



# **The Study Among Dysphagia in Acute Psychiatric Ward Inpatients**

Ching-Fane Chen, RN

Department of nursing, Taichung  
Veterans General Hospital, Taichung,  
Taiwan



# *Learning Objective*

- 💡 What are the **high risks** of dysphagia in psychiatric inpatients?
- 💡 How to prevent the risks of dysphagia in psychiatric inpatients?





Veterans General Hospital  
Taichung,



Psychiatric Ward









Choking, Aspiration pneumonia





# Purpose

Dysphagia ~ Psychiatric





# Study Aims

To understand the relationship of dysphagia among psychiatric inpatients.



```
graph TD; disease((disease)) --- dysphagia((dysphagia)); medicine((medicine)) --- dysphagia; other_factors((Other factors)) --- dysphagia
```

disease

dysphagia

medicine

Other  
factors



# Methods

## Time:

June of 2010 to May of 2011

## Who:

250 patients who admitted in acute psychiatric ward

## How: interviewed

dysphagia, choking experiences

:examined

extra-pyramidal syndrome, parkinsonism and tardive dyskinesia.



shutterstock

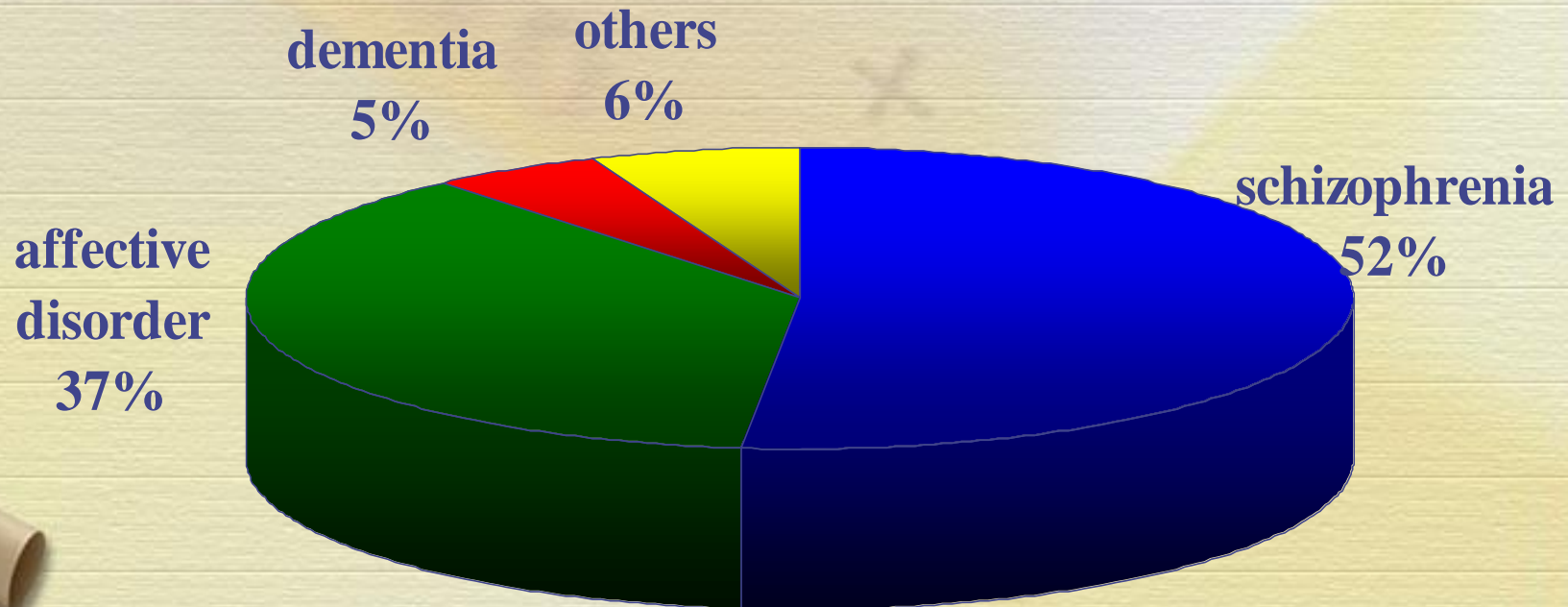


A collage featuring a man in a suit, a roll of paper, and a pen. The man is in the top left, looking at a laptop. The roll of paper is in the center, and the pen is in the bottom left. The background is a light green textured surface with four white circles.

