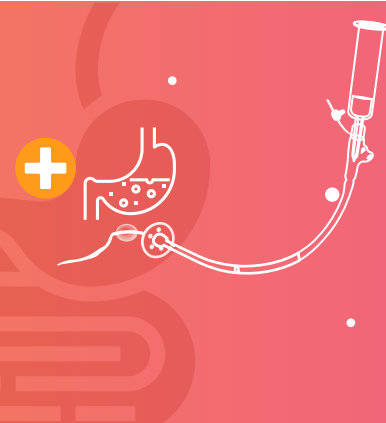


CHALLENGES OF USING A FOLEY CATHETER AS REPLACEMENT TUBE FOR LONG-TERM FEEDING



Initial gastrostomy and jejunostomy feeding tubes may require replacement due to factors such as deterioration, damage, dislodgement and time.^{1,2}

- However, some patients are provided with Foley catheters as replacement instead of dedicated balloon gastrostomy tubes.³

Foley catheters have been used routinely for urinary bladder catheterization—³

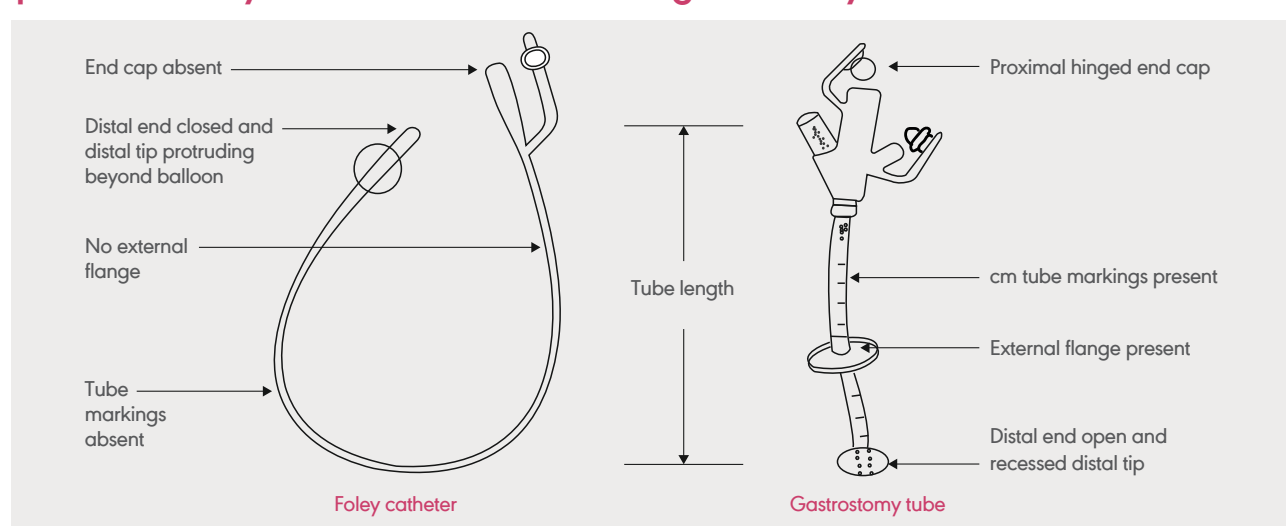
- If a dedicated gastrostomy tube is not available, a Foley catheter can be used as a temporary measure to protect the tract, but must be replaced with a dedicated gastrostomy tube as soon as possible.⁴
- Their use for enteral feeding either as replacement tubes for feeding or as a primary tube of choice, may come with several complications, especially in the long term.^{3,4}



DID YOU KNOW ?

- **NICE guidelines 2012:** Recommend not to include the use of Foley catheters for the purpose of enteral feeding.³
- **ASPEN guidelines 2009:** Recommend avoiding placement of catheters or tubes not intended for use as enteral feeding devices (such as urinary or GI drainage tubes) which usually are without an external anchoring device.⁵

Comparison of Foley catheter with a dedicated gastrostomy tube



	FOLEY CATHETER	DEDICATED GASTROSTOMY TUBE
TUBE LENGTH	With a longer tube length of 40cm, outlet obstruction is a risk if the tube is allowed to migrate in ⁴	Typical tube lengths of G-tubes are less than 20 cm ⁴
EXTERNAL FLANGE	Absence of external flange can increase risk of tube migration and hence cause obstruction ⁴	G-tubes come with an external flange (for e.g. SECURE-LOK) that helps to prevent tube migration ⁴
DISTAL END	Closed, causing tube to be at risk of obstruction ⁴	Open distal end, to prevent tube obstruction ⁴
DISTAL TIP	Distal tip protrudes beyond the balloon, increasing posterior gastric mucosa ulceration risk ⁴	Most have recessed distal tip, reducing probable posterior gastric mucosa ulceration ⁴
END CAPS	Absence of proximal end hinged caps. Spigot or stopper used to cap off proximal end when not in use and at risk of being lost or unavailable ⁴	Most G-tubes have proximal end hinged caps ⁴
TUBE MARKINGS	Absence of cm markings prevent monitoring and checking for change in external length of tube since insertion ⁴	Presence of cm markings help monitor and check that external length of tube has not changed since insertion ⁴



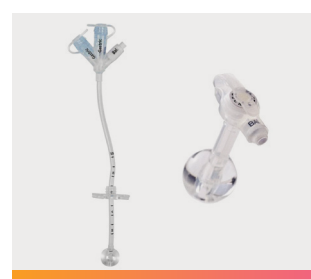
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Enteral feeding is a vital lifeline. Select AVANOS MIC*/MIC-KEY* Enteral feeding tubes for the assurance that you have chosen an innovative product that consistently performs and is well recognized and accepted.^{6,7}

AVANOS MIC-KEY* tubes are the most trusted and studied brand of low-profile feeding tubes available. And AVANOS MIC* Gastrostomy Feeding Tubes & Accessories are available with a wide variety of innovative product designs for gastric, jejunal, and gastro-jejunal access.⁷



Medical-grade silicone construction and ventilated SECUR-LOK* ring, designed to allow air to circulate around the stoma site and reduce tube pressure 360° from the stoma side walls⁶



Inflatable internal retention balloon⁶



Available in both ENFit® and non-ENFit® feeding and medication port and compliant to ISO80369-3 standard^{6,8}

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