

Distal Feeding

Colorectal Nursing

This leaflet is produced to give you some general information about your treatment. It is intended to support the teaching you will receive from your colorectal or nutrition specialist nurse if you need to use distal feeding at home.

What is distal feeding?

Distal feeding is sometimes known as fistuloclysis and means inserting a feeding tube into your fistula / stoma and administering a liquid feed into your bowel. A stoma bag is then fitted over the feeding tube which is connected to a giving set which allows the feed to be administered slowly into the bowel.

Why do I need distal feeding?

As you are unable to absorb enough nutrition from food at present, it has been recommended that distal feeding be considered. This type of feeding may allow you to absorb enough nutrients to reduce or stop parenteral nutrition (receiving intravenous nutrition).

When possible, it is important to use your bowel and keep it working, especially if you are coming back for closure of your fistula / stoma. The large bowel can absorb water and sodium (salt). It can also absorb some nutrients over time and in many cases it may be quicker to start eating again after surgery.

Are there any side effects?

Possible symptoms may include some abdominal discomfort, although this gradually reduces as the feed is increased. It is also possible that you may experience some diarrhoea. These symptoms should improve over time and can be treated with medications. Occasionally tube displacement and blockage can occur.

What will happen?

Once you have consented for this treatment you will need to have a feeding tube placed into your stoma / fistula. This will be done by a trained professional. The tube is held in place by a balloon filled with water. When this has been done you will be seen by a stoma nurse and a pouch / bag will be placed over the tube.

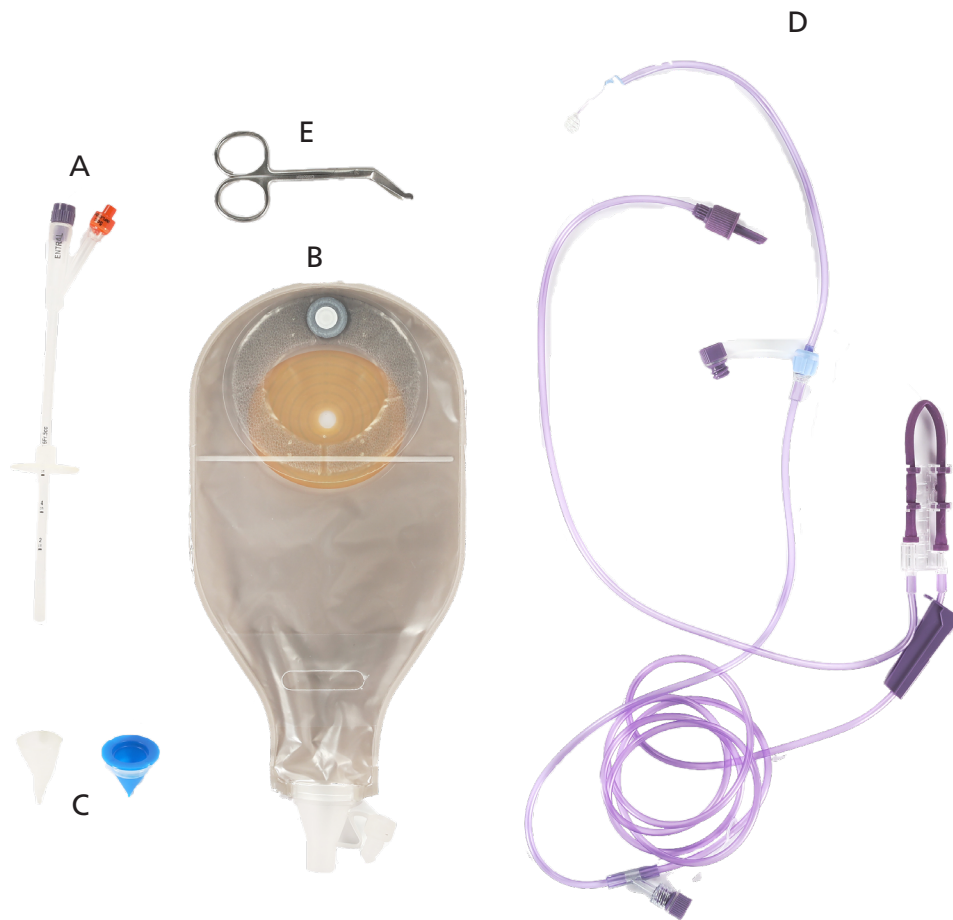
Feeding will be built up gradually. This may be done using a pump to push the feed through slowly or via a syringe (bolus feeding). Your dietitian will supply a feeding plan and monitor your progress.

The prevention of infection is a major priority in all healthcare and everyone has a part to play.

- Please decontaminate your hands frequently for 20 seconds using soap and water or alcohol gel if available
- If you have symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, cough or other respiratory symptoms, a temperature or any loss of taste or smell please do not visit the hospital or any other care facility and seek advice from 111
- Keep the environment clean and tidy
- Let's work together to keep infections out of our hospitals and care homes.

What happens afterwards?

This type of feeding is often temporary whilst you are in hospital but sometimes, for a more extended period you may go home with it. If you are discharged on this type of feed, you or a family member will receive training from the nutrition nurse on how to give the feed and look after the tube. The stoma nurse will teach you how to apply a new bag, and this is demonstrated in the following pictures.



Items required:

- A Feeding tube
- B Stoma Bag
- C Cone System
- D Giving set
- E Scissors



Put the blue cone into the stoma bag through the opening.



Feed the blue cone down to the desired position, which is usually on the lower end of the bag.