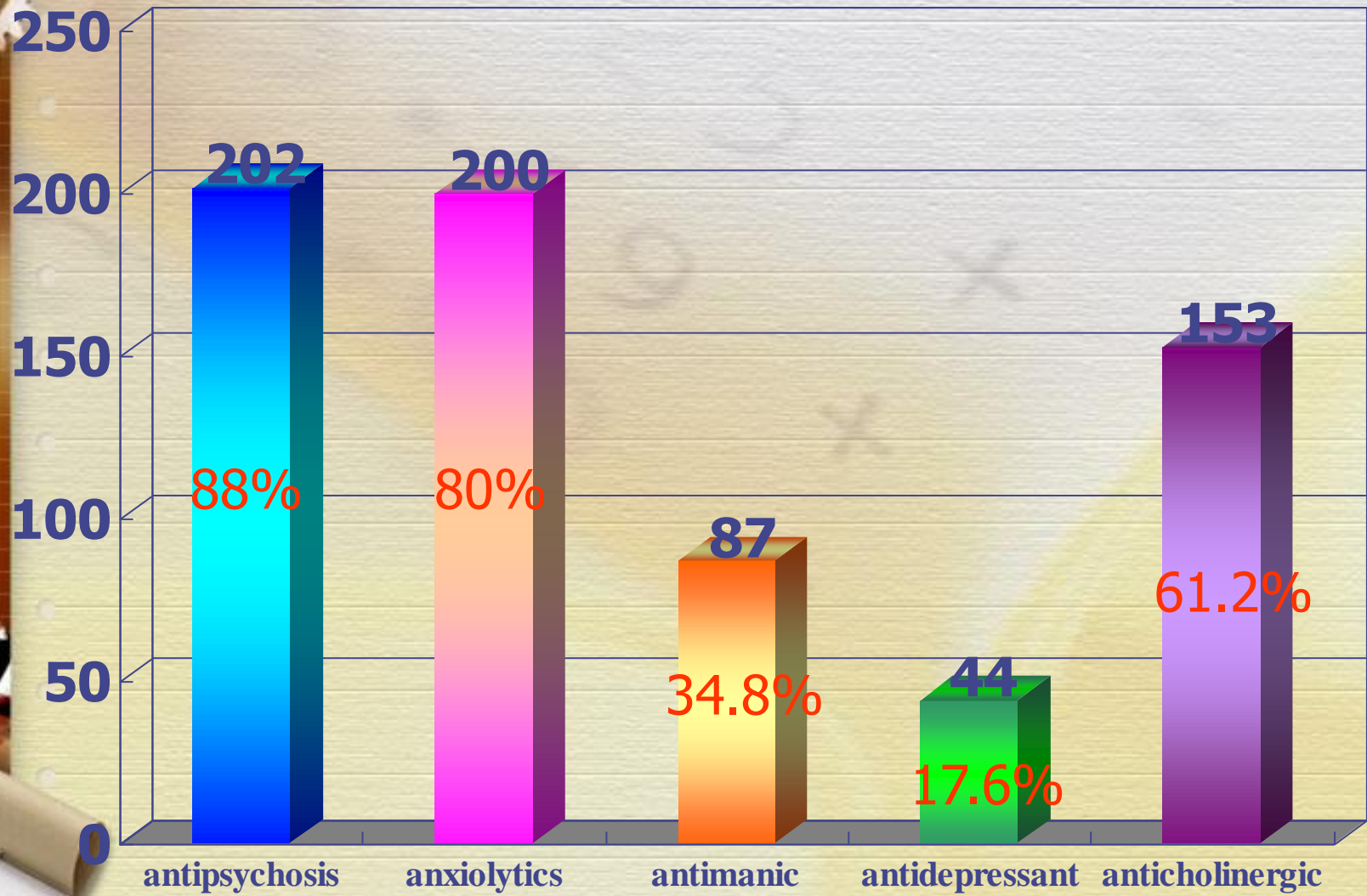
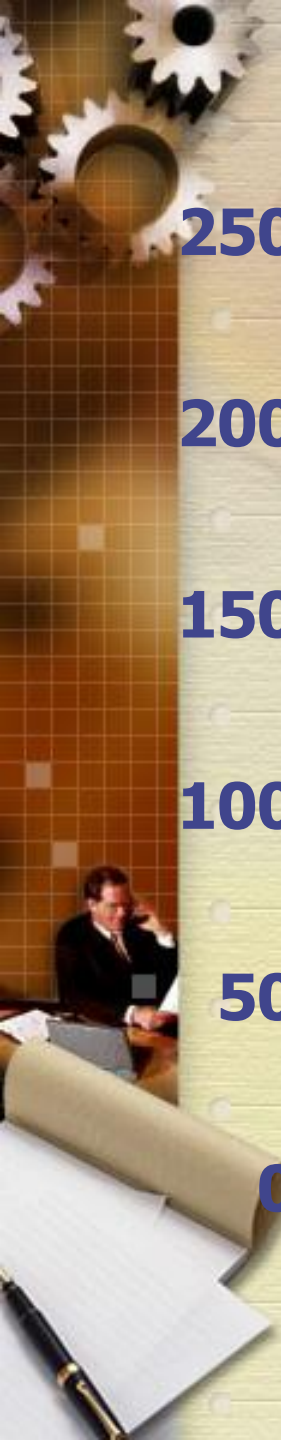


