

*FSHD patients Meeting, Boston, August 15-17 2014*



# FSHD & NUTRITION

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# French National FSHD database ([www.fshd.fr](http://www.fshd.fr))

Patients included are:

FSHD1 Patients	FSHD2 / FSHD Like Patients
= Patients genetically confirmed: typical D4Z4 contraction (< 11 Repeats)	= Patients presenting with FSHD phenotype* without the typical D4Z4 contraction (≥ 11 Repeats)

\* Typical FSHD Phenotype:

- ✓ Facial weakness
- ✓ Scapular girdle involvement
- ✓ Muscles of anterior leg involvement
- ✓ Asymmetry

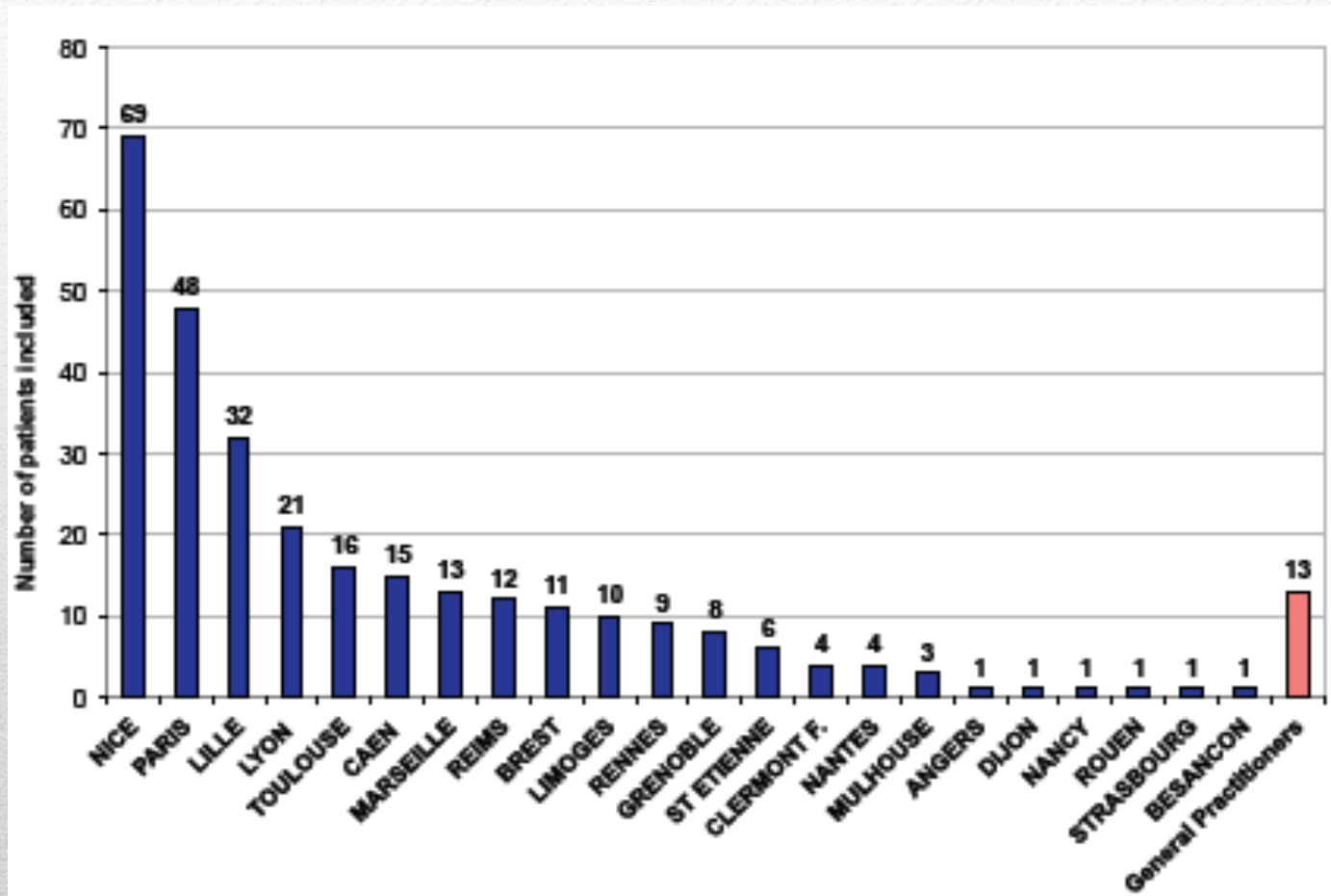
1. All patients must sign an informed consent form.
2. Two options of enrolment:

