

PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE

ENTERAL NUTRITION FEEDING PUMP

1. Verify student orders are current. Note the type of nutrition to be administered (e.g., ready to feed formula), volume, rate, and water flush.
2. Explain procedure using developmentally appropriate teaching strategies. Consider self-management goals and encourage participation as appropriate.
3. Perform hand hygiene. Place the supplies on a clean surface. Open packages and maintain standard precautions.
 - a. Formula/feed
 - b. Extension tubing
 - c. Feeding pump
 - d. Feeding bag
 - e. Syringe (60 mL)
 - f. Water flush
 - g. Gloves
4. Position student comfortably. It is recommended the student be seated or head-of-bed elevation maintained at least 30 to 45 degrees, unless contraindicated, to prevent aspiration. Assess gastrostomy button (herein after referred to as GT).
5. Prime the extension tube, then clamp. Attached extension tube to the GT. The extension tube should have a notch/key that will “lock” into the GT.
6. Prime the feeding bag tubing (may be done manually or via feeding pump) before attaching to the extension tube.
7. Unclamp extension tube and start feed. Monitor student tolerance. It is recommended to manually enter the feeding rate and volume settings on the device to prevent error.
8. After feeding complete, clamp extension tube before removing from feeding bag port.
9. Prepare and administer water flush.
10. Detach extension tube from button by “unlocking” from the GT. Close the plug port on the GT after removing extension tubing to prevent leakage.
11. Clean and properly store feeding tube supplies.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR CARE

- Report changes in student’s feeding tolerance including nausea, vomiting, retching, or abdominal distension.
- Clean or aseptic technique in the handling and administration of the formula should be used to prevent bacterial contamination.
- The extension tubing should always be used to administer formula/feed or medication. Inserting a syringe directly into feeding port valve can cause damage to the device.
- Accessing the user manual of specific devices may be helpful. Common brands in school health include the Infinity Enteral Feeding Pump and the Kangaroo Joey Enteral Feeding Pump.
- Access to the feeding pump charging cord may be helpful.

