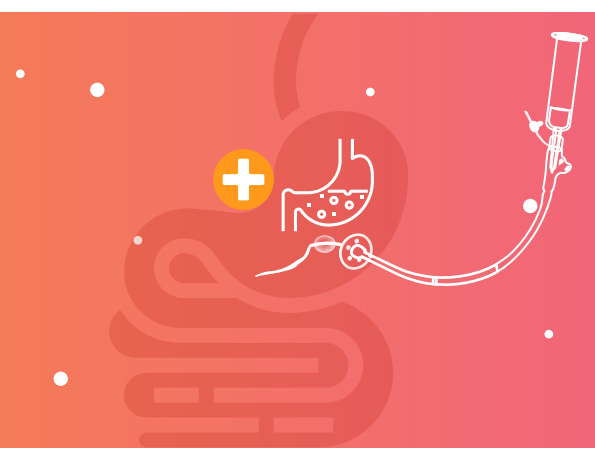
AVANOS

CHALLENGES OF USING STANDARD GASTROSTOMY TUBES FOR LONG-TERM FEEDING



Since their development about 25 years ago, percutaneous gastrostomy tubes have become well-accepted means of providing enteric access for patients with inadequate oral intake.[1]

- Widely accepted method of enteral nutrition because of its low morbidity and high success rate.[1]

Frequent complications associated with traditional gastrostomy tubes

- Peritubal leakage[1]
- Catheter occlusion[1]
- Dislodgement[1]
- Bulky design, posing an adverse cosmetic effect, particularly in the mobile patient[2]

These complications have paved the way for the development of new approaches to optimal gastrostomy tube type.[1]

- Developments such as use of gastrostomy buttons (also called low-profile or skin-level G tubes) were introduced to achieve problem-free long-term enteral feeding.[1, 3]

A 90 to 100% success rate has been shown for placement of gastrostomy buttons.[1]

Structure of a typical low-profile gastrostomy tube

- Visible portion of the tube is rod shaped with a cap closure. [3]
- The tube is premeasured to be flush to the abdomen.[3]
- Identified by both a French size (outer diameter) and shaft length (measured in cm). [3]
- Internal retention device may be a water balloon or a non-balloon mushroom-shaped dome. [3]
- Anti-reflux valve to prevent leakage of gastric contents when uncapping the device. [3]

Low-profile balloon gastrostomy tube[3]

Low-profile non-balloon gastrostomy tube[3]

Advantages of low-profile G tubes over the standard length G tubes

Standard feeding tube vs. low-profile feeding tube[3]

Standard feeding tube

Low-Profile Feeding Tube

- Patients favor its low profile design and more aesthetic nature (suitable for both pediatric and adult patients)[1,3]
- Poses fewer restrictions on mobility[3]
- Does not require tape to secure excess tubing to the skin[3]
- Reduced risk of gastric leakage through the tube (if the cap should open) due to presence of an anti-reflux valve[3]
- Less likely to dislodge by getting caught on something (in case of dislodgement, new buttons can be inserted at the patient's bedside without the need for a return visit to the hospital)[1,3]
- Serves as a useful alternative for adult patients with neurologic disease[1]
- Buttons are less prone to clogging due to short tube length[1]

DID YOU KNOW ?

British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN) guidelines 2003 state that in patients where cosmetic considerations are important, low-profile 'button' PEGs can be used which contain a built-in anti-reflux valve to prevent leaks when feeding extension tubes are disconnected.[4]

British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG) guidelines 2010 state that in mobile patients, PEG tube may be replaced by a low profile ('button') replacement when the tract is fully developed. Such low-profile devices have also been employed in patients who are at high risk of inadvertent tube displacement.[2]

OUR SOLUTION

Enteral feeding tubes can make patients feel limited in their lifestyle choices. AVANOS* MIC-KEY* feeding tubes can provide your patients the "cap it and go" option. It offers patients a truly low-profile alternative, a huge "no-show" difference compared to traditional feeding tubes that can show through the clothing, snag, or be pulled out accidentally. [5]

MIC-KEY* G-tube
Inflatable silicone internal retention balloon[6]
High performing anti-reflux valve[6]
SECUR-LOK* extension set connector mechanism with ENFit® Feeding port [6]

References:

1. O'Dowd M, Given MF, Lee MJ. New approaches to percutaneous gastrostomy. Semin Intervent Radiol. 2004;21(3):191-197. 2. Westaby D, Young A, O'Toole P, Smith G, Sanders DS. The provision of a percutaneously placed enteral tube feeding service. Gut. 2010; 59(12):1592-605. 3. Lord LM. Enteral Access Devices: Types, Function, Care, and Challenges. Nutr Clin Pract. 2018; 33(1):16-38. 4. Stroud M, Duncan H, Nightingale J. Guidelines for enteral feeding in adult hospital patients. Gut. 2003; 52(suppl 7):vii1-2. 5. Avanos website. Why MIC-KEY* low profile feeding tubes [Internet]. [cited 2021 May 28]. Available from: https://avanosmedicaldevices.com/digestive-health/patient-experience-digestive-health/why-mic-key-feeding-tubes/. 6.Product data sheet, MIC* and MIC-KEY* enteral feeding product catalogue 2020