

Administering Tube Feedings

PURPOSE: Tube feedings are designed to provide nutrition for individuals who are unable to take food by mouth.

EQUIPMENT:

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-sterile gloves | <input type="checkbox"/> Prescribed liquid feeding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tubing | <input type="checkbox"/> Water to flush tubing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 60 ml catheter tip syringe | <input type="checkbox"/> Towel or washcloth |

ACTION:

1. Wash your hands and put on gloves.
2. Place individual in a sitting position or with head raised.
3. Place towel under tube to protect the person's clothing.
4. Unplug the tube.
5. Attach the syringe to the end of the feeding tube.
6. Elevate catheter tip syringe 4-8 inches above the individual's head.
7. Gradually pour feeding into syringe.
8. Raise or lower the syringe to ensure a slow but steady stream of food to enter the individual.
9. After the feeding is complete, take approximately one cup of water and pour into syringe. This will flush the rest of the feeding from the feeding tube.
10. Disconnect the syringe. Wipe the tube with the towel and replug the tube.
11. Remove your gloves and wash your hands.