G-Button Guideline Checklist

- Begin Guideline in the OR, Immediately Post Op
- Transfer Guideline with Patient to Inpatient Setting
  - Post Attached Sign at Head-of-Bed
  - Schedule Dates and Times on Guideline
- Begin G-button Guideline Care and Place with Patient Chart
G-button Surgically Inserted (Date)__________

Volume of Water in G-button balloon ______________

**G-button care: immediately post-op through discharge**

**General:**

- All patients with g-buttons should have the date of surgical insertion and the volume of water in the balloon documented in the Operative report.
- Before 6 weeks post-op, if the g-button comes out, contact the Surgery NP immediately. Please test the balloon and if defective, order the same size/style tube from SPD to the bedside.
- After 6 weeks post-op, if the g-button comes out, the RN should test the balloon for leaks.
  - If the balloon functions normally, the RN can re-insert the same g-button or a new identically-sized device.
  - If the balloon is defective, obtain the same size/style tube from SPD, check the new balloon for competency, then insert the tube and fill the balloon with the volume of water indicated in the operative note.
  - Place the g-button to gravity drainage to ensure there is drainage of gastric contents prior to resuming feedings.
  - Call the Surgery NP to inform them that the tube fell out and was replaced, if there is any concern for tube misplacement, or with any concerns before attempting a new tube replacement.
- Please contact the Surgery team if there are any concerns regarding drainage around the button, excessive pressure on the skin or any other mechanical problems.

**First 24 hours post-op: Date/Time _________**

- Vent/drain the g-button to gravity via extension tubing and mucus trap.
- Document drainage of stomach contents.
- Ensure there is no tension on the extension tubing.
- Ensure there is no direct pressure from the g-button to the skin by tape, securing sutures or by any other means.
- Ensure the g-button or its extension tubing is loosely secured to the skin to prevent the device from spinning. This should not place pressure upon the skin.
- If g-button manipulation, turning or lifting is felt to be necessary, please contact the surgery team.
- See sign template

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Care of g-button < 14 days post-op: Date/Time ________

- Surgery team will indicate when to clamp the extension tubing in preparation for feedings.
- Do not remove the extension tubing from the g-button. This may occur per the surgeon’s judgment.
- Ensure that the g-button is situated perpendicular to the skin and that no pressure is applied to the skin.
- On the 2nd postoperative day, routine g-button care can begin:
  - Clean the skin around the g-button with Q-tips twice daily with sterile water, then a dry cotton swab. Use ½ strength hydrogen peroxide if necessary to remove dry, crusty materials.
  - The child may be sponge bathed or showered but the wounds and g-button should not be submerged.
- Surgery team will indicate when feedings can begin.
- When feedings have started, RN may flush extension tubing with water while it is still attached to the g-button in order to clear formula from the tubing. See policy: Administering Intermittent/Bolus Feeds or Continuous Feeds via a Gastrostomy Tube
- Begin teaching g-button care to the family when routine g-button care begins.

Care of g-button > 14 days post-op: Date/Time ________

- The extension tubing may be removed and the child may bathe normally.
- If there is excessive drainage around the g-button, apply a layer of thin foam, e.g. Mepilex Lite, to protect the skin and contact Surgery NP.
Guideline/ Protocol/Algorithm Preparation

This guideline/ protocol/ algorithm was prepared in collaboration with the Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) team and content experts at Dell Children’s Medical Center (DCMC). Development of this document supports the DCMC Quality and Safety Program initiative to promote clinical guidelines and outcomes that build a culture of quality and safety within the organization.

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G-Button Precautions

Refer to G-Button Care Guidelines