

Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice
Spring Grove Hospital Center, 55 Wade Avenue, Tuerk Building – 2nd Floor
Baltimore, MD 21228
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FEEDING AND SWALLOWING THERAPY

OT AND OTA AUTHORITY TO PERFORM

POSITION STATEMENT

1. It is the position of the Board of Occupational Therapy Practice that feeding and swallowing therapy is within the scope of practice of occupational therapy. Licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants are authorized to carry out a treatment program to remediate or restore performance abilities in the functional areas of swallowing, feeding, and eating that are limited due to impairment in biological, physiological, psychological or neurological processes.

[Annotated Code of Maryland, Health Occupations Article, Title 10, Definitions (10-101)]

2. Swallowing therapy must be provided consistent with the Code of Ethics. The Code of Ethics requires a licensee to provide the highest quality services to the client, and seek a consultation with or refer the client to an appropriate health care professional if the licensee determines that the licensee cannot effectively manage the client's needs. In addition, a licensee is prohibited from providing a service that is not within the licensee's demonstrated competencies.

[COMAR 10.46.02.01A (2) (8); COMAR 10.46.02.01 C (3)]

5/18/07 Approved by the Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice