

## Tubes – Care and Management

# home enteral nutrition

*nourishing lives at home*

The nutrition support health professional will tick the box/s  which refer to the feeding tube you or your child is using

### Gastrostomy/Jejunostomy Tubes

- Keep the gastrostomy/jejunostomy site clean and dry – include washing with a mild soap in the bath or shower and rinsing the skin well with warm water, ensure the area is dry as a part of the daily routine.
- Rotate the gastrostomy tube or device a full 360 degree circle once per day or as directed. Do not rotate Jejunostomy tubes.
- For gastrostomy/jejunostomy tubes or devices it is important to check the skin at the insertion site at least once per day – looking for signs of leaking or redness.
- Flushing your tube before and after feeds or medication will help prevent it from blocking and ensures you are receiving all of the formula or medication you or your child need.
- If you are not using your tube every day it is important to flush it at least once per day

### Nasogastric Tubes

- Check the length of the tube from the tip of the nose to the end of the tube is correct before giving a feed or medication.
- Always flush the tube after a feed or medication.
- Ensure your nutrition support health professional has given you information on what to do if the tube becomes blocked or dislodged.
- Ask your nutrition support health professional if there is any recommended replacement time for the nasogastric tube you or your child is using.

### Nasojejunal Tubes

- Nasojejunal tube feeds are often given continuously. You must ALWAYS make sure the tube is flushed well before and after commencement of feeds or administration of medication to prevent tube blockage.