



What to Expect: (G-Button) Gastrostomy Button Tube Feedings at Home

Caring for a child with a feeding tube at home is likely new for you. We understand this time can feel overwhelming. Here are a few tips and reminders to help you successfully care for your child at home:

It is not uncommon for children to try out several formulas before finding one that works well.

- Your child might be having issues tolerating the formula if you see: excessive spit-up/vomiting, constipation, diarrhea, bloody stools or noticeable discomfort during feedings.
- Please do not hesitate to contact an IU Health Home Care dietitian for assistance in finding the proper formula or regimen for your child. You can reach us 24/7/365 at 317.962.4600.

It is important you or your doctor let us know if changes are made to your child's feeding plan.

Your insurance will require a new, signed prescription to change the amount or type of formula your child is taking. Examples of when a new prescription should be sent to us:

- You have less formula on hand than normal or will run out of formula before the monthly refill is due.
- Your doctor recommends you change the brand or type of formula, or the feeding tube changes.
- Your doctor recommends that you increase the number of feedings per day, or the amount of formula.

Insurance companies will only allow a month's worth of product to be sent to your home at a time.

This means that only a set number of products will be allowed each month unless your child's medical condition warrants additional items. Please let us know if you feel the quantity of an item you received does not meet your child's needs. We may need documentation from your physician and can help obtain this.

If your child is admitted to the hospital, please let us know.

Your child's needs may change and we want to make sure you have everything you need when you get home.

Please see other side for information regarding refills and supplies.



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The button kits can be used at home for up to three months at a time.

- Manufacturer recommendations are to use the button for a period of three months. If the button needs to be changed more frequently or you have concerns, please let us know.
- Please be sure to turn the button a quarter turn daily, then clean the skin with soap and warm water. Keep the area completely dry and let the doctor know if you notice skin irritation that does not go away.
- It is important to always have a backup tube on hand in case there is an issue with the current gastrostomy tube. Please call us for a replacement tube as soon as you use the backup.

There are a variety of supplies available, but we send home the most commonly used items to get you started.

- If the items you are using irritate your child's skin or are causing issues in some other way, please let us know so we can find an item that works better.
- There are also different length and style extension sets available to try.

IU Health Home Care will contact you approximately one week prior to your estimated next refill.

We must have verbal or written permission each month to confirm your needs and shipping information.

- You can place your order via phone call or online at iuhealth.org/nutritionrefill.
- We also have three ways to remind you when the refill is due: phone, text or email.
- Please let your customer service representative know your preference when you place your first refill.

For more information, visit iuhealth.org/enteralnutrition or call 317.962.4600.



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iuhealth.org/enteralnutrition