	FSHD1 patients	FSHD2 / FSHD Like patients
<b>Self-Reported Form</b> <i>filled by the patient</i>	YES	NO
<b>Clinical Evaluation Form</b> <i>filled by the NMD specialized physician</i>	YES	YES

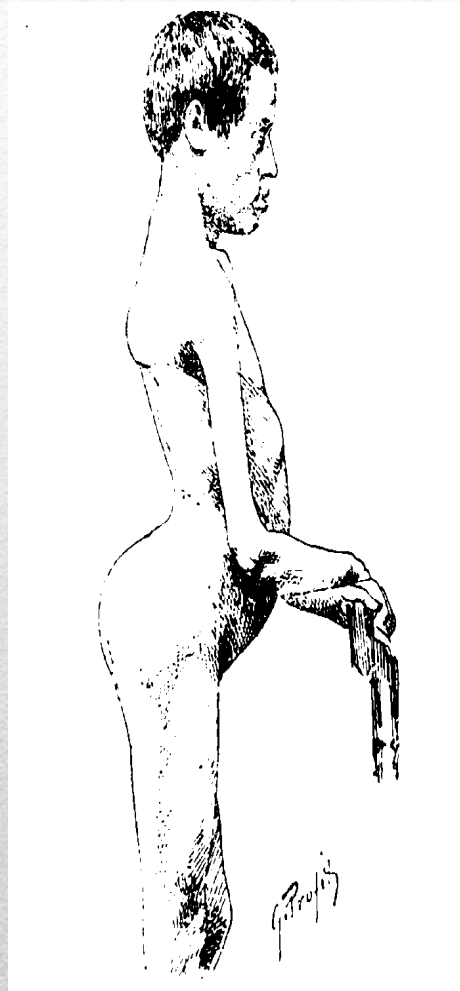
3. Data are entered and validated by clinical and molecular curators.
4. A unique patient identification number (PIN) is generated.
5. Patient and referring physician access to the data thanks to the PIN via the website.

**Data content** is related to: genetic diagnosis, muscular and extra-muscular involvement, pain and patient care. A Manual Muscular Testing (MMT) is collected in the Clinical Evaluation Form.

# French National FSHD database ([www.fshd.fr](http://www.fshd.fr))



**300 patients:** 143 women, 157 men, age from 11 to 89, mean age 54.2  
95,9% are FSHD1 (1-11 D4Z4 RU); 4,1% are FSHD2/FSHDlike



✓ **DYSPHAGIA**

✓ sensation suggesting difficulty  
**WEIGHT** passage of solids or  
liquids from the mouth to the  
stomach.

✓ **OSTEOPOROSIS**

✓ **DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS**

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## Physiology of swallowing

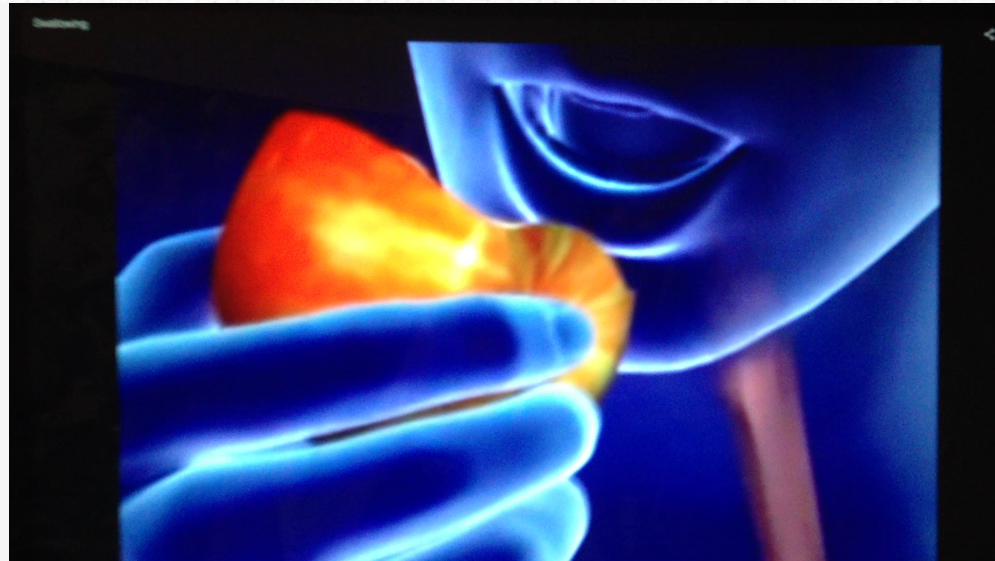
### 1) Oropharyngeal Phase:

