

Penetration-Aspiration Scale

PENETRATION-ASPIRATION SCALE

Name: _____ Date of birth: _____ dd / mm / yyyy

The following shows the Penetration-Aspiration Scale (PAS) which is used in accordance with a videofluoroscopic swallow study to determine an individual's swallowing function. The scale uses an 8-point ordinal scale, with 1 representing the least and 8, the highest or most severe scores.

PA Scale Score

- ☐ 1 - No contrast enters the airway
- ☐ 2 - Contrast enters the airway, remains above the vocal folds, and is ejected from the airway (not seen in the airways at the end of the swallow)
- ☐ 3 - Contrast enters the airway, remains above the vocal folds, and is ejected from the airway
- ☐ 4 - Contrast enters the airway, contacts the vocal folds, and is ejected from the airway
- ☐ 5 - Contrast enters the airway, contacts the vocal folds, and is not ejected from the airway
- ☐ 6 - Contrast enters the airway, crosses the plane of the vocal folds, and is ejected from the airway
- ☐ 7 - Contrast enters the airway, crosses the plane of the vocal folds, and is not ejected from the airway despite effort
- ☐ 8 - Contrast enters the airway, crosses the plane of the vocal folds, is not ejected from the airway and there is no response to aspiration

Score: _____

The following diagram can be used to assist in determining which score is related to the patient (Alkhuwaiter et al., 2022).