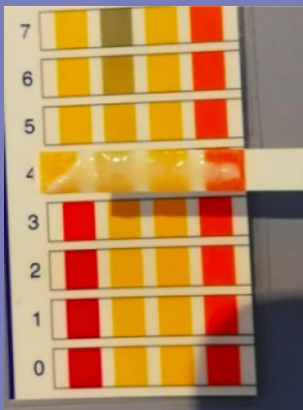




Nasogastric Tube Feeding

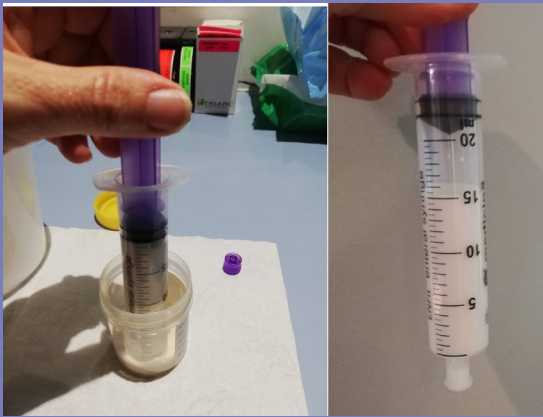
Guidelines for Parents

With teaching from staff, these guidelines will help you participate in your baby's feeds safely. When you are ready we encourage you to do this with our support.



- Before you give a feed down the tube always:
 - Check that the tube is still taped at nose or lips at the same number as before. If unsure, ask your nurse what the number is.
 - Make sure the tube is still taped securely in place.
- If not, call your nurse to assess the tube. Do not feed.
- The equipment you will need for testing is in a pottle by the bedside.
- Using a purple 2.5ml syringe, draw back a small amount of fluid from the tube, about 0.5ml.
- If you are unable to obtain any fluid from the tube call a nurse for help.
- Place the pH strip on the empty syringe packet and spread the fluid along the pH testing strip.
- The colour of the strip is matched to the closest colour on the indicator. It must be 5 or less. If you are unsure of the result please ask a nurse to help you.

REMEMBER 5 OR BELOW, GOOD TO GO



- Measure the required amount of milk from your container in the fridge. You may need a syringe only, or a bottle as well depending on how much milk your baby's feed is.
- Always check that it is your name on the container of milk, and warm prior to feeding using warm water.
- Draw syringe plunger to the end of the syringe without removing it.
- Have you checked tube placement?
 - Is it safe and secure?
 - If so, attach the syringe to the feeding tube.
- Do not use the plunger to push the feed in, but you need to give the plunger a small push after initially removing it to get the feed started.
- Allow the milk to flow by gravity down the tube at a steady rate - not too quickly. This will depend on how high or low you hold the syringe.
- Please give the feed your full attention and do not be distracted by phones or other devices.
- Throughout the feed, observe your baby for signs of distress, vomiting, coughing or change of colour.
- If this happens, stop the feed by lowering the syringe and call a nurse immediately.

Your baby
loves being
held by you

