In last month’s CAN-DO, we looked at best practices for using IDDSI terminology. If you missed it, you can access it here. This month we turn our focus to the IDDSI Flow Test.

The simple, practical Testing Methods accompanying the IDDSI Framework are crucial parts of what sets IDDSI apart from other dysphagia diet standards. The IDDSI Flow Test is an excellent example of taking very complex science and finding a practical, simple, and affordable solution. If you are not familiar with the test method yet, you can see it here on the IDDSI YouTube® Chanel.

A recent paper looked specifically at the comparison of the IDDSI Flow Test and a “sophisticated computer-controlled rheometer.” The correlation between the two tests was very close to 0.9. This is a fascinating result when you consider a syringe costs less than a dollar and a rheometer costs thousands of dollars!

Despite the apparent simplicity, there was a lot of rationale that went into the development and selection of this test method. To hear IDDSI Board Member Dr. Ben Hanson discuss the rationale for the IDDSI Flow Test and the science behind it, watch his webinar presentation for about 8 minutes starting here.

In the most recent E-Bite newsletter, IDDSI announced the impending arrival of the IDDSI funnel. There have been supply issues and concerns of excessive waste when using syringes. The barrel and nozzle match the shape of a syringe; however, the innovative top to the funnel allows you to pour the sample directly into the IDDSI funnel. Watch for details on where to purchase these in the coming months.

P.S. CIRG is considering an IDDSI implementation mentoring program this fall. If you’d like to help us design this program, send an email to Canada@iddsi.net