

Initiating naso-gastric tube feeding out of hours

Please consider refeeding recommendations over-page prior to starting feeds

Infant 0-1 year (up to 9kg)

Not for use with infants following the bronchiolitis care pathway

Expressed breast milk /
standard infant formula /
Prescribed specialist formula

0-4months
150ml/kg

5-8months
130ml/kg

9-12months
120ml/kg

Start continuous feeds via feed pump over 24-hours.

If appropriate move to 3hourly feeds via gravity

Step 1: Calculate total volume by multiplying weight by mls/kg above

Step 2: For continuous feeds divide total volume by 24 to determine feed rate

Step 3: For 3hrly feeds, divide total volume by 8 to give bolus volume.

1-6 years (9 - 21kg)

Nutrini standard /
Usual prescribed feed
if required

Commence at
10-20ml/hr continuous
Increase by 5-10ml 6hrly
to target rate

Target rate equivalent to:

1-3 years (9-15kg): 95ml/kg/day

4-6 years(16-21kg): 80ml/kg/day

- For patients above the weight range for age, select regimen based on age.
- For patients under the weight range for age, select regimen based on weight.
- If child is enterally fed at home, target should be usual feed volume.

7 years or older (more than 21kg)

Nutrison standard/
Usual prescribed feed if required

Commence at
20ml/hr continuous
Increase by 10-15ml 6hrly
to target rate

Target rates:

21 – 32kg: 65ml/hr x 24hr (1560ml)

33 – 44kg: 75ml/hr x 24hr (1800ml)

45 – 55kg: 80ml/hr x 24hr (1920ml)

>55kg: 90ml/hr x 24hr (2160ml)

The recommended feed volumes are based on nutritional needs - additional fluids may be required to maintain hydration. This guidance is to be used alongside clinical judgement

Consider Refeeding Syndrome

Percentage weight loss

$$\frac{(\text{previous weight} - \text{current weight})}{\text{previous weight}} \times 100$$

Consider

- Is the patient chronically undernourished?
- Does the patient have significant and sustained gut losses (e.g. vomiting/stoma output/diarrhoea) in addition to weight loss?
- Has the patient lost > 10 - 15% in the preceding 2-3 months?
(shorter timeframe for younger/lower starting weight)
- Has the patient had minimal or no nutritional intake for > 4 days?

If the answer is Yes to one or more follow below steps:

- **Raise risk concerns with medical/surgical team**
- Baseline bloods must be taken **before** feeding commences:
Phosphate / Sodium / Potassium / Calcium / Magnesium
- Consider correcting any abnormalities prior to commencing feeds, but do not unnecessarily delay feeding
- Start feeds at the lower ranges and advance at the slower pace
(E.g 1-6 yrs start at 10mls/hr and increase by 5mls/hr 6rly)
- Repeat bloods 12-24hr after starting feeds as this is the key time for shifts in electrolytes to be observed
- Continue daily blood monitoring daily for 7 days