#### Buccal Phase

Food bolus is **voluntary** pressed by the tongue up against the roof of the mouth and backwards towards the pharynx

#### Pharyngeal Phase

Swallowing center in the medulla initiate **reflexes** that prevent food entry in respiratory pathways.



- **Uvula contraction** closes the nasal passages
- **Laryngeal muscles contraction** closes the glottis on the top of trachea and epiglottis covers closed glottis. The respiration is temporalely inhibited.
- The **Upper Esophageal Sphincter** relaxes and pharyngeal contraction drives the bolus into esophagus

### 2) Esophageal Phase:

- **Primary ways of perilstalsis** initiated by swallowing center pushes the bolus throught the oesophagus.
- The **Lower Esophageal Sphyncter** relaxes allowing entering of the food into the stomach

## Introduction and classification

**Dysphagia** : sensation suggesting difficulty in the passage of solids or liquids from the mouth to the stomach.

Dysphagia is classified into **three major types**:

- **Oropharyngeal dysphagia**

- ✓ inability to control food or saliva in the mouth,
- ✓ difficulty initiating a swallow,
- ✓ gurgly or wet voice after swallowing, nasal regurgitation,
- ✓ coughing, choking, frequent pneumonia, unexplained weight loss.

- **Esophageal dysphagia**

- ✓ inability to swallow **solid food**, which the patient will describe as 'becoming stuck' or 'held up' before it passes into the stomach;
- ✓ **Achalasia**: difficulty in **swallowing fluids** due to peristaltic failure throughout esophagus length.

- **Functional dysphagia**

- ✓ No organic cause found, paraclinical examination normal.

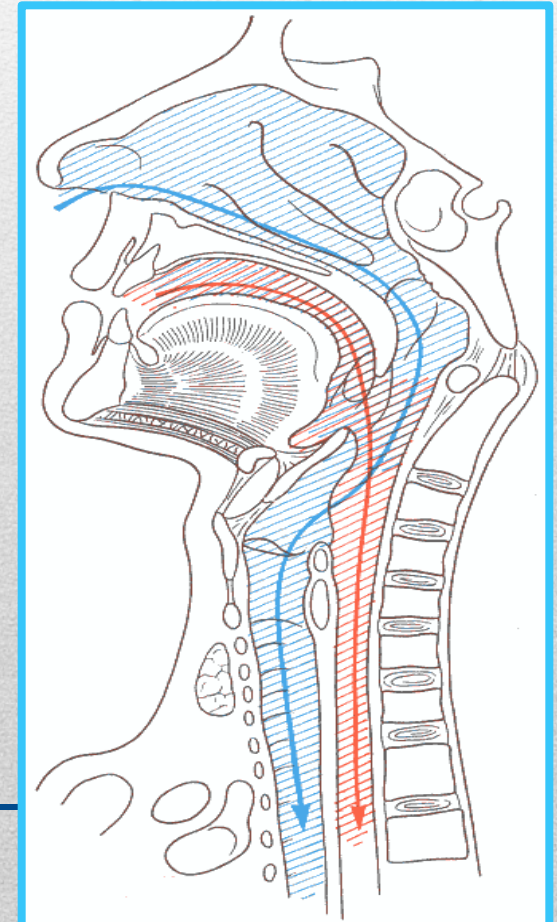
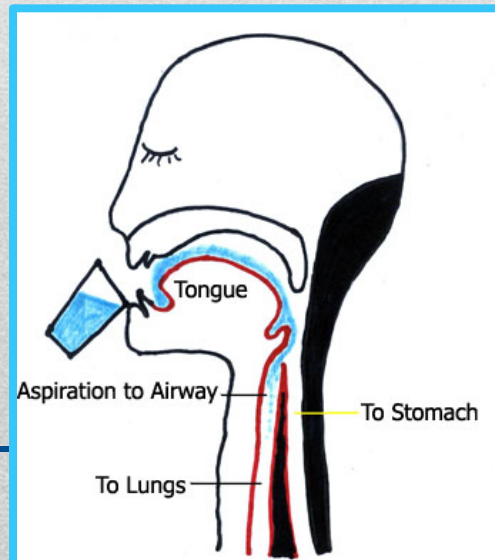