# Results

Variable	Mean (SD)	Maximum
Age	41.81 (14.67)	85
Hospitalization days	19.51 (13.74)	69



**Diagnosis**

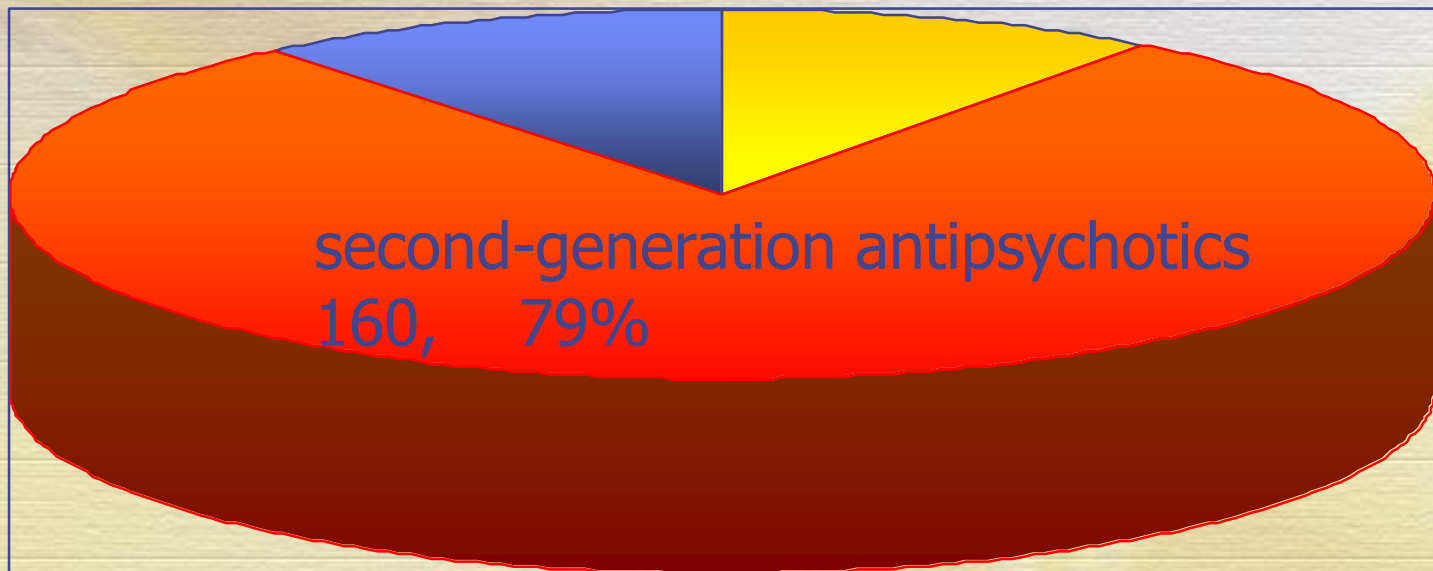


**medicine**



both  
antipsychosis,  
22, 11%

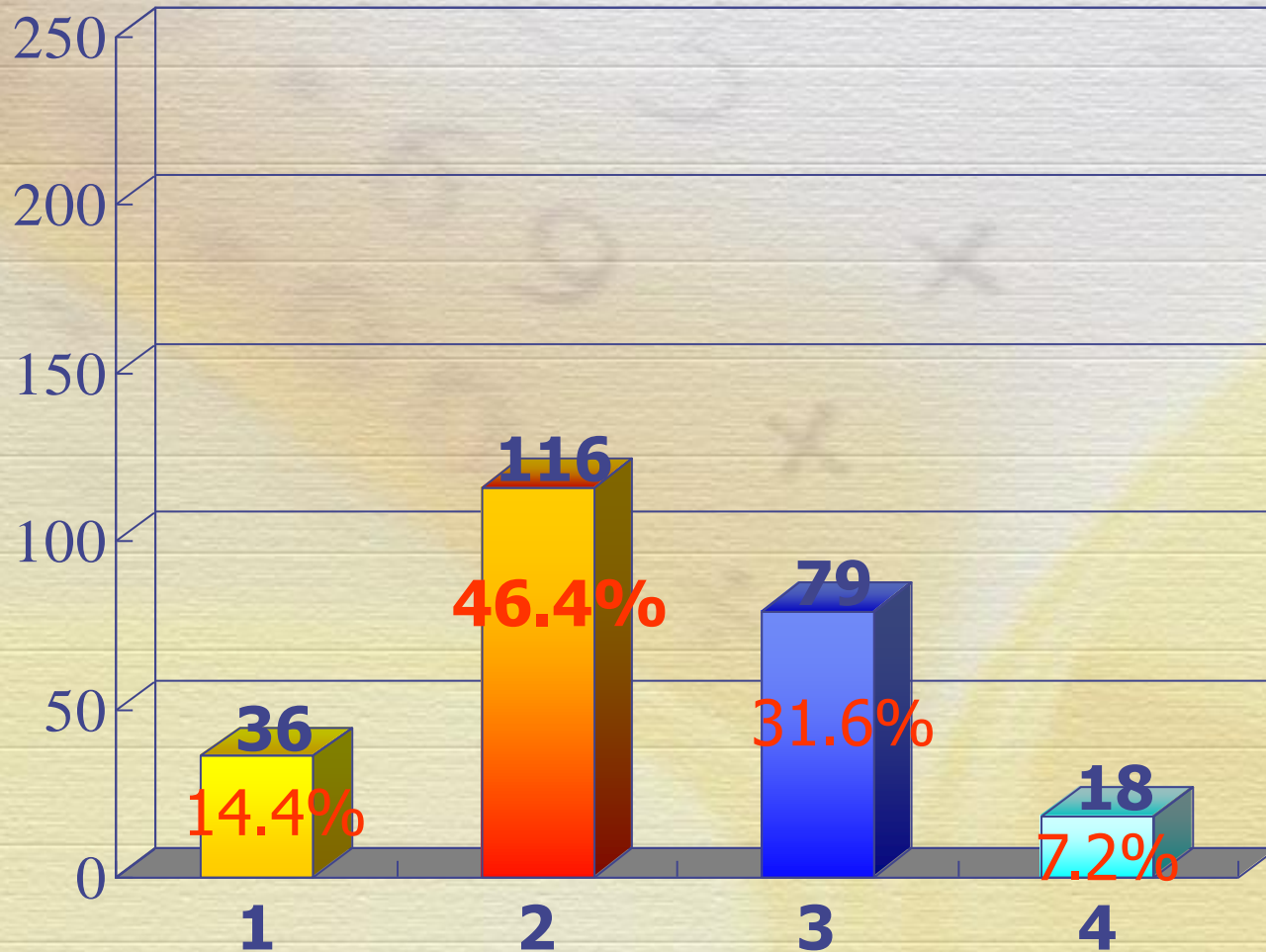
typical  
antipsychois,  
20, 10%



SGA, ...

## Antipsychotics Medicine

203 subjects (85.6%)  
used two or more types of psychiatric therapeutics.



**cumulative categories of psychiatric  
medicine**



A decorative background on the left side of the slide. It features a vertical strip with a grid pattern. At the top, there are several interlocking gears of different sizes. Below the gears, there is a small, dark, rectangular image of a person in a suit sitting at a desk and talking on a phone. At the bottom, there is a rolled-up piece of paper and a pen.

