

25. PUMP FEEDING

Instructions on the appropriate method of feeding will be provided by the prescriber.

The Nursing Service Team will advise to:

- Check the enteral feed (ref: policy no. 6)
- Wash hands before and after setting enteral feed up (ref: policy no. 5) All healthcare workers must adhere to local infection control policies, including the use of PPE (NICE 2012)
- Check feeding tube position remains in the correct position by confirming there is no change in the cm graduation markings exiting the body. If the tube is a nasogastric tube, a pH value must be checked prior to each administration as well as confirming external tube cm graduation markings at nostril
- If there are any concerns that the tube may not be in the correct position, do not use the tube and the patient must contact the managing healthcare professional for instructions on how to proceed
- Ensure the patient is positioned correctly for feeding (ref: policy no. 7)
- Flush the feeding tube (ref: policy no. 8)
- Set up the enteral feed administration system and programme the Flocare Infinity/Flocare 800/Flocare Infinity Plus pump with the prescribed feeding regimen as per Flocare Infinity/Flocare 800/ Flocare Infinity Plus pump information booklet.

The Nursing Service Team will train on Flocare pumps routine and troubleshooting as outlined in the Flocare Infinity/Flocare 800/ Flocare Infinity Plus pump information booklet. For any patient who requires continuous feeding or has a medical condition, that in the event of pump failure would be unable to await delivery of a replacement pump, the Nursing Service Team will advise that the patient should be issued with a spare pump.

REFERENCE:

NICE (2012). Updated 2017 Healthcare-Associated Infections: Prevention and Control in Primary and Community Care. NICE Clinical Guidance (CG139). National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Accessed May 2018).

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

CREST (2004). Guidelines for the management of enteral tube feeding in adults. Northern Ireland. Clinical Resource Efficiency Support Team.

Westaby. D et al (2009). The provision of a percutaneously placed enteral tube feeding service. Gut 2010; 59: 1592-1605 doi:10.1136/gut.2009.204982.