# DYSPHAGIA

## Consequences of dysphagia

Crossing of respiratory and digestive pathways:  
risk of food being ingested into the bronchial system  
(pulmonary aspiration):

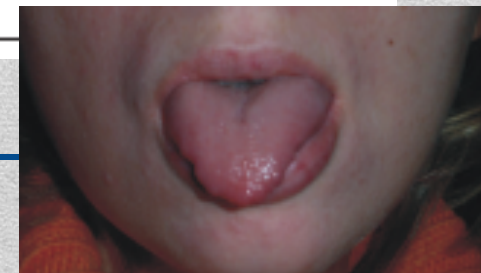
- **choking**
- **aspiration pneumonia**
- **dehydration, malnutrition**



# DYSPHAGIA and FSHD

**Table 2** Results of videofluoroscopic evaluation, DOSS score, and MRI of the tongue

Pt	Problems with oral transit	Pharyngeal delay	Laryngeal penetration/ aspiration	Problems with pharyngeal transport and compensations*	Pharyngeal residue	DOSS score	Tongue volume, cm <sup>3</sup> †
1	No	No	Once/aspiration, with cough	Reduced tongue base retraction, Extended pharyngeal transit/laryngeal elevation *(m), Multiple swallows to clear the pharynx*	Yes (sc)	4	131.3
2	Piecemeal deglutition	Yes‡	No	Reduced tongue base retraction, Multiple swallows to clear pharyngeal residue*	Yes (sc)	5	117.8
3	Piecemeal deglutition	No	No	Slight struggle with pharyngeal transit	No	5	66.2
4	Piecemeal deglutition	Yes‡	No	Reduced tongue base retraction, Slight struggle with pharyngeal transit	Yes (sc)	5	103.5
5	Piecemeal deglutition	Yes‡	No	Moving head backward to facilitate bolus transit through the pharynx*	No	5	63.2
6	Piecemeal deglutition	No	No	Extended laryngeal elevation to facilitate pharyngeal transit *(m)	No	5	106.8
7	No	No	No	Impaired esophageal transit	No	7	Na
8	Piecemeal deglutition	Yes‡	Once aspiration, with cough	Reduced tongue base retraction	No	5	89.8





# DYSPHAGIA and FSHD

20 FSHD1 patients genetically confirmed

12M, 8W, mean age 38.1, mean disease duration 16.7

8 patients (**40%**) complain of dysphagia: 5 oropharyngeal, 3 esophageal

Patient	Age (years)	Sex	Disease duration (years)	AMS (/10)	Dysphagia	CXR	Radiology	Manometry
1	19	M	5	8.5				
2	22	M	4	8.7		+		
3	26	F	7	9.1	+	+	+	
4	27	M	5	8.3				+
5	29	F	10	7.9		+		
6	29	F	7	7.7	+		+	
7	31	M	6	8.4				
8	34	M	14	7.1		+		
9	35	M	9	8.6				
10	38	F	17	8.3	+		+	
11	39	M	20	7.7	+			+
12	39	M	14	7.5				
13	42	F	25	6.9	+	+	+	
14	43	F	18	7.5				
15	45	M	22	8.1				
16	45	F	26	7.0	+			
17	47	M	20	7.4		+	+	
18	53	M	34	6.7	+			+
19	57	M	31	7.1				
20	61	F	39	6.2	+	+	+	

- 2 patients with **ineffectual pharyngeal contraction**
- 2 patients with **cricopharyngeal and upper esophageal relaxation**
- 2 patients with **pharyngeal (Zenker's) diverticula**
- 1 patient with difficulty in **primary peristalsis**



Dysphagia in FSHD1 may be due to **heterogeneous causes**

## French National FSHD database ([www.fshd.fr](http://www.fshd.fr))

- **Most of the** patients with dysphagia have **facial weakness** (*orbicularis oculi and orbicularis oris*)
- **Some of them also** have **dysarthria**
- **Few of them** have **tongue atrophy**

