

These patients have increased risk of perforation with endoscopy and can benefit from having a barium swallow first. Patients with negative endoscopy should then have barium swallow for further evaluation.

Dysphagia with liquids and solids at the onset favors a motility disorder:

- Intermittent dysphagia suggests a primary esophageal motility disorder;
- progressive dysphagia indicates secondary causes such as achalasia or systemic sclerosis (scleroderma).

Barium swallow is recommended initially for these patients as it is more effective than endoscopy in evaluating motility disorders
patients who have a barium swallow suggesting a motility disorder then undergo esophageal motility studies (manometry) to confirm the diagnosis

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