sup>A</sup>	24.1(4.6) <sup>A</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Two frequencies followed by the same letter do not differ concerning to the respective age groups (lines) ( $p > .05$ ). Two frequencies followed by the same letter do not differ concerning to the layers (columns) ( $p > .05$ ), Goodman test.



# Scanning Electron Microscopy of the Presbylarynx

Tatiana Maria Gonçalves, MD<sup>1</sup>, Daniela Carvalho dos Santos, PhD<sup>2</sup>,  
Adriana Bueno Benito Pessin, PhD<sup>1</sup>, and  
Regina Helena Garcia Martins, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>

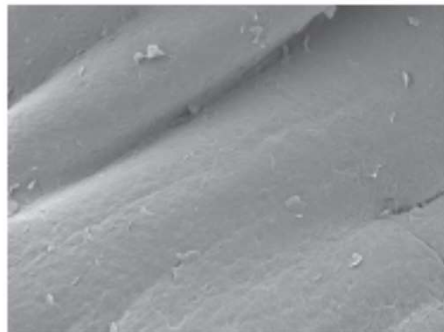


Figure 2. Control group: surface of vocal fold with mild mucosal undulation and some desquamation cells. Scanning electron microscopy, magnification 300 $\times$ .

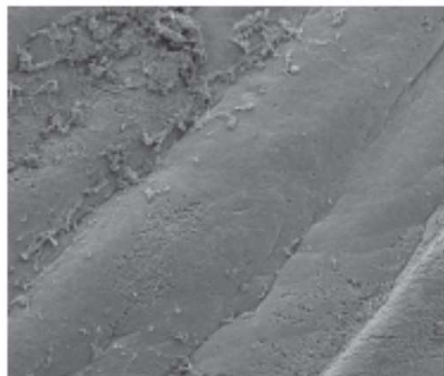


Figure 3. Elderly group: surface of the covering mucosa of the vocal folds more folded and with more desquamation cells. Scanning electron microscopy, magnification 300 $\times$ .

had soft undulation and few desquamation cells (Figure 2).



Figure 4. Control group: epithelial surface of vocal fold highlighting the microfolds and protruding intercellular junctions. Scanning electron microscopy, magnification 4000 $\times$ .

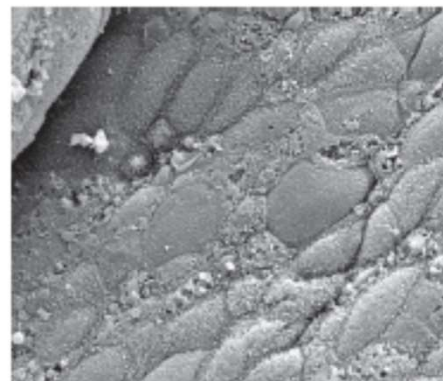
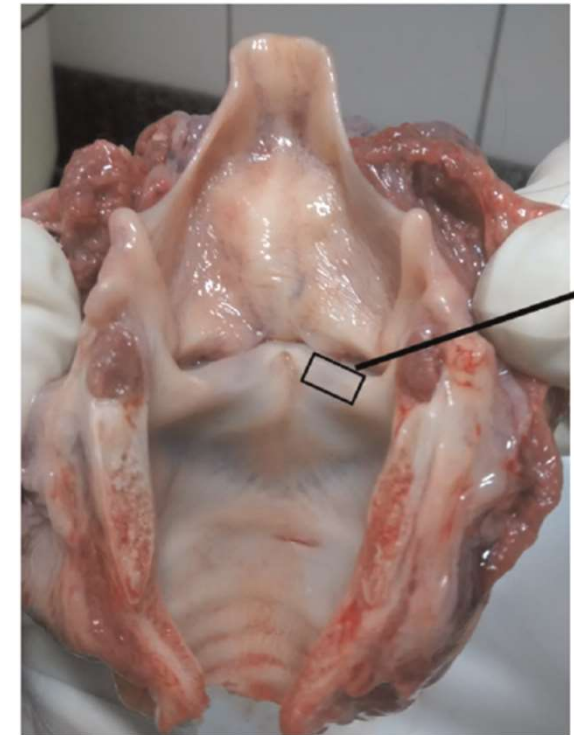


Figure 5. Elderly group: epithelium with well-demarcated cells, separated by deep sulci. Scanning electron microscopy, magnification 4000 $\times$ .



