

Voice and Swallowing

The larynx or voice box as it is known is the primary organ responsible for voice production and for normal swallowing. **The Voice and Swallowing Center** treats a broad range of conditions affecting the larynx.

- ❖ **Chronic Hoarseness**
- ❖ **Vocal Nodules**
- ❖ **Reflux**
- ❖ **Vocal Fold Paralysis**
- ❖ **Spasmodic Dysphonia**
- ❖ **Vocal Polyps**
- ❖ **Singer's Voice Problems**
- ❖ **Aspiration**
- ❖ **Vocal Fold Cysts**
- ❖ **Bowed Vocal Folds**
- ❖ **Voice Misuse**
- ❖ **Difficulty Swallowing**



View of the vocal folds using strobovideolaryngoscopy to reveal slight asymmetry responsible for lack of vocal fold closure and breathy singing voice quality.

About the Medical Director

Jonathan Aviv, MD, FACS,



is Professor of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery and Director, Division of Laryngology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. Dr Aviv is the inventor and developer of the endoscopic air-pulse laryngeal sensory testing technology. He is the Chairman of the Speech, Voice and Swallowing Committee of the American Academy of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery and is also Technical Advisor to the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research branch of the Department of Health and Human Services regarding swallowing problems in the elderly.

About the Clinical Director

Thomas Murry, PhD



is Professor of Speech Pathology at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. He received a master's degree in communication sciences from Ohio State University and doctorate in speech physiology from the University of Florida, Gainesville. He is a Fellow of the American Speech, Language and Hearing Association and a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of The Voice Foundation. Dr. Murry previously was the Associate Director of the University of Pittsburgh Voice Center and Director of the UPMC Swallowing Disorders Center.



Voice and Swallowing Center

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

Columbia University
At
New York Presbyterian Hospital

**CONSULTATION
ASSESSMENT
EVALUATION
TREATMENT
RESEARCH**



16 East 60th Street
New York, NY 10022

To Our Patients

The **Voice and Swallowing Center** at Columbia University is dedicated to the evaluation and treatment of voice and swallowing and to further the understanding of the voice and swallowing systems through education.

The **Center** consists of a team of nationally recognized individuals, state of the art diagnostic technology and the resources of New York Presbyterian Hospital to offer comprehensive and complete care of the voice and swallowing systems.



A close up view of the vocal folds taken in the office showing a small polyp on the right vocal fold.

Voice Care

The **Voice and Swallowing Center** has the expertise to diagnose and manage a wide variety of voice problems:

Diagnostic visit

For each patient, a thorough history is the first part of each evaluation. This is followed by a comprehensive assessment.

- ❖ Voice Handicap Survey
- ❖ Video Strobolaryngoscopy
- ❖ Acoustic Analysis
- ❖ Voice Profile
- ❖ Aerodynamic Evaluation
- ❖ Vocal Performance Evaluation
- ❖ Trial Voice Therapy

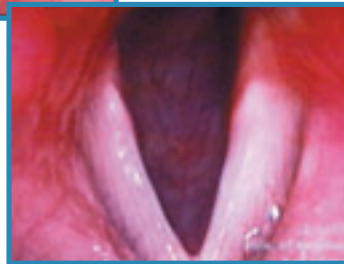
Treatments

A wide range of treatments is available at the Center.

- ❖ Behavioral Voice Therapy
- ❖ Pharmacologic Intervention
- ❖ Phonosurgery
- ❖ Botulinum Toxin (Botox)
- ❖ Laryngeal Framework Surgery
- ❖ Laryngeal Reconstruction
- ❖ Post Cancer Voice Rehabilitation



Pre and post treatment for a patient with vocal fold nodules.



Notice the nodules seen on the upper photo are resolved on the lower photo.

Special Services

Emergency care

Singers, public speakers, clergy and others often find themselves “**without a voice**” when they need it the most. Comprehensive emergency care in the office can be arranged at a moment’s notice.

Education

The Voice Care Team is nationally and internationally recognized for their education and research activities. They have traveled world wide to educate others in the care of the voice.

VOICE AND SWALLOWING CENTER

Visit our website www.entcolumbia.org for more information or to make an appointment call (212) 326-8475

Swallowing Care

For people with difficulty swallowing or acid reflux disease, the Voice and Swallowing Center offers FEESST (Flexible Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing with Sensory Testing)

Who is a candidate for a swallowing evaluation?

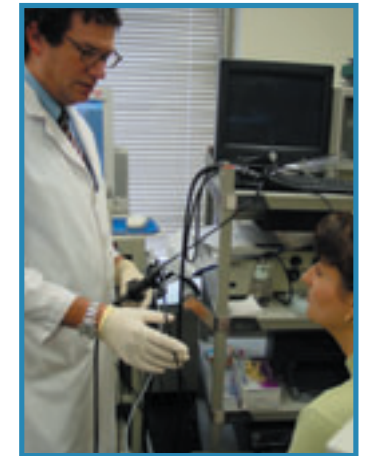
Patients who complain of difficulty or pain when swallowing liquid, food or medications or suffer from frequent choking during meals may benefit from a swallowing examination. This also includes patients having a history of swallowing difficulty related to acid reflux disease (heartburn), Parkinson’s Disease, Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis or ALS (Lou Gehrig’s Disease). Swallowing problems may also develop after sickness, surgery or changes in medications.



Endoscopic view of a larynx injured by acid reflux.

What is FEESST?

FEESST is a state-of-the-art non-radioactive alternative to modified barium swallow studies. This exam allows for direct assessment of the motor and sensory aspects of the swallow. FEESST also allows evaluations of manifestations of gastro-esophageal reflux disease.



What are the benefits of FEESST?

- ❖ Immediate results with convenient outpatient, in-office procedure.
- ❖ Practical recommendations for dietary and behavioral management of people already taking food by mouth.
- ❖ Assistance in dietary upgrade or oral feeding in people who are on gastrostomy tube feedings.
- ❖ Identification of specific swallowing therapies most useful for swallow rehabilitation.