



History & Physical Examination of Gastrointestinal system

Dysphagia (difficulty in swallowing): and odynophagia

(pain on swallowing) are important symptoms of underlying organic disease. It is important to examine such patients carefully for likely causes, particularly cancer.

Chief Complain : Difficulty in swallowing	
Question	Indications
Do you have trouble swallowing solids or liquids, Or both solid and liquid?	<u>Solid only</u> (<i>mechanical problem suggest cancer or stricture</i>) <u>Both</u> (<i>motor problem e.g.: Achalasia</i>) <u>Achalasia</u> : <i>loss the ability to squeeze the food</i>
Where does the hold-up occur (please point to the area)?	(Pointing to the lower esophagus suggests mechanical obstruction in the lower esophagus)
Is the trouble swallowing intermittent or persistent?	(Intermittent suggests eosinophilic esophagitis [EoE])
Has the problem been getting progressively worse?	Suggest cancer or stricture.
Do you cough or choke on starting to swallow?	(This suggests oropharyngeal dysphagia)
Is it painful to swallow (odynophagia)?	This suggests acute inflammation of the esophagus.
Do you have any heartburn or acid regurgitation?	Suggests <u>GORD</u> or <u>GERD</u>
Have you been losing weight?	(Worry about cancer)
Do you have asthma or fever?	(This would be further supportive of eosinophilic esophagitis [EoE])

Past Medical History	
Do you have medical problems such as diabetes mellitus, AIDS, neuromuscular disorders	
Past Surgical History	
Have you had surgery on your larynx, esophagus, stomach, or spine?	
Medication	
Ask specifically about potassium chloride, alendronate, ferrous sulfate, quinidine, ascorbic acid, tetracycline, aspirin and NSAIDs)	
Family History	
Does anyone of your family members have similar problem?	
Social History	
Systemic Review	





Done By:

**Hamad Al-Dosari
Budoor Al-Salman
Ghadah Abdulaziz
Abdulaziz Islam**