



Care procedures

Inserting and managing feeding tubes

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Statement of the standard

Inserting and managing feeding tubes in infants is performed by a trained person and adjusted to infant's needs and comfort.



For parents and family

- Parents are informed by healthcare professionals about the possibility of tube feeding.
- Parents are trained by healthcare professionals to recognise and act upon infant's signs of discomfort during tube insertion.
- Parents have the possibility to be present and to support their infant during tube insertion.



For neonatal unit

- A unit guideline on managing and maintaining feeding tubes is available and regularly updated.



For hospital

- Training on inserting and maintaining feeding tubes is ensured.
- Different tube sizes and tubes of safe material are available, so the size of the tube can be chosen on an individualised basis.
- Different fixation material matching with the individual infant are available.

Benefits

Short-term benefits

- Reduced risk of complications due to inserting feeding tubes
- Reduced pain and discomfort during insertion of the tube
- Reduced stress for parents

Long-term benefits

- Reduced problems with transition to oral feeding
- Improved sensory development



For healthcare professionals

- A unit guideline on managing and maintaining feeding is adhered to by all healthcare professionals.
- Theoretical and practical training on managing and maintaining feeding tubes is attended by all responsible healthcare professionals.



For health service

- A national guideline on tube insertion, including material safety is available and regularly updated.