## Extra-pyramidal syndrome

Yes 84(33.6%)

No 166(66.4%)

## Parkinsonism

Yes 5(2%)

No 245(98%)




## Tardive dyskinesia

Yes 1(0.4%)

No 249(99.6%)

## Medicine Side Effects

# Diet

Food type	Intake status
Regular diet 206(82.4%) 	Normal 98(39.2%)
Semi-liquid diet 42(16.8%) 	Fast 99(39.6%)
Liquid diet 2(0.8%) 	Slow 53(21.2%)



The background of the slide features a collage of images. In the top left corner, there are several interlocking gears of different sizes. In the bottom left corner, there is a photograph of a man in a dark suit sitting at a desk, looking at a laptop. The overall background has a light, textured appearance with a grid pattern.

## Dysphsgia

Yes	38(15.2%)
-----	-----------

No	212(84.8%)
----	------------

## Choking experience

Yes	127(50.8%)
-----	------------

No	123(49.2%)
----	------------

## Choking when taking drugs

Yes	44(17.6%)
-----	-----------

No	206(82.4%)
----	------------

Table . Choking and diagnosis.

	Choking experience			dysphagia			Choking when taking drugs		
	No	Yes	P	No	Yes	P	No	Yes	P
Schizophrenia	63 (51.2%)	66(52.0%)	0.970	109(51.4%)	20(52.6%)	0.445	105(51.0%)	24(54.5%)	0.954
Affective disorder	45 (36.6%)	48(37.8%)		77(36.3%)	16(42.1%)		77(37.4%)	16(36.4%)	
Dementia	7 ( 5.7%)	6( 4.7%)		13( 6.1%)	0( 0.0%)		11( 5.3%)	2( 4.5%)	
Other mental disorder	8 ( 6.5%)	7( 5.5%)		13( 6.1%)	2( 5.3%)		13( 6.3%)	2( 4.5%)	
Physical disorder									
No	99(80.5%)	98(77.2%)	0.315	170(80.2%)	27(71.1%)	0.081	167(81.1%)	30(68.2%)	<b>0.010</b>
DM	13(10.6%)	7( 5.5%)		17( 8.0%)	3( 7.9%)		18( 8.7%)	2( 4.5%)	
Hypertension	3( 2.4%)	5( 3.9%)		6( 2.8%)	2( 5.3%)		4( 1.9%)	4( 9.1%)	
Cancer	0( 0.0%)	1( 0.8%)		0( 0.0%)	1( 2.6%)		0( 0.0%)	1( 2.3%)	
GI disorder	2( 1.6%)	4( 3.1%)		6( 2.8%)	0( 0.0%)		5( 2.4%)	1( 2.3%)	
Others	6( 4.9%)	12( 9.4%)		13( 6.1%)	5(13.2%)		12( 5.8%)	6(13.6%)	
Food intake habit									
Fast	53(43.1%)	45(35.4%)	0.314	87(41.0%)	11(28.9%)	0.281	82(39.8%)	16(36.4%)	0.670
Normal	43(35.0%)	56(44.1%)		83(39.2%)	16(42.1%)		79(38.3%)	20(45.5%)	
Slow	27(22.0%)	26(20.5%)		42(19.8%)	11(28.9%)		45(21.8%)	8(18.2%)	



