

Emergency kit: Replacing a dislodged g-tube

Always have your emergency kit readily available in case the g-tube becomes dislodged. Ensure that it is always with your child, even when he or she leaves the home.

The supplies you need include:

- 2 foley catheters, (one the same size as your child's g-tube, and one a size smaller)
- Kangaroo extension set
- Water-soluble lubricant
- 5-cc and 10-cc syringe
- Medical tape or flexi-track
- Sterile or distilled water
- Instruction card

Follow these instructions **ONLY** if:

- ✓ **It has been MORE than 3 months since the g-tube was first inserted**

If it has been LESS than 3 months, cover the opening with gauze or a clean cloth. Call the clinic nurse. If you cannot reach the nurse within 30 minutes, come to McMaster Children's Hospital's Emergency Department. Bring your emergency kit and the dislodged g-tube with you.

- ✓ **You feel comfortable doing this**

Date tube inserted: _____ **Date able to use kit:** _____

Instructions (Use the foley catheter that is the same-size as your child's g-tube)

1. Wash your hands with soap and water.
2. Seek help of another person to help hold your child, if needed.
3. Attach the kangaroo extension to the open end of the catheter.
4. Fill the 5-cc syringe with 5 cc of sterile water (3 cc for babies less than 1 year).
5. Lubricate the tip of the catheter with the water-soluble lubricant.
6. Insert the catheter 2.5 to 3 inches into the opening. Do NOT force the catheter into the stoma.
7. Connect the 5-cc syringe filled with sterile water to the balloon port of the catheter. Inflate the balloon with water (use 3 cc for babies less than 1 year). Hold down the plunger of the syringe, twist and pull off.
8. Gently pull up on the catheter until you feel resistance. Secure the catheter to the abdomen with tape or the flexi-track. Use a marker to make a mark on the catheter exactly where the tube exits your child's stomach. This will help you know if the catheter moves.
9. Check the placement of the catheter by attaching the 10-cc syringe to a port on the kangaroo extension. Gently pull back on the syringe until you see stomach contents (formula, mucous, green drainage). Seeing stomach contents confirms that you are in the stomach.
10. Flush the Kangaroo extension with 10 to 15 cc of warm water (5 to 10 cc for babies).
11. You are now able to use the tube for feeding or giving medication.

Call the Clinic Nurse Practitioner, Julia Yole at 905-521-2100 ext. 73618 if you have any questions or concerns, and to schedule a tube change.