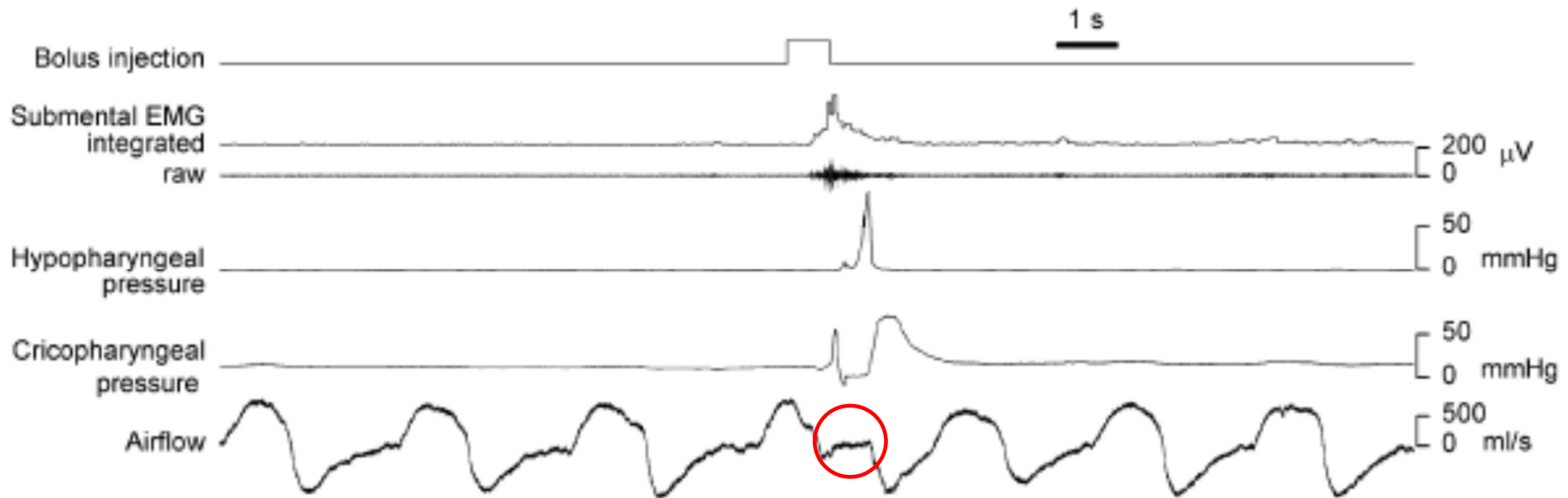
## BIOMECHANIC MODIFICATIONS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Reduced ISOMETRIC tongue strength (unchanged swallowing strength) → reduced functional reserve |  |
| 2. Prolonged oral phase   |  |
| 3. Delayed swallowing reflex  |  |
| 4. Reduced opening times of the UES   | →  |
| 5. Reduced pharyngeal peristalsis   |  |
| 6. Reduced laryngeal elevation  |  |
|   | INCREASED RESIDUE                        |
|   | INCREASED RISK OF PENETRATION/ASPIRATION |

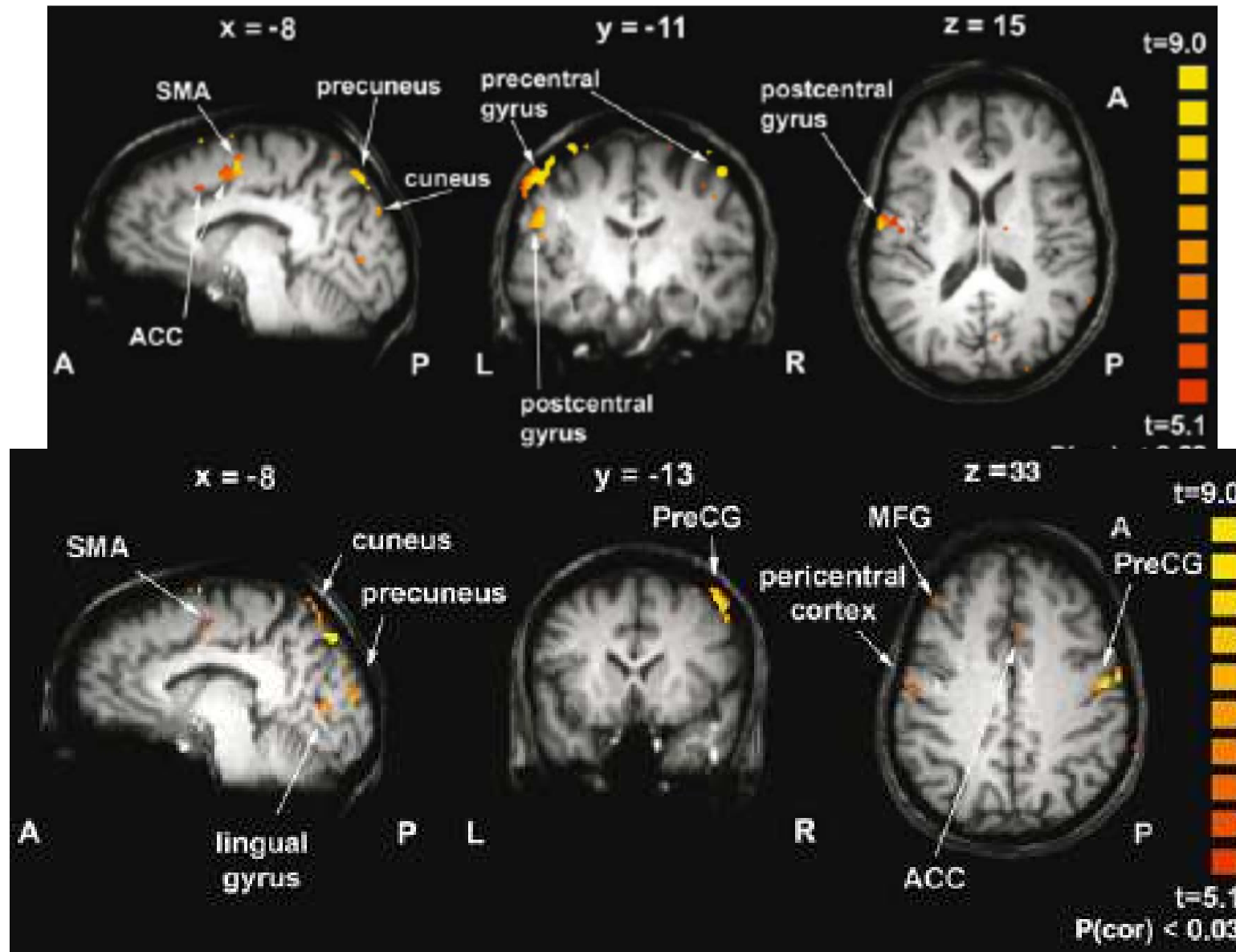
*(Schindler et al; in Deglutologia II ed, 2011)*

