

Lothian Enteral Tube Feeding Best Practice Statement

<u>INFECTION CONTROL</u>		
ISSUE	STATEMENT	EVIDENCE / REFERENCE
<p>Hand hygiene, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</p>	<p>Hands should be washed, rinsed and dried or alcohol hand rub may be used on physically clean hands Non-sterile, non-powdered gloves and an apron should be worn before handling feed or enteral feeding systems.</p> <p>Employees suffering from infections such as infected wounds, skin infections, sore throats, diarrhoea / vomiting must be excluded from enteral tube feeding duties and advice sought from the Occupational Health Service.</p> <p>On completion of connecting enteral feeding, Personal Protective Equipment should be removed (discarded as clinical waste) and hands decontaminated</p> <p>If a patient is managing their own enteral feeding tube then it is not necessary for them to wear gloves but hand hygiene should be carried out.</p> <p>Relatives or carers in the home situation are not required to wear protective clothing but must be aware that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Good hand hygiene is important. ▪ Cuts and sores on their hands and forearms must be covered with a waterproof dressing. ▪ Carers should not handle enteral feeds if they have skin infections, diarrhoea or vomiting. In such situations medical advice should be sought. <p>Minimal handling and an aseptic technique should be used to connect the administration system to the enteral feeding tube.</p>	<p><u>NICE (2012) Infection. Prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections in primary and community care.</u></p> <p><u>Journal of Hospital Infection 2001(47) – Supplement, pages 29 & 31.</u></p> <p><u>Safety Action Notice (2001) Enteral Feeding Systems: Risk of Contamination and Infection 01/12.</u></p> <p>Ward V. et al (1997) <u>Preventing Hospital Acquired Infection – Clinical Guidelines.</u></p> <p>Anderton, A. (1995) Reducing bacterial contamination in enteral tube feeds <u>British Journal of Nursing 4(7).</u></p> <p><u>Infection Control Nurses Association (June 2003): Enteral feeding – Infection control guidelines.</u></p> <p>Ojo & Bowden (2012) Infection control in enteral feed and feeding systems in the community. <u>British Journal of Nursing 21(18)</u></p> <p>Health Protection Scotland http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/haic/ic/nationalhandhygienecampaign.aspx</p>

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<p>Equipment</p>	<p>Any equipment used should be dedicated for enteral tube feeding use only.</p> <p>Any re-usable items should be washed in hot soapy water, rinsed, dried and stored in a covered container until required. Some manufacturers may suggest that items can be washed in a dishwasher but this may affect the usable life of these items.</p>	<p><u>NICE (2012) Infection. Prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections in primary and community care.</u></p> <p><u>Safety Action Notice (2001) Enteral Feeding Systems: Risk of Contamination and Infection 01/12.</u></p> <p><u>Medical Device Agency August 2000: Single Use Medical Devices: Implications and Consequences for Re-use.</u></p> <p><u>NHS MEL (1999) 79: Infection Control: Decontamination of Medical Devices.</u></p> <p><u>HDL (2001) 10: Decontamination of Medical Devices.</u></p>
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<p>Giving sets and syringes</p>	<p>Items marked 'Single use' should not be reused.</p> <p>Items marked 'Single patient use' can be reprocessed for a specific patient if the manufacturer's reprocessing instructions are followed.</p> <p>Only syringes for enteral use (purple) should be used for administration of feed, water and medicines. Re-usable enteral syringes can be re-used. Refer to manufacturer guidelines for cleaning instructions and how often they should be changed.</p> <p>Immunocompromised patients should use single use syringes.</p>	<p>NICE (2012) Infection. Prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections in primary and community care.</p> <p><u>Safety Action Notice</u> (2001) Enteral Feeding Systems: Risk of Contamination and Infection 01/12.</p> <p>NPSA (2007) Patient Safety Alert 19. Promoting safer measurement and administration of liquid medicines via oral and other enteral routes. NPSA/2007/19</p> <p><u>Medical Device Agency August 2000</u>: Single Use Medical Devices: Implications and Consequences for Re-use.</p> <p><u>NHS MEL (1999) 79</u>: Infection Control: Decontamination of Medical Devices.</p> <p><u>HDL (2001) 10</u>: Decontamination of Medical Devices.</p>
<p>Frequency of changing connecting tubes for skin level devices</p>	<p>Items marked 'Single Use Only' should not be re-used.</p> <p>For 'Single Patient Use' items, follow manufacturer's reprocessing instructions and guidance on frequency of changing.</p>	<p><u>Safety Action Notice</u> (2001) Enteral Feeding Systems: Risk of Contamination and Infection 01/12.</p> <p><u>Medical Device Agency August 2000</u>: Single Use Medical Devices: Implications and Consequences for Re-use.</p> <p><u>NHS MEL (1999) 79</u>: Infection Control: Decontamination of Medical Devices.</p> <p><u>HDL (2001) 10</u>: Decontamination of Medical Devices.</p>

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<p>Pump cleaning</p>	<p>Consult manufacturer's instructions.</p> <p>Ensure feeding pump is clean before every episode of use.</p>	<p><u>NICE</u> (2012) Infection. Prevention and control of healthcare-associated infections in primary and community care.</p> <p>Medical Device Agency 2000: Equipped to Care – the Safe Use of Medical Devices in the 21st Century.</p> <p>Ward V. et al (1997) Preventing Hospital Acquired Infection – Clinical Guidelines Public Health Laboratory Service.</p> <p>Journal of Hospital Infection 2001(47) – Supplement, page 21.</p> <p>Scottish Executive Health Department Working Group (2001) The Contamination of Surgical Instruments and Other medical Devices.</p>
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