# Nasogastric Tube Feeding via Gravity Bag

## Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to provide nourishment to the resident who is unable to obtain nourishment orally. To only be done by licensed/certified staff.

## Preparation

1. Verify that there is a physician’s order for this procedure.
2. Review the resident’s care plan and provide for any special needs of the resident.
3. Assemble equipment and supplies needed.

## Equipment and Supplies

The following equipment and supplies will be necessary when performing this procedure.

1. Soap and water;
2. Wash cloth and towel;
3. Enteral tube feeding bag with roller type clamp;
4. IV pole;
5. Sixty (60) cc catheter tip syringe;
6. Prescribed enteral feeding;
7. Clean container with fresh water;
8. Stethoscope; and
9. Personal protective equipment (e.g., gowns, gloves, mask, etc., as needed).

## Steps in the Procedure

1. Place the equipment on the bedside stand or overbed table. Arrange the supplies so they can be easily reached.
2. Wash hands and dry thoroughly.
3. Wear clean gloves.
4. Position resident in Semi-fowler’s or higher position for feeding.
5. Pour prescribed amount of enteral feeding into enteral feeding bag and prime tubing. Clamp tubing.
6. Clamp nasogastric tube. Remove the plug from the nasogastric tube.
7. Attach catheter tip syringe with ten (10) to thirty (30) cc of air to nasogastric tube. Unclamp nasogastric tube.
8. Verify placement of tube by forcefully injecting the air into the tube while listening to the abdomen with stethoscope for a bubbling sound.
9. After verifying placement, clamp tube, remove the empty syringe and attach the primed tubing to nasogastric tube and unclamp nasogastric tube.
10. Hang feeding bag on IV pole approximately eighteen (18) inches above resident’s head and allow feeding to flow by gravity.
11. Unless otherwise ordered, follow the feeding with 120 cc of water.
13. Instruct resident to remain in Semi-fowler’s position for at least one (1) hour after feeding to prevent aspiration.
14. Place the wash cloth and towel in the soiled laundry container.
15. Discard disposable supplies in the designated containers.
16. Clean reusable equipment according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
17. Clean the overbed table and return it to its proper position.
18. Reposition the bed covers. Make the resident comfortable.
19. Place the call light within easy reach of the resident.
20. Remove gloves and discard into designated container.
21. Wash your hands.
22. If the resident desires, return the door and curtains to the open position and if visitors are waiting, tell them they may now enter the room.

Documentation

The person performing this procedure should record the following information in the resident’s medical record:

1. The date and time the procedure was performed.
2. Verification of tube placement.
3. Amount and type of enteral feeding and amount of flush.
4. The name and title of the individual(s) who performed the procedure.
5. All assessment data obtained during the procedure.
6. How the resident tolerated the procedure.
7. If the resident refused the procedure, the reason(s) why and the intervention taken.
8. The signature and title of the person recording the data.

Reporting

1. Report complications promptly to the supervisor and the Attending Physician.
2. Notify the supervisor if the resident refuses the procedure.
3. Report other information in accordance with facility policy and professional standards of practice.

References

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<th>MDS (RAPs)</th>
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