

Action Care Plan: Gastrostomy Tube Feeding

Overview: A feeding tube is a medical device used to provide nutrition to patients who cannot obtain nutrition by mouth, are unable to swallow safely, or need nutritional supplementation. To feed a student through a tube, a specialized medical “button” usually referred to as a Mic-Key button, is placed through a small hole in the skin which leads directly to the stomach. Tube feedings at school can be given by gravity with a syringe or through a pump system. Some key health concerns related to Mic-Key button/ tube feeding use at school are listed below:

Signs & Symptoms	Teacher's Action Plan
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nausea/Vomiting/ Diarrhea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rapid administration of feedings, air in the stomach/intestines and/or bacterial contamination are all reasons why a student with tube feedings may vomit or have diarrhea 2. Leakage at the Mic-Key button site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A small amount of leakage at the site can be considered normal. 3. Stoma appears red, irritated or is bleeding 4. Mic-Key button becomes dislodged 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Send to health office. Often, students will not need to be sent home unless there are other signs/ symptoms of illness present. 2. Inspect the stoma site to ensure the button has not been dislodged. Dry the skin around the stoma and attempt to keep area clean and dry. Call health assistant or RN with questions or concerns. 3. Always attempt to keep area around the button dry and clean. Send to health office for further evaluation. 4. DO NOT PANIC. This is not a life-threatening condition however it is time sensitive. Mic-key buttons should be replaced quickly (within 20-30 minutes of being pulled out) to ensure the stoma minutes of being pulled out) to ensure the stoma does not close. Call the Health Office immediately upon finding a dislodged button.

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