Abstract

[Summary]

[Object] To provide a swallowing assist device that facilitates swallowing at an appropriate timing to suppress aspiration in an effective manner.

[Solving Means] A swallowing assist device (1) for assisting swallowing includes a pressure sensor that detects respiration and is contained in a control unit (2), an electrode unit (4) that is attached to a target section to apply a stimulus for facilitation of swallowing, and a control part that controls the electrode unit (4) and is contained in the control unit (2). The control part controls the electrode unit (4) to start the application of the stimulus to the target section in an expiration period detected according to a detection signal from the pressure sensor and terminate the application of the stimulus to the target section in the expiration period. Accordingly, the electrode unit (4) is driven only in the period during which aspiration is unlikely to occur, which makes it possible to suppress aspiration in an effective manner.

[Selected Drawing] FIG. 1