

## Tube Feeding Procedure

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### Pump feeding:

1. Wash your hands thoroughly and dry them on a paper towel.
2. Measure formula for eight hours worth of infusion or volume advised by healthcare provider.
3. Clamp the feeding set.
4. Date and place any unused formula in the refrigerator.
5. Follow the pump manufacturer's directions to hook the feeding set up to the pump.
6. Run the pump until the formula fills the tubing completely (this removes any air).
7. Have your child sit upright, at least at a 45-degree angle.
8. Flush your child's feeding tube with 30–60 mL of water.
9. Hook the pump up to your child's feeding tube, making sure the tubes will not disconnect.
10. Turn the pump on and run for the amount of time your child's doctor or healthcare team has specified.
11. Have your child continue to sit upright.
12. When the bag is empty, stop the pump and flush the feeding tube with 30–60 mL of water to prevent clogging. If the bag is empty before the time your child's doctor has specified, place additional formula into the bag and repeat.
13. When finished, wash the syringe in warm soapy water, rinse and air-dry. Follow manufacturer's guidelines for rinsing and disposing of the administration set.

## Maintenance

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### How to remove a clog from your child's feeding tube:

1. Try to remove as much fluid as possible with a syringe—this fluid should be discarded.
2. Fill a clean syringe with 10 mL of warm water.
3. Using the syringe, gently pump the plunger back and forth, taking care not to force water into the tube.
4. If the clog doesn't clear, clamp the tube for five to 15 minutes and repeat.
5. If the clog still cannot be dislodged, the tube may need to be replaced. Call your healthcare professional.