



Performing Home Administration of Enteral Feeding via Bolus

For additional education please contact your agency

Four Steps for Performing Infusions:

Practice good hand-washing **1** Prepare Supplies **2** Prepare Enteral Tube **3** Administer and Flush **4**

STEP 1: PRACTICE GOOD HAND-WASHING

- Always remember to **WASH YOUR HANDS** for a full 20 seconds when instructed.

STEP 2: PREPARE SUPPLIES

- Note the amount of formula to be administered and over what period of time.
- Double check the formula to confirm it is the correct type and not expired.
- WASH HANDS.** Clean workspace with cleaning solution. **WASH HANDS.**
- Gather the following supplies and place at your workspace: ___ cans of formula; 1 60 ml syringe; a water source; a small container to collect fluid; orders; 1 small plastic trash bag. **WASH HANDS.**
- Open the can of formula and set aside. Prepare the syringe by removing from wrapper if applicable.

STEP 3: PREPARE ENTERAL TUBE

- WASH YOUR HANDS.** Check patency of your tube by aspirating for residuals. Be sure to disengage all clamps prior to attempting to pull back on syringe. Return residuals by flushing them back through the tube or if residuals are greater than 200 ml, hold feeding for one hour and recheck.
- Flush the feeding tube with tap water 30-60 ml.

STEP 4: ADMINISTER AND FLUSH

- WASH HANDS.** Pour the formula into the bowl used for checking residuals.
- Draw up the formula, attach to the feeding tube, and inject the formula into the feeding tube until the volume has been fed.
- Flush the tube with 30-60 ml of tap water post feeding. **WASH HANDS.**

If water bolus is ordered, your nurse will instruct you on how often to perform and what volume to flush with. Water bolus should be completed with tap water. Sterile water is not necessary.

Water Bolus Volume: _____ Frequency: every _____ hours