Overview

This standard covers the insertion of nasogastric tubes following agreed protocols and procedures as and when directed. All of these activities must be undertaken using an aseptic technique.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.
Performance criteria

You must be able to:

P1 apply standard precautions for infection prevention and control and take other appropriate health and safety measures
P2 check the individual's identity and confirm the planned activity
P3 give the individual relevant information, support and reassurance in a manner which is sensitive to their needs and concerns
P4 gain valid consent to insert the nasogastric tube
P5 select and confirm all equipment and materials for inserting the nasogastric tube is:
  P5.1 appropriate to the procedure
  P5.2 fit for purpose
P6 ensure the individual is positioned in a way that will:
  P6.1 ensure their safety and comfort
  P6.2 facilitate insertion of the nasogastric tube
P7 insert the nasogastric tube in compliance with the correct protocols and procedures:
  P7.1 at an appropriate time according to the individual's plan of care
  P7.2 using appropriate techniques
  P7.3 using equipment in line with manufacturer's instructions
  P7.4 in a manner which optimises the patient's comfort and dignity and minimises pain and trauma
P8 observe the individual throughout the activity, recognise and report any condition or behaviour which may signify adverse reactions to the activity and take the appropriate action
P9 ensure the nasogastric tube is correctly positioned in the stomach
P10 ensure the drainage bags are securely attached in a way that prevent discomfort and promotes dignity of the individual
P11 ensure the individual is made comfortable following insertion of the nasogastric tube and dispose of waste according to agreed procedures
P12 observe nasogastric aspirate for any change in appearance and promptly inform the appropriate member of the care team
P13 measure and record the volume of aspirate and correctly using the required documentation
P14 seek assistance promptly from an appropriate person should it be required at any stage
P15 dispose of waste appropriately
P16 record clearly, accurately, and correctly any relevant information in the necessary records
Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 the current European and National legislation, national guidelines, organisationa lpolicies and protocols in accordance with Clinical/Corporate Governance which affect your work practice in relation to inserting and securing nasogastric tubes

K2 your responsibilities and accountability in relation to the current European and National legislation, national guidelines and local policies and Clinical/Corporate Governance

K3 the duty to report any acts or omissions in care that could be detrimental to yourself, other individuals or your employer

K4 the importance of applying standard precautions to inserting and securing nasogastric tubes and the potential consequences of poor practice

K5 the importance of working within your own sphere of competence when and seeking advice when faced with situations outside your sphere of competence

K6 the conditions and constraints which might denote who undertakes this procedure and why

K7 what valid consent means and why it must be obtained and confirmed prior to actions being taken

K8 the anatomy of the upper gastro-intestinal tract in relation to inserting nasogastric tubes

K9 the physiology of the stomach and small intestine in relation to potential contents of gastric aspirate

K10 the following regarding the stomach/intestinal fluid:
   K10.1 the normal appearance and content of stomach/intestinal fluid
   K10.2 potential abnormal appearance and content of stomach/intestinal fluid depending on the individual’s presenting medical condition

K11 potential sources of contamination when inserting nasogastric tubes and appropriate measures to reduce or deal with them

K12 the potential consequences of contamination of equipment and materials used for the insertion of nasogastric tubes

K13 how aseptic technique contributes to the control of infection

K14 why individuals should be supported and told about the nature of the insertion of the nasogastric tube

K15 the concerns and worries which individuals or client groups may have in relation to some clinical procedures

K16 the adverse reactions which may occur during and following procedures and how to identify and deal with these

K17 the importance of offering effective verbal and non-verbal support and reassurance to patients when you insert nasogastric tubes

K18 the effective methods of providing verbal and non-verbal support and
Insert and secure nasogastric tubes

reassurance to patients

K19 the types of nasogastric tubes that can be used and why you should select that most appropriate for the individual

K20 the topical anaesthetic agents

K21 the importance of maintaining the correct level of cleanliness for the insertion of nasogastric tubes

K22 the importance of following procedures for the insertion of nasogastric tubes exactly as specified, and the potential effects of not doing so

K23 the importance of packing up used equipment and materials and covering receptacles containing nasogastric aspirate prior to leaving the immediate care area

K24 how and where to dispose of:
   K24.1 used equipment and materials
   K24.2 nasogastric aspirate

K25 the importance of immediately reporting any issues which are outside your own sphere of competence without delay to the relevant member of staff

K26 the following regarding records:
   K26.1 the importance of keeping accurate and up to date records
   K26.2 the specific records required for reporting on the insertion of nasogastric tubes
Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB5 Provision of care to meet health and wellbeing needs
The candidate and assessor must only sign below when all Performance Criteria and Knowledge points have been met.

**Unit assessed as being complete**

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**Internal Verification —**
to be completed in accordance with centre’s IV strategy

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This Unit has been subject to an admin check in keeping with the centre’s IV strategy.

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**Unit completion confirmed**

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