



Home Care Principles for Tube Feeding Administration 居家管灌原則與注意事項(英文)

Purpose

Such guidance is to help patients, relying on tube feeding, and their families understand the true precise administration of tube feeding in order to meet a balanced sufficient nutrition demand.

Application subjects

1. Patients using nasal intubation for gastric or transpyloric feeding.
2. Patients accepting gastrostomy or enterostomy.

Administration of Tube Feeding

1. Rinse your hands and feeding bag thoroughly.
2. Add a few warm water and mix it with the formula, base on the recommended amount given by the nutritionist; if the formula is prescribed in the hospital already, it will be all right to facilitate direct feeding.

Special reminders

1. Elevate the head of the bed 45 to 60° during infusion.
2. Finish feeding in 30 minutes to prevent bacterial growth.
3. Administrate feeding according to the schedule shown on the cup.
4. Do not heat up the formula. It will destroy the nutrients.
5. Store the formula in the refrigerator in a covered container. When a new supply of formula is received, place it in the rear of the storage area so that the older formula is used first. Once opened, finish feeding the formula in 24 hours; discard the unfinished formula.
6. It is important to help patients maintain oral hygiene and use cotton to clean their nasal cavity.

7. Avoid drastic activities such as sputum drawing, back patting, and body turning.
8. Continuous feeding:
 1. Each formula inserted in the feeding bag should not be unused for more than 4 hours.
 2. Always rinse the feeding bag with cold water before inserting another new formula.
 3. To prevent contamination, minimize the opening frequency of the feeding bag. Avoid direct sunlight of the feeding bag for it could induce chemical change of the formula. Preserve the formula under 25°C.
 4. To prevent contamination induced by improper cleansing, change the feeding bag at least once a week, better on a daily basis.
 5. Rinse the entire feeding bag with cold water until you do not observe any left-over if you intend to repeatedly use the feeding bag.
9. Bolus feeding:
 1. Do not push syringe too hard when you are feeding.
 2. When administrating tube feeding, suck out the residue and check the amount; if the residue amount exceeds more than half of the original feeding amount, postpone feeding for an hour.
 3. Rinse the tube with 20~50c.c. of warm water before or after feeding to prevent bacteria growth or tube obstruction.
10. Gastrointestinal side effects of tube feeding include nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea; and it is important to inform dietitians right away.
11. Constipation
 1. Increase fluid intake if necessary.
 2. Use of supplement fluid from vegetables and fruit.
 3. Supplement fiber
12. Diarrhea
 1. Talk to the dietitian first.
 2. Use probiotics or prebiotics formula if necessary.

Schedule for Enteral Feeding

Dietitian:_____ Date:_____

Kcalories:_____ Protein:_____

Meal Frequency:_____

