

# A New Way To Improve Confidence In Staff Members Involved In Dysphagia Management.

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## Introduction

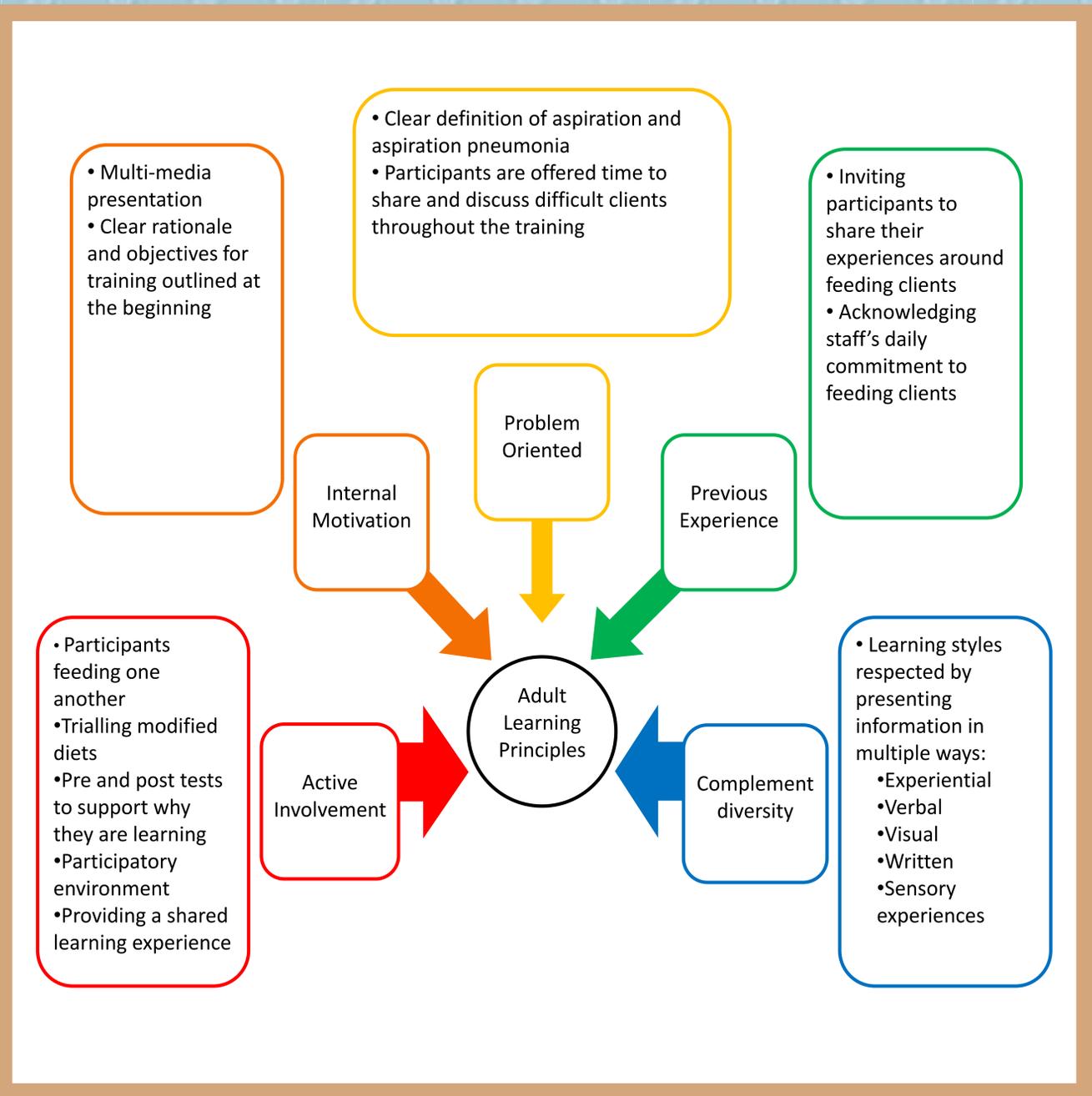
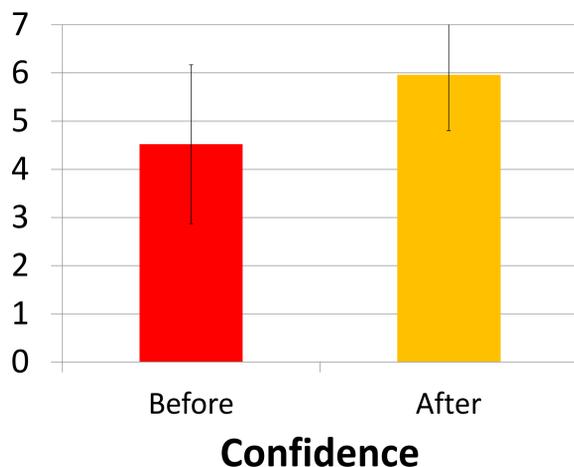
TBI clients often have trouble swallowing. This can create a risk for aspiration. Proper positioning during feeding plays a role in improving swallowing capacity<sup>3</sup>. A formal swallowing training programme was created for all staff and is provided during orientation and on a yearly basis. This training programme involves components of adult learning principles<sup>1</sup>. The aim was to increase overall confidence of all staff involved in feeding clients.

## Methods

A survey was provided to all staff that completed the training asking their level of confidence in dealing with eating and swallowing difficulties before and after the training. This was on a 7-point Likert scale and was completed retrospectively.

## Results

27 surveys were returned and a t-test was completed to determine the statistical significance of the difference between the confidence before and after the swallowing training. This was statistically significant ( $p < .001$ ).



## Discussion

The overall increased confidence of staff members following the swallowing training can be attributed to the type of training methods using the five adult learning principles.

- ✓ Increased reporting of incidents
- ✓ Knowledge
- ✓ Confidence
- ✓ Improved risk management



### References

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