



**PHYSICIAN CERTIFICATION OF NECESSITY FOR FIBEROPTIC ENDOSCOPIC
EVALUATION OF SWALLOWING (FEES)**

During these unprecedented times, many nursing homes prefer to bring SDX FEES into their facility instead of exposing residents to external factors that are out of their control. With this and safety in mind as our #1 priority for our staff and for your residents, SDX will still perform onsite FEES following a pre-scheduling screening and with this completed physician certification of medical necessity.

BACKGROUND:

Both the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery in conjunction with CMS guidance recommend postponing unnecessary endoscopic procedures. Those endoscopists performing even routine FEES procedures are at risk for exposure to a high viral load in the nasopharynx; thus, we will scope only residents that are asymptomatic for COVID-19. In order to be eligible for an onsite FEES study, the physician or midlevel practitioner must complete this form. Forms **MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA FAX or EMAIL** to 1-877-522-8016 or Katrina@SDX-FEES.COM BEFORE THE SCHEDULED PROCEDURE. Any questions or concerns may be directed to Katrina at 860-573-0120. Thank you for your referrals.

FACILITY: _____

PATIENT NAME: _____ **DOB:** _____ **ROOM#** _____

PHYSICIAN or MIDLEVEL: PLEASE CHECK THE TWO (2) BOXES BELOW THAT APPLY TO THIS PATIENT.

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To the best of my knowledge, the patient named above is ASYMPTOMATIC for COVID-19.

or

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The above patient is suspected of COVID-19 or is showing respiratory symptoms of unknown etiology.

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I do not believe that a FEES procedure is medically necessary at this time **-OR-**

I am affirming asymptomatic status of the roommate of a patient requiring in-room FEES testing.

or

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I certify that a FEES procedure is medically necessary at this time for reasons including but not limited to this patient's risk for aspiration complications such as malnutrition, dehydration, respiratory compromise, choking or asphyxiation.

PHYSICIAN OR MIDLEVEL COMPLETING THIS CERTIFICATION: PLEASE PRINT NAME & SIGN BELOW:

CERTIFIED BY (PRINT NAME WITH CREDENTIALS): _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____