Enteral Nutrition Feeding Pump

PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE

1. Verify student orders are current. Note the type of nutrition to be administered (e.g., ready-to-feed formula), volume, feeding rate or duration, route, 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 set tubing
    c. Feeding pump
    d. Feeding bag
    e. Syringe (60 mL)
    f. Water flush
    g. Gloves
4. Position the student comfortably. It is recommended that 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 set tubing tube, then clamp. Attach the extension tube to the GT. The extension tube should have a notch/key that will “lock” into the GT.
6. Pour the needed volume of room temperature formula, plus the volume needed to prime the tube into the bag (may be done manually or via feeding pump) before attaching to the extension tube. Attach the feeding bag tubing to the extension tube.
7. Set the prescribed flow rate and volume on the feeding pump. It is recommended to manually enter the feeding rate and volume settings on the device to prevent errors.
8. Unclamp the extension tube and start the feeding. Monitor student tolerance. After feeding is complete, clamp the extension tube before removing from the feeding bag port.
9. Prepare and administer a water flush.
10. Detach the extension tube from the button by “unlocking” it from the GT. Close the plug port on the GT after removing the extension tube to prevent leakage.
11. Clean and properly store feeding tube supplies.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR CARE

- 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.
- Report changes in the student’s feeding tolerance, including nausea, vomiting, retching, or abdominal distension.
- The extension tube should always be used to administer formula/feed or medication. Inserting a syringe directly into the feeding port valve can cause damage to the device.
- Do not add medication directly to any bag of enteral feeding formula.
- Feeding bags should be changed every 24 hours.
- Access to the feeding pump charging cord may be helpful.