

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES GASTROSTOMY (G-TUBE) TRAINING CURRICULUM/
REVIEW PROTOCOL**

TRAINED STAFF WILL DEMONSTRATE KNOWLEDGE OF SKILLS IN THE AREAS SPECIFIED BELOW. PLEASE INDICATE THE PAGE NUMBER NEXT TO THE TOPICS LISTED BELOW.

	ACTIVITIES	PAGE NUMBER	COMMENTS
1	BASIC ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY OF GASTROSTOMY FEEDING		
	• Pictures of where the tube is placed		
2	PURPOSE OF THE GASTROSTOMY TUBE		
3	KNOWLEDGE OF THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF GASTROSTOMY TUBES		
	• Pictures of the different types of tubes		
4	KNOWS THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF TUBE FEEDINGS		
	• Syringe Bolus		
	○ Given via a syringe		
	○ Administered at specific times of the day		
	• Intermittent Gravity		
	○ Given by bottle or bag with drip		
	○ Hooked to a feeding tube set		
	○ Administered at specific times of the day		
	• Continuous		
	○ Given by a bottle or bag with a pump		
	○ Hooked to a feeding tube set		
	○ Administered around the clock or at specific times over a set time		
5	KNOWLEDGE OF WHERE THE PROCEDURES CHECKLIST IS PLACED AND FOLLOWS ALL PROCEDURES		
6	KNOWLEDGE OF PROPER WASHING, MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE OF EQUIPMENT		
	• Demonstrates understanding of the use of gravity drip set, as ordered		
	• Demonstrates understanding of the use of feeding pump, as ordered		
	• Demonstrates knowledge of alarm significance and ability to clear		
	• Replaces tubing per manufacture's recommendation		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replaces feeding bag per manufacture’s recommendation 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates understanding of cleaning and storing equipment and supplies 		
7	KNOWLEDGE OF TUBE FEEDING PREPARATION		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of keeping preparation area clean 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates proper formula preparation 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knows where to check the formula label 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knows where the expiration date is located on the formula 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands the rationale of shaking the formula 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands the rationale for wiping the top of the can 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates knowledge of proper storage of formula such as maintaining freshness of formula, refrigeration, discarding formula left unrefrigerated or expired 		
8	ABILITY TO PERFORM ASEPTIC TECHNIQUE		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates knowledge of proper hand hygiene technique 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates knowledge of the importance of wearing disposable gloves 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates knowledge of proper formula preparation 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates understanding of microbial contamination and prevention of diarrhea 		
9	DEMONSTRATES SKILLS IN THE PREPARATION OF THE CONSUMER		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of the importance of providing consumer privacy 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to explain procedures to the consumer 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of, and ability to position the consumer during and after the feeding that facilitates increased comfort <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Picture of position during and after feeding i.e. semi-fowler’s position 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to recognize consumer’s discomfort <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase in pulse ○ Noise 		

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	o Facial expressions		
10	CARE OF THE GASTROSTOMY SITE		
	• Performs hand hygiene		
	• Wears disposable gloves		
	• Keeps area clean and dry		
	• Knows how and when to apply new dressing, if required		
	• Demonstrates knowledge of proper tube placement		
	• Assess the site for granulation tissue		
	• Observe the site for redness, swelling, warmth, drainage, bleeding, unusual color, or odor		
	• Knowledge of managing tube during activities of daily living i.e. sleeping, dressing, bathing, recreation		
	• Ability to demonstrate proper glove removal and hand-washing technique		
	• Document observation, dressing changes, and report any signs and symptoms of infection to the parent, caregiver, or health professional		
11	DEMONSTRATES KNOWLEDGE OF THE NEED FOR ORAL CARE		
12	DEMONSTRATES SKILLS OF PROPER PLACEMENT AND PATENCY WITH VARIOUS TYPES OF GASTROSTOMY TUBES		
13	DEMONSTRATES KNOWLEDGE OF HOW TO CHECK FOR RESIDUAL AND RETURN TO STOMACH		
14	DEMONSTRATES SKILLS OF HOW TO VENT GASTROSTOMY TUBE, IF PRESCRIBED		
15	PERFORMANCE OF TUBE FEEDING		
	Demonstrates knowledge of procedure for Bolus feedings:		
	• Perform hand hygiene		