### Complications:

- **Weight loss: frequent**
  - **Aspiration pneumonia: less frequent**
  - **Chocking to death: rare** but dangerous
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# INFANTILE FORM of FSHD

## Multisystemic involvement, early onset, rapid progression

- Early onset < 10 Y
- Symmetric muscular weakness and atrophy
- **Loss of ambulation**
- Marked hyperlordosis,  
➤ *pectus excavatum*
- **Swallowing problems**
- **Tongue atrophy**
- **Weight loss**
- Restrictive respiratory insufficiency



## Speech Therapy and Diet

### Swallowing therapy:

- ✓ **Swallowing exercises**
- ✓ Support during meals and first aid for choking



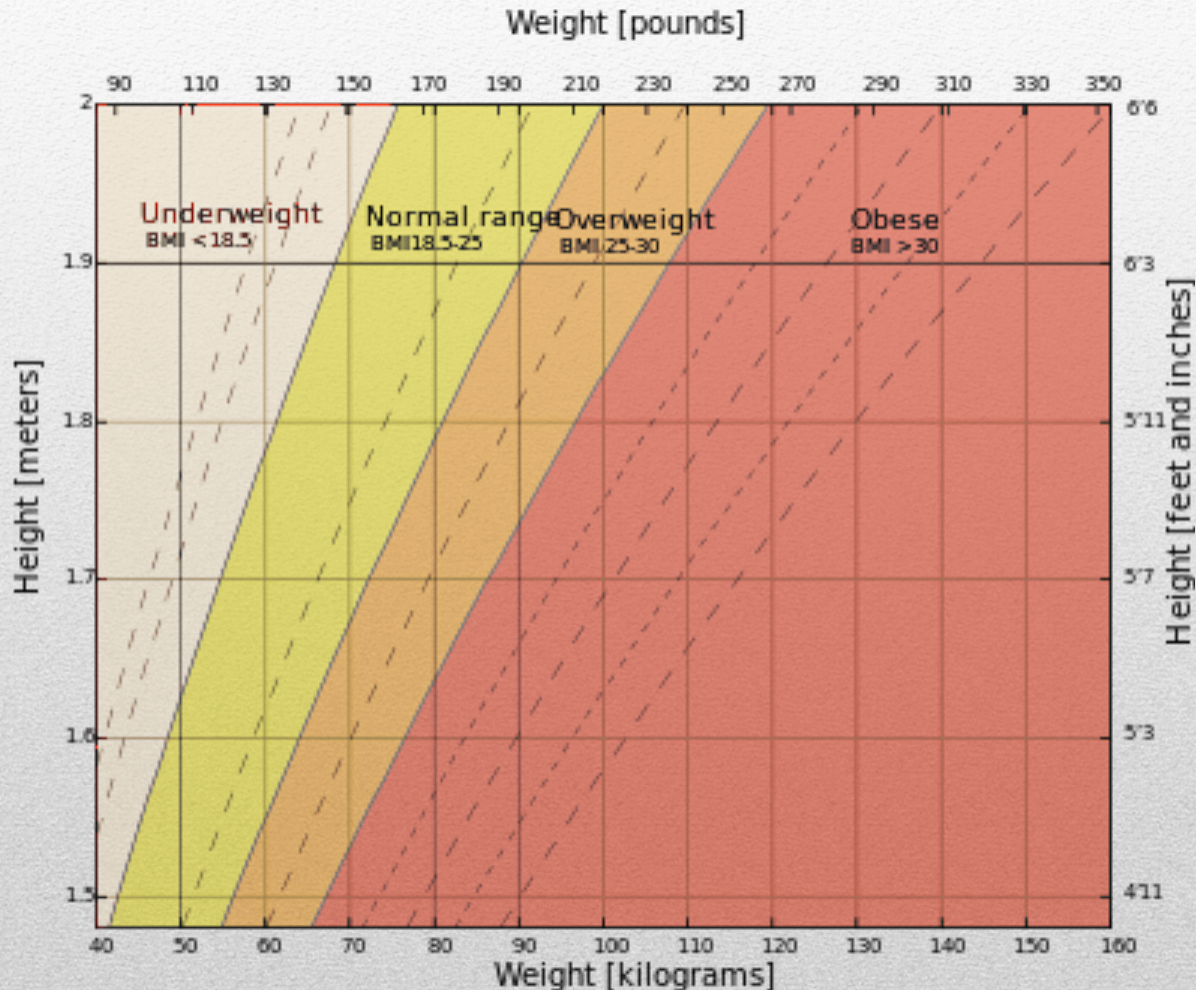
**Dietary changes:** insure correct caloric intake and hydration, have a balanced diet and respect patient quality of life and safety

