



ADMINISTRATION OF ENTERAL FEEDING BY GRAVITY METHOD

IMPORTANT:

- RINSE THE FEEDING BAG SET WITH WARM WATER BETWEEN FEEDINGS. ALLOW TO AIR DRY.
- DISCARD THE USED FEEDING BAG SET AND USE A NEW SET EVERY 24 HOURS.
- CALCULATE THE AMOUNT OF FORMULA REQUIRED FOR 8 HOURS OF FEEDING AND POUR ONLY THAT AMOUNT INTO THE FEEDING BAG AT A TIME. REFILL BAG AS NEEDED AFTER 8 HRS. THIS WILL REDUCE POSSIBLE BACTERIAL GROWTH.

SUPPLIES:

- Formula
- IV Pole
- Gravity bag set
- 60 cc. syringe for flushing

PROCEDURE:

1. Gather supplies and equipment. Clean work area.
2. Perform hand hygiene.
3. Remove gravity feeding bag with tubing from package.
4. Close the roller clamp on the tubing.
5. Fill the bag with the proper amount of formula and close bag securely at the top.
6. Hang the bag on the IV pole.
7. Fill the drip chamber as instructed by your nurse.
NOTE: Fill the drip chamber slowly allowing formula to reach level of score mark; not above.
8. Prime the tubing. Slowly open the roller clamp allowing formula to flow through the tubing. When fully primed, close the roller clamp.
9. Flush your feeding tube as instructed by your nurse.
10. Connect the tubing to your feeding tube by inserting tip of the tubing into the end of your feeding tube attachment. You may secure this connection with a piece of tape if necessary.



11. Slowly open roller clamp and adjust to set feeding at prescribed rate.
12. When the formula has infused and feeding is complete, close the roller clamp on the tubing. Disconnect the tubing from your feeding tube.
13. Flush your feeding tube as instructed by your nurse.
14. Perform hand hygiene.

ENTERAL PRODUCT STORAGE GUIDELINES:

General Temperature Guidelines

General recommended storage temperature ranges for your nutritional product is between 32 and 95 degrees Fahrenheit (F). The most desirable temperature range for storage of unopened containers is room temperature, between 55 and 75 degrees F. Storage at these temperatures will assure the highest-quality product.

Unopened products should be stored in a cool, dry area. Prolonged exposure to temperatures below 32 degrees F or to direct heat above 95 degrees F could affect the physical consistency of the product.

Extreme Storage Conditions

Do not freeze formula products or store at greater than 95 degrees F. Excess temperatures, even for short time periods, can cause physical changes in the products, rendering them undesirable or unusable.

Additional Powder Storage Recommendations

Powdered formula should be used within one month from opening. Although the powders will not "spoil" from a microbiological perspective, some of the vitamins and fatty acids will degrade over time when exposed to oxygen. Powdered nutritional products should be stored in a cool, dry area. Opened powder cans should be covered; they should not be stored in the refrigerator.