

Gastrostomy Tube (G-tube) Fact Sheet

Your child has a _____ (brand), _____ FR, _____ cm g-tube in place.

The tube was last changed on _____.

The balloon holds _____ ml of water.

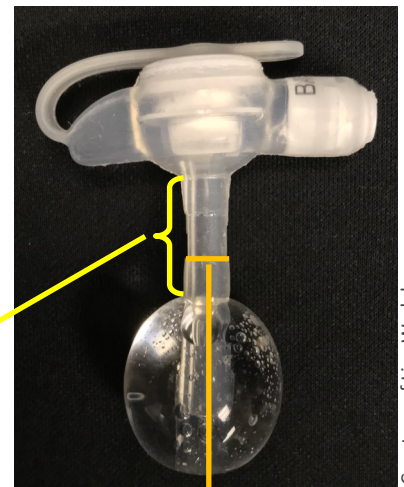
The g-tube was originally placed on _____.

What do you do if the g-tube comes out in first eight weeks?

1. Place a new tube in the stoma (foley catheter or new g-tube). Do not use force when replacing the tube. The stoma site may close quickly if left open.
2. Do not inflate the balloon.
3. Tape the tube to the abdomen to secure it remains in place on the way to the emergency room.
4. Do not use the tube to give any medications or feedings.
5. Go to nearest emergency room to have the g-tube replaced. A radiology test may be done to confirm proper placement of tube before using g-tube.
6. Your healthcare provider will arrange post-operative follow up to teach you how to change out the g-tube.

Cleaning the g-tube site.

1. Wash your hands with soap and water.
2. Remove old dressing from stoma site.
3. Assess the site for any redness, drainage, or granulation tissue (pink, beefy tissue).
4. Cleanse the area with soap and water. Remove any old drainage or crusting. A Q-tip may be necessary to get under the gastrostomy.
5. Dry area thoroughly. Reapply dressing if drainage is present.
6. The gastrostomy site should be cleaned daily and as needed for saturated dressings.
7. The gastrostomy should be turned three times daily to help tract formation.
8. If site has irritation, granulation tissue or signs of infection, contact your healthcare provider.



Courtesy of Lisa Wedel

Helpful tips.

1. Always keep an extra gastrostomy with the patient at all times.
2. Flush the g-tube and extension set with water after medications or feedings to keep the tube patent.
3. The g-tube should be changed out as directed by your healthcare provider.