# SWALLOWING-BREATHING COHORDINATION

In the elderly swallowing apnea duration increases, respiratory frequency increases, oxygen saturation decreases



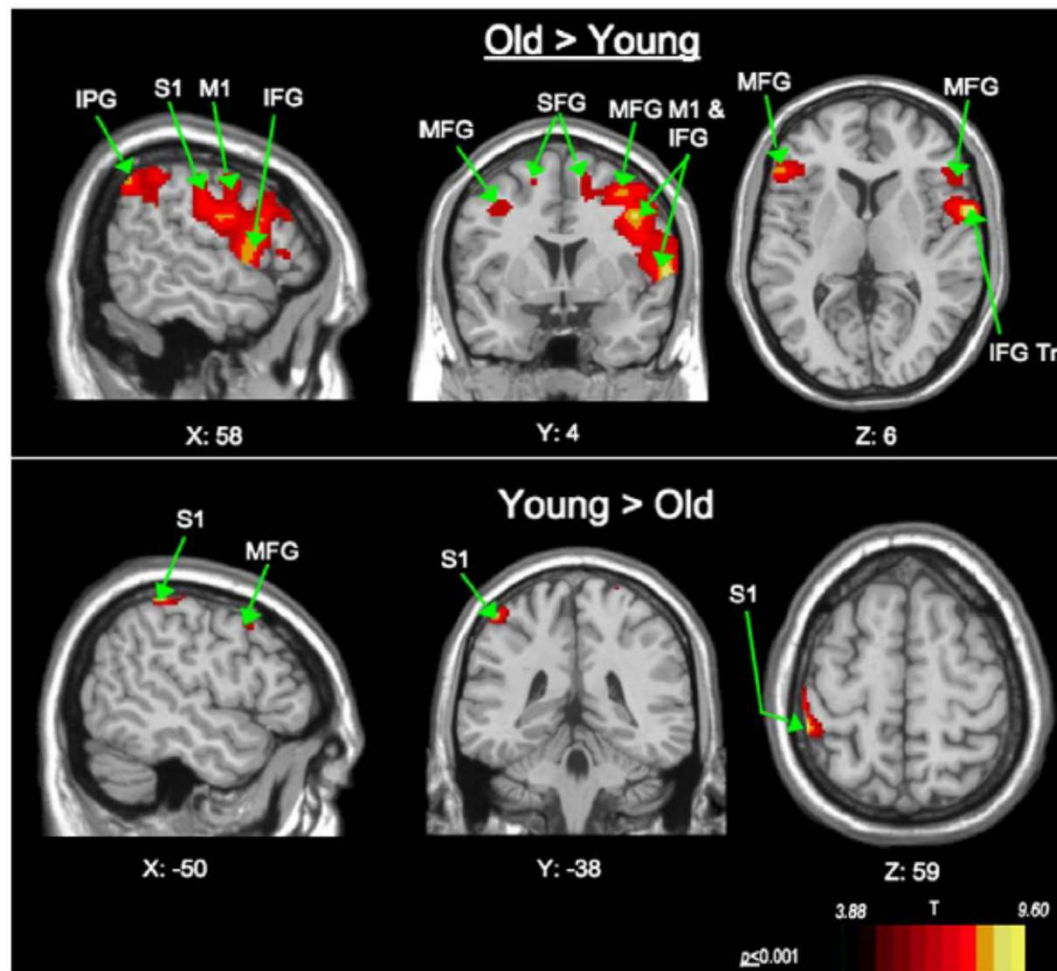
# BRAIN ACTIVITY IN THE ELDERLY



Brain activation in voluntary swallowing of water: increased activation compared to saliva swallowing



# INCREASED BRAIN ACTIVITY IN THE ELDERLY



Older subjects recruit significantly larger regions of the supratentorial brain

(Humbert et al; Neuroimage 2009; 44: 982-991)

# REDUCED FUNCTIONAL RESERVE

