

CLEANING FEEDING TUBES AND EQUIPMENT*

PURPOSE: To outline care and cleaning of feeding tubes and feeding bags in the school/childcare setting.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Feeding tubes should not be washed with any detergent containing Olefin, Lanolin, glycerin or other skin softening additives (e.g., Dove or Palmolive Plus). Feeding tubes should be washed in warm water and a mild antibacterial detergent (e.g., liquid Dawn).

EQUIPMENT:

- Cascade Liquid Gel
- Individual Patient Containers for Cleaning
- Feeding Tube Equipment
- Syringe for Flushing
- Clean Towel

PROCEDURE:

I. FEEDING BAGS AND TUBING *(after each feeding)*:

- A. Following each feeding and after being disconnected from the child/student, the feeding bag, tubing and syringes will be rinsed with hot water.
- B. The distal end of feeding tubes should not physically come into contact with the bottom or sides of the sink.
- C. Allow to air dry between feedings.
- D. Feeding bags will be changed weekly. Venting/feeding syringes will be changed as needed.

II. FEEDING TUBES EXTENSION SET *(weekly)*:

- A. Utilize Personal Protective Equipment (gloves).
- B. Child/student feeding tube extension set will be cleaned weekly in individual patient containers with soapy water until there is no visible residue in feeding extension set..
- C. Rinse well with hot running water.
- D. Dry in air on clean towel.

*Adapted from "Enteral Feeding Tubes and Feeding Bags, Care and Cleaning of (CHP-004)" Infection Control Policies, The Children's Hospital Approved July 2007