



Infection Prevention Toolkit



Supporting Information For completing Feeding Audit Tool

Hand Hygiene and PPE

- Hands decontaminated before handling feeds and components of the feeding system.
- Hands decontaminated immediately before and after each episode of patient contact.
- Disposable aprons are worn.

Preparation and storage of feeds

- Feeds are stored according to manufacturers instructions and, where applicable, food hygiene legislation.
- A clean working surface is prepared by washing with hot soapy water, rinse and dry well.
- Only equipment dedicated for enteral feeding are used.
- Store unopened feeds in a cool dry place (check expiry date). Rotate stock. Use clean scissors to open cartons.
- Packets, cans, bottles without screw caps cover with cling film and place in fridge. Discard any fluid after 24 hours and any unopened packets of dried powder after 4 weeks.

Set up of the enteral feeding system

- Minimal handling and an aseptic non-touch technique should be used to connect the feed container administration system and enteral feeding tube.

Hanging time

- Ready to hang (RTH) feeds and giving sets are marked as single use and must be discarded after 24 hours. For non ready to hang feeds, hanging time should be limited to 4 hours; each feed requires a new flexitainer and giving set. In certain cases freshly prepared (not refrigerated) feed can be hung for a maximum of 12 hours overnight.

Enteral feed equipment

- Single use equipment is used once and discarded.
- Reusable equipment is decontaminated as per manufacturer's instructions. For children under one or those who are immunosuppressed equipment should be sterilised with a hypochlorite solution eg Milton (same dilution as babies bottles).
- Single patient use equipment is stored in a lidded container marked with the patients details.

Pumps

- Pumps should be wiped over weekly with a clean damp cloth. Any spills cleaned off immediately following manufacturer's instructions.

Care of insertion site and enteral feeding tube

- Site should be washed daily with water and dried thoroughly.
- Feeding tube should be flushed with tap water before and after feeding or administering medications. For patients who are immuno-compromised, cooled boiled water or sterile water from a freshly opened container must be used.



Infection Prevention Audit Tool - Enteral Feeding

(Aim to reduce possibility of microbial contamination in relation to Enteral Feeding)

Infection Prevention Toolkit



Care Home Name: _____

Name and Designation of person completing audit (PRINT): _____

Date Audit Completed: _____

Elements	Staff Name/ Initials	Hands hygiene and PPE		Preparation and storage of feeds		Set up of the enteral feeding system		Appropriate hanging time for feed		Enteral feed equipment		External surface of pump cleaned weekly		Care of insertion site and enteral feeding tube		All elements performed	
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
1																	
2																	
3																	
4																	
5																	
6																	
7																	
8																	
9																	
10																	
TOTAL																	