

ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: *Nursing Skill*

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SKILL NAME Enteral Tube Feedings REVIEW MODULE CHAPTER _____

Description of Skill

administered through soft, small caliber nasogastric or nasointestinal tube (short-term therapy) or gastrostomy or jejunostomy tube (long-term therapy)

Indications

helps meet the protein & calorie requirements for pt who cannot consume nutrients

specialty formulas for those w: liver failure, pulmonary disease, diabetes, HIV

Outcomes/Evaluation

Admin continuously or intermittently
Check cap blood glucose
warm container to room temp, cleanse before opening
elevate HOB 30+ degrees
flush 30-50mL pre/post each feed/after med
admin/after checking residual vol
Assess comfort level

Potential Complications

displaced tubes, aspiration, diarrhea, impaired skin integrity, clogged tubes, accidental tube removal

CONSIDERATIONS

Nursing Interventions (pre, intra, post)

pre: review hx for nasal problems, oral/facial/sinus surgery, hx aspiration/anticoag tx, assess nasal patency, ask pt to choose side, assess gag reflex, auscultate BS, upright position, towel across chest, provide cup of water to assist swallowing during, determine length to be inserted, intra: use communication method during to indicate discomfort (non-verbal), numb airway tissues, tip head back & breathe through mouth, verify placement
post: assess comfort level, mark tube where meets naris/mouth

Client Education

aspiration precautions, type of nutrition

Nursing Interventions

confirm/verify tube placement, look at exit site mark, aspirate gastric contents to measure pH/bilirubin/pepsin/trypsin, assess bowel fx to confirm peristalsis, elevate HOB during feeding & 1 hr post, deliver at slower rate/dilute/change formula type, routine inspection of site