

Table 2, statistical differences between treatment groups, n = 118

| Variable | Oral trials (n=23) | Non oral trials (n=95) | P |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Age in years, mean (SD) | 66.70 (16.72) | 77.14 (14.55) | .003** |
| Lives independently [†] , n (%) | 17 (73.9) | 40 (42.1) | .006** |
| Neurological ward [‡] , n (%) | 16 (69.6) | 24 (25.3) | .000*** |
| Neurological [§] diagnosis, n (%) | 18 (78.3) | 29 (30.5) | .000*** |
| Neurological PMH, n (%) | 4 (17.4) | 36 (37.9) | .062 |
| Dementia PMH, n (%) | 2 (8.70) | 30 (31.6) | .027* |
| Ward nutrition assistant available, n (%) | 13 (56.5) | 53 (55.8) | .949 |
| Chronic dysphagia, n (%) | 7 (30.4) | 48 (50.5) | .083 |
| Video fluoroscopy completed, n (%) | 5 (21.7) | 8 (8.42) | .067 |
| Experience of treating SLT, n (%) | | | |
| Band 5 | 2 (8.70) | 35 (36.8) | .009** |
| Band 6 | 4 (17.4) | 25 (26.3) | .372 |
| Band 7 | 2 (8.7) | 7 (7.37) | .830 |
| Mixed SLTs | 15 (65.2) | 28 (29.5) | .001** |

[†] Lives independently vs carer support/nursing home

[‡] Acute stroke unit, Stroke or Neuro-rehabilitation ward

[§] Diagnosis of stroke, other acute neurology or progressive neurology