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	• Checks physician orders		
	• Gathers the necessary equipment and water to flush		
	• Explains the procedure to the consumer; provides privacy		
	• Positions consumer in semi-fowler's position		
	• Checks for placement and patency		
	• Checks for residual and returns contents to stomach		
	• Pours 30cc of water into the barrel syringe and allows water to slowly enter the stomach by gravity to flush the tube		
	• Slowly pours formula into barrel syringe		
	• After the bolus feeding, flush the tube with 30cc of water		
	• Reinserts the G-tube plug		
	• Documents that feeding has been given and how the consumer is tolerating the procedure		
	• Ensures that consumer is in semi-fowler's position for 1 hour after feeding		
	Demonstrates knowledge of procedure for Intermittent Gravity feedings:		
	• Perform hand hygiene		
	• Checks physician orders		
	• Gathers the necessary equipment and water to flush		
	○ Marks bag or bottle with current date and time		
	○ Fills feeding bag with no more than 4 hours' worth of formula, or as directed		
	○ Primes tubing before connecting to the pump		
	• Explains the procedure to the consumer; provides privacy		
	• Position consumer in 45 degree semi-fowler's or sitting position		
	• Checks for placement and patency		
	• Checks for residual and returns contents to stomach		
	• While tube is still clamped, place tip of syringe into tube and pour water into the barrel of syringe to flush tube		
	• Unclamps tube and allows water to slowly enter stomach by gravity		
	• Clamp/pinches tube after flushing with water		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connects new feeding bag and tubing to pump, unclamps tube, and sets drip rate 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents that feeding bag has been hung, the rate of feeding, and how individual is tolerating procedure 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position consumer in semi-fowler's position during feeding and 1 hour after feed 		
	Demonstrates knowledge of procedure for Continuous/pump feedings:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform hand hygiene 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checks physician orders 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathers the necessary equipment and water to flush <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marks bag or bottle with current date and time ○ Fills feeding bag with no more than 4 hours' worth of formula, or as directed ○ Primes tubing before connecting to the pump 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explains the procedure to the consumer; provides privacy 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positions consumer in 45 degree semi-fowler's or sitting position 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checks for placement and patency 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checks for residual and returns contents to stomach; flush feeding tube 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connects new feeding bag and tubing to pump and sets desired rate on pump 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rechecks setting on the pump and turns pump on 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When feeding is done and while tube is still clamped or pinched, place tip of syringe into tube and pour 30cc of water into barrel of syringe 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unclamps tube and allows water to slowly enter stomach by gravity 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clamps/pinches tube after flushing with water 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures that consumer is in semi-fowler's position and if that is not possible, position consumer on the left side 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents that feeding bag has been hung, the rate of feeding, and how individual is tolerating procedure 		
16	DEMONSTRATES KNOWLEDGE OF PROCEDURE FOR MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION		

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	• Performs hand hygiene		
	• Checks the physician's order		
	• Checks for any consumer allergies to medications		
	• Knows the 6 rights of Medication Administration		
	• Wears disposable gloves		
	• Follows all procedures for preparation of medications for administration i.e., pouring medications into separate cups, crushing medication(s), dissolving medication in warm water		
	• Assembles necessary equipment and enough water for pre and post medication flushes		
	• Explains procedure to the consumer		
	• Provides for consumer privacy		
	• Positions consumer in semi-fowler's position		
	• Clamps/pinches tube before unplugging or disconnecting feeding		
	• Checks for placement, patency, and residual		
	• Flush tube with 5-10cc of warm water		
	• Connects extension tubing with 60cc syringe		
	• Pours medication into barrel of syringe		
	• Rinses medication with 5-10cc of water in between administration		
	• Allows medication to flow slowly by gravity		
	• Flushes tube with 30cc of warm water and clamp		
	• Disconnects the extension set		
	• Reinserts plug or resumes feeding		
	• Ensures that consumer is positioned in semi-fowler's position		
	• Documents administration and consumer's tolerance		
	• Cleans equipment with warm soapy water, rinses, and air dries		
	• Stores equipment		
17	DEMONSTRATES KNOWLEDGE OF PROPER FLOW OF MEDICATIONS		
	• Liquid medications first		
	• Medications that need to be dissolved second		