Table . Choking and Medicine

	Choking experience		P	dysphagia		P	Choking when taking drugs		P
	No	Yes		No	Yes		No	Yes	
Antipsychotics									
No	26(21.1%)	22(17.3%)	0.778	39(18.4%)	9(23.7%)	0.774	43(20.9%)	5(11.4%)	0.132
atypical	78(63.4%)	82(64.6%)		136(64.2%)	24(63.2%)		125(60.7%)	35(79.5%)	
typital	10( 8.1%)	10( 7.9%)		17( 8.0%)	3( 7.9%)		18( 8.7%)	2( 4.5%)	
Both	9( 7.3%)	13(10.2%)		20( 9.4%)	2( 5.3%)		20( 9.7%)	2( 4.5%)	
Anticholinergics									
No	51(41.5%)	46(36.2%)	0.471	83(39.2%)	14(36.8%)	0.930	82(39.8%)	15(34.1%)	0.592
Yes	72(58.5%)	81(63.8%)		129(60.8%)	24(63.2%)		124(60.2%)	29(65.9%)	
Antipsychotics									
No	26(21.1%)	22(17.3%)	0.545	39(18.4%)	9(23.7%)	0.590	43(20.9%)	5(11.4%)	0.214
Yes	97(78.9%)	105(82.7%)		173(81.6%)	29(76.3%)		163(79.1%)	39(88.6%)	
Anxiolytics									
No	26(21.1%)	24(18.9%)	0.776	44(20.8%)	6(15.8%)	0.628	47(22.8%)	3( 6.8%)	0.028
Yes	97(78.9%)	103(81.1%)		168(79.2%)	32(84.2%)		159(77.2%)	41(93.2%)	
Antimaniacs									
No	82(66.7%)	81(63.8%)	0.729	137(64.6%)	26(68.4%)	0.789	133(64.6%)	30(68.2%)	0.777
Yes	41(33.3%)	46(36.2%)		75(35.4%)	12(31.6%)		73(35.4%)	14(31.8%)	
Antidepressants									
No	98(79.7%)	108(85.0%)	0.343	179(84.4%)	27(71.1%)	0.078	171(83.0%)	35(79.5%)	0.742
Yes	25(20.3%)	19(15.0%)		33(15.6%)	11(28.9%)		35(17.0%)	9(20.5%)	
Cumulative number of type of psychiatric therapeutics									
No	1( 0.8%)	0( 0.0%)	0.590	1( 0.5%)	0( 0.0%)	0.754	1( 0.5%)	0( 0.0%)	0.235
1	21(17.1%)	15(11.8%)		33(15.6%)	3( 7.9%)		34(16.5%)	2( 4.5%)	
2	53(43.1%)	63(49.6%)		96(45.3%)	20(52.6%)		96(46.6%)	20(45.5%)	
3	39(31.7%)	40(31.5%)		67(31.6%)	12(31.6%)		61(29.6%)	18(40.9%)	
4	9( 7.3%)	9( 7.1%)		15( 7.1%)	3( 7.9%)		14( 6.8%)	4( 9.1%)	

# Table. medicine side effects

		choking experience				p	dysphagia				p	choking when taking drugs				p
		No		Yes			No		Yes			No		Yes		
		N	%	N	%		N	%	N	%		N	%	N	%	
Food type	regular	106	86.2%	100	78.7%	0.288	182	85.8%	24	63.2%	0.001	175	85.0%	31	70.5%	0.002
	semi-liquid	16	13.0%	26	20.5%		28	13.2%	14	36.8%		31	15.0%	11	25.0%	
	liquid	1	0.8%	1	0.8%		2	0.9%	0	0.0%		0	0.0%	2	4.5%	
EPS	No	80	65.0%	86	67.7%	0.754	145	68.4%	21	55.3%	0.164	136	66.0%	30	68.2%	0.920
	Yes	43	35.0%	41	32.3%		67	31.6%	17	44.7%		70	34.0%	14	31.8%	
Increase Saliva	No	106	86.2%	90	70.9%	0.005	169	79.7%	27	71.1%	0.327	167	81.1%	29	65.9%	0.044
	Yes	17	13.8%	37	29.1%		43	20.3%	11	28.9%		39	18.9%	15	34.1%	
food clogged	No	111	90.2%	87	68.5%	0.000	183	86.3%	15	39.5%	0.000	165	80.1%	33	75.0%	0.581
	Yes	12	9.8%	40	31.5%		29	13.7%	23	60.5%		41	19.9%	11	25.0%	
Parkinsonism	No	120	97.6%	125	98.4%	0.680	207	97.6%	38	100.0%	1.000	204	99.0%	41	93.2%	0.039
	Yes	3	2.4%	2	1.6%		5	2.4%	0	0.0%		2	1.0%	3	6.8%	
Tardive Dyskinesia	No	122	99.2%	127	100.0%	0.492	211	99.5%	38	100.0%	1.000	205	99.5%	44	100.0%	1.000
	Yes	1	0.8%	0	0.0%		1	0.5%	0	0.0%		1	0.5%	0	0.0%	
Cough when eating	No	123	100.0%	112	88.2%	0.000	198	93.4%	37	97.4%	0.480	201	97.6%	34	77.3%	0.000
	Yes	0	0.0%	15	11.8%		14	6.6%	1	2.6%		5	2.4%	10	22.7%	
Swallow	No	121	98.4%	119	93.7%	0.103	207	97.6%	33	86.8%	0.009	202	98.1%	38	86.4%	0.003
	Yes	2	1.6%	8	6.3%		5	2.4%	5	13.2%		4	1.9%	6	13.6%	





# Discussion

Dysphagia is a common status in psychiatric patients.



# Discussion

Is dysphagia due to ?

