

Gastrostomy Tube (G-tube)

Frequently Asked Questions

Is any special care needed after G-tube placement?

Take off the extra tubing when you're not using it to avoid pulling on the healing spot where the G-tube is. Follow any other special instructions your doctor gives you.

Are there any activities my child should avoid because of the G-tube?

Your child can do all the things kids their age do, like take baths, play on their tummies, and swim.

What if my child's G-tube falls out?

If your child's G-tube falls out for the first time since their surgery, cover the spot with gauze and go to the nearest emergency room within one hour to get it put back in.

If your child has a button G-tube that has been changed before and you feel comfortable changing it at home, you insert a new G-tube button following the directions. If you cannot do it, go to the emergency room.

What if my child has a rash around the G-tube?

If you see a little bit of redness or if there's some liquid coming out around the tube, you should gently place a clean piece of gauze under it. You can change this gauze whenever it gets wet to keep the area around the tube dry.

If the redness gets worse or if the skin feels warm or hurts, it's important to tell your doctor.

What should I do if my child throws up during a feed?

First, stop the feeding by closing the clamp on the tube and turning off the pump. Then, sit your child up until they stop throwing up. Once they start feeling better, you can start feeding again.

If your child keeps throwing up, call your doctor for help.