**Feeding tubes:** percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy only in case of severe malnutrition



# FSHD and weight

**Body Mass Index (weight in kilograms divided by height squared in meters)**



## BMI Limits:

- Underestimate fat in older patients and in patients having muscle atrophy
- Different values for children

# **FSHD and weight**

## **French National FSHD database ([www.fshd.fr](http://www.fshd.fr))**

**N patients available= 284**

**Underweight seems to be more frequent in infantile onset patients, while classical and late onset are more in overweight**

**Low and high BMIs seem to be detrimental for patients**

**Statin may increase muscle pain and CK values in FSHD patients**

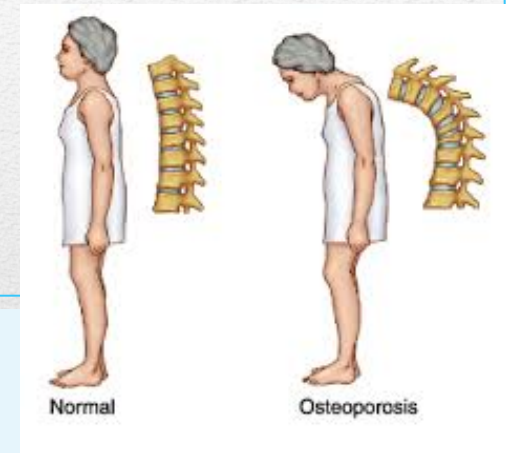
**Wheelchair bounded patients seem to have higher risk of osteoporosis/ osteopenia**

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# FSHD and Osteoporosis

Risk factors that **we found statistically associated to osteoporosis/osteopenia development are:**

- Loss and reduced ambulation
- Low Vitamin D3 level
- Post menopause
- Low BMI (<18)



## **RECCOMANDATIONS from ESCEO:**

- **Adequate dietary protein**  
(1.0-1.2g/kg body weight/d, 20-25g of high quality protein each meal)
- **Adequate vitamin D intake at 800IU/d**  
(serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels >50nmol/L)
- **Adequate calcium intake of 1000mg/d**
- **Regular physical activity/aerobic exercise** when possible
- **Hormone replacement therapy** when appropriate

# FSHD and dietary supplements



In a survey conducted in our center on 72 FSHD patients **32 patients commonly use auto-prescribed dietary supplements** including: vitamin E, vitamin B6 and B12, vitamin C, folate, green tea extract, coenzyme Q10, zinc, melatonin, and creatine, among many others.

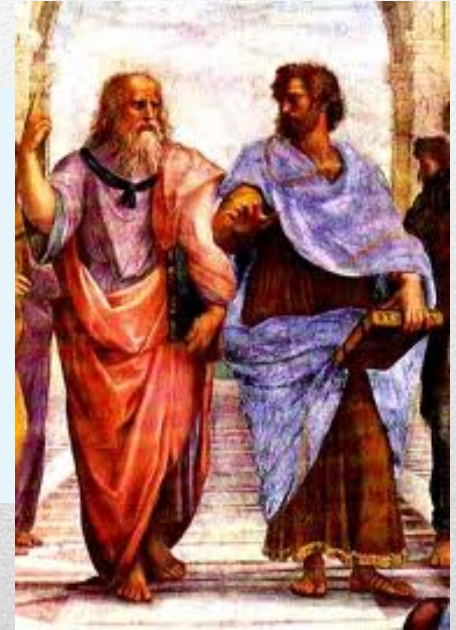
**Be cautious about taking dietary supplements or giving them to a child. They may have side effects or interfere with others therapies!!!**

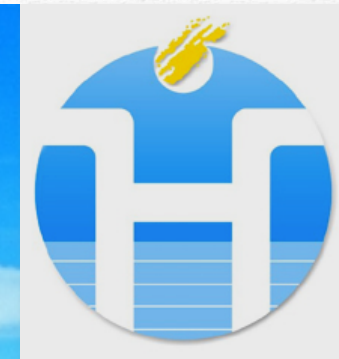




## **In medio stat virtus**

*Aristoteles, Nicomachean Ethics*





**Thank you for your attention !!**