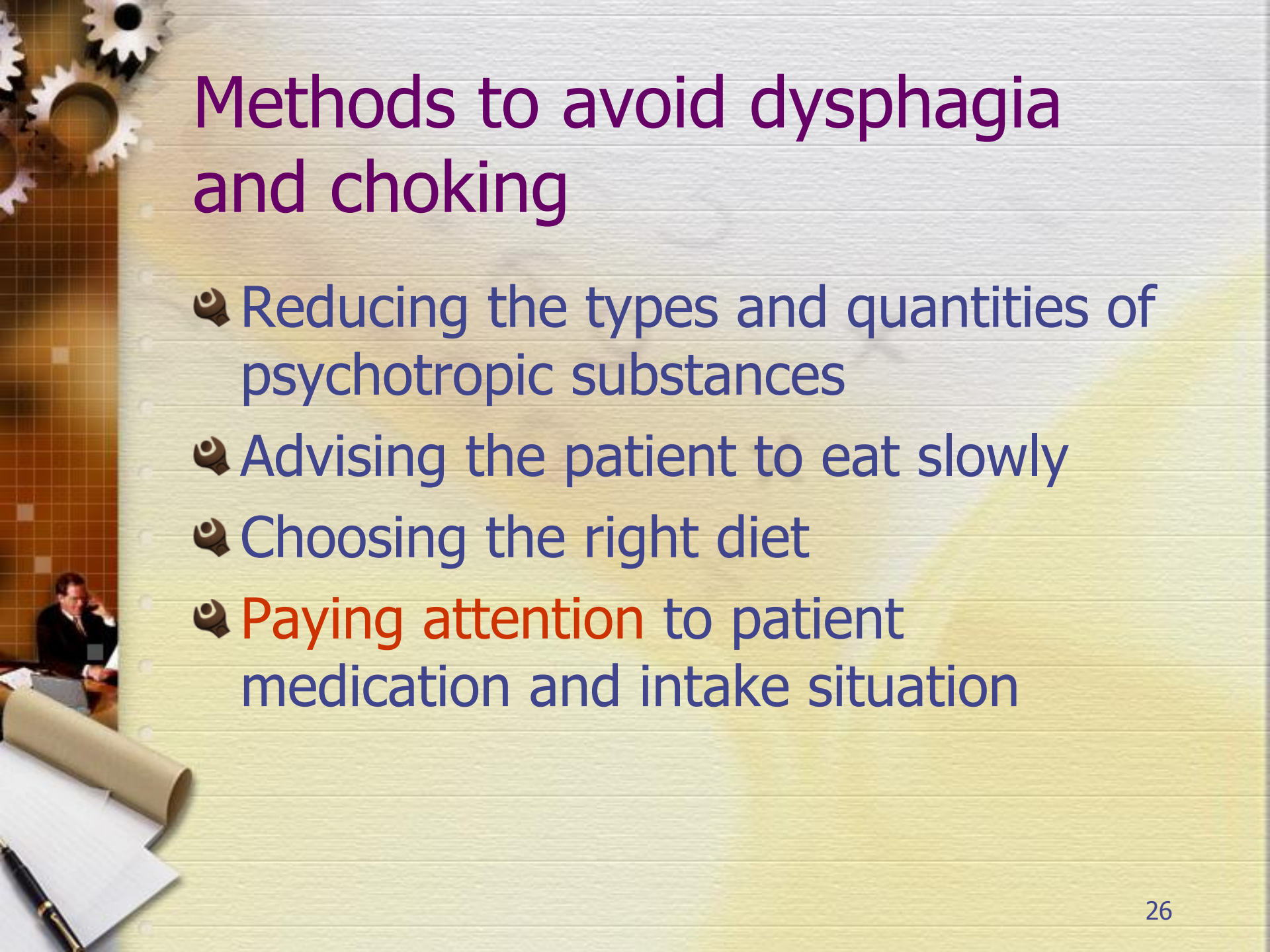
- 💡 a large number of psychotropic drugs
- 💡 medicine side effects
- 💡 food type
- 💡 fast eating behavior

**Limit?**



# Discussion

Dysphagia  $\propto$  choking ?



# Methods to avoid dysphagia and choking

- ❁ Reducing the types and quantities of psychotropic substances
- ❁ Advising the patient to eat slowly
- ❁ Choosing the right diet
- ❁ **Paying attention** to patient medication and intake situation











Thank you  
for your attention