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	• Thick medications last		
18	KNOWLEDGE OF THE DO's AND DON'Ts OF ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS		
	Do:		
	• Prepare/administer medications separately		
	• Deliver medication slowly and steadily		
	• Do the three checks for safety		
	→ Read the MAR and select the correct medication		
	→ Compare the medication label with the MAR		
	→ Recheck all the medications with the MAR before administering		
	• Flush G-Tube after checking for placement, patency, and residual		
	• Check with a health professional if capsules can be emptied into liquid		
	• Finished prescribed medication		
	• Elevate the head of the bed		
	Do not:		
	• Force medication or fluid into the tube		
	• Mix medication with feedings		
	• Give medications if consumer has nausea, vomiting, choking, difficulty breathing, has abdominal pain or formula is observed in mouth		
	• Give medications if it is expired		
	• Give medications if the consumer is allergic to the medication		
19	IDENTIFICATION OF COMPLICATIONS		
	Ability to observe, follow emergency procedures, and/or report the following potential problems to a responsible person (i.e., parent or emergency contact):		
	• Abdominal distention		
	• Abdominal pain		
	• Accidental removal/pulling out of tube		
	• Administration of formula too fast		
	• Aspiration		
	• Bad or unusual odor at the site		

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	• Bleeding		
	• Change in behavior		
	• Chest pain		
	• Choking		
	• Constipation		
	• Coughing		
	• Decreased pulse		
	• Diarrhea		
	• Difficulty breathing/Respiratory distress		
	• Discomfort/fullness/gas		
	• Drainage/leakage		
	• Elevated temperature/fever		
	• Formula observed in mouth		
	• Formula too cold		
	• Granulation tissue		
	• Increased in pulse		
	• Large amount of formula given through the tube		
	• Nausea		
	• Rash		
	• Redness or irritation at the gastrostomy site		
	• Swelling in general or at the Gastrostomy site		
	• Vomiting/Emesis		
	• Warmth at site of Gastrostomy tube		
	• Tenderness/pain		
	• Too much air through the tube		
	• Tube/button clogged		
	• Unusual color or odor at the gastrostomy site		
20	TREATMENT OF COMPLICATIONS		
	Demonstrates knowledge of how to document significant findings and report any problems noted		

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	Demonstrates knowledge of tube stabilization and potential problems if allowed to rotate, i.e., knowledge of dressing technique to anchor gastrostomy tube		
	• Erosion or enlargement of the stoma		
	• Trauma		
	• Pain		
	Demonstrates knowledge of being able to recognize and determine when gastrostomy tube should be changed and a responsible person (e.g. parent, emergency contact) notified, i.e., if the following are present:		
	• The tube is clogged and cannot be rinsed clear		
	• The tube softens and looks worn		
	• Medical orders specify that the tube should be changed at regular intervals		
	Demonstrates knowledge of appropriate interventions to complications that arises		
21	PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING OR RECORDING UNUSUAL EPISODES		
	How to document and report problems		
	Procedures for notifying parents or professionals of problems		
22	KNOWLEDGE OF EMERGENCY PROCEDURES & (WHEN TO CALL “911”)		
	Clear understanding of emergency plan		
	Name and address of emergency staff/center available		
	Emergency information posted clearly and ability to follow it		
	Demonstrates understanding of alerting a responsible person (e.g., parent, emergency contact) of any suspected discomfort especially if accompanied by abdominal distention/diarrhea, emesis/vomiting, difficulty breathing)		
23	CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS		
	Possession of a current first aid certificate		
	Possession of a current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) course certificate		
	Recertification by training agency or designee to include both:		
	• Oral examination or interview		

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	• Monitoring/observation		
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