General Information:
• The tube in situ is a Jejunal feeding tube placed in theatre. The fixation triangle is secured with sutures which must remain in situ for the life of the tube.
• The area where the tube enters the jejunum is called the stoma site.

Initial Care:*
• A keyhole dressing may be applied, as per hospital policy. The stoma site can be cleaned using 0.9% saline solution.
• Water/feeding is usually commenced 6-12 hours after placement. Refer to individual feeding regimen.
• If the patient complains of pain or there is localised swelling, stop feeding and report to your healthcare professional.
• Flush tube with water (as per local/hospital policy), to check the patency of the tube after placement.

Daily Care:
• Hygiene is of the utmost importance as the tube is in the small bowel; here there is no acid barrier as protection.
• Clean stoma site avoiding disturbing sutures with mild soap and water and ensure adequate drying, also renew dressing as required.
• Observe the stoma site daily for any leakage, swelling, redness or irritation; report any problems to your local healthcare professional. Some clear fluid may be present - this is normal.
• Continue to observe stoma site checking sutures are intact and report any problems to your healthcare professional.
• Flush tube with water (as per local/hospital policy) before, during and after enteral feed and medications.
• Do not rotate or advance tube to avoid displacement.
• If tube becomes blocked use warm/carbonated/soda water and refer to local policy of applicable.
• Do not flush using force. If tube remains blocked inform your local healthcare professional.
• If the tube becomes displaced (dislodged out of place) do not use tube and inform your local healthcare professional.
• If jejunal end becomes damaged contact your local healthcare professional for replacement.
• Do not put anything down the tube other than feed, water and medications in liquid form.
• Always check medications can be given by the jejunal route and liaise with pharmacist if required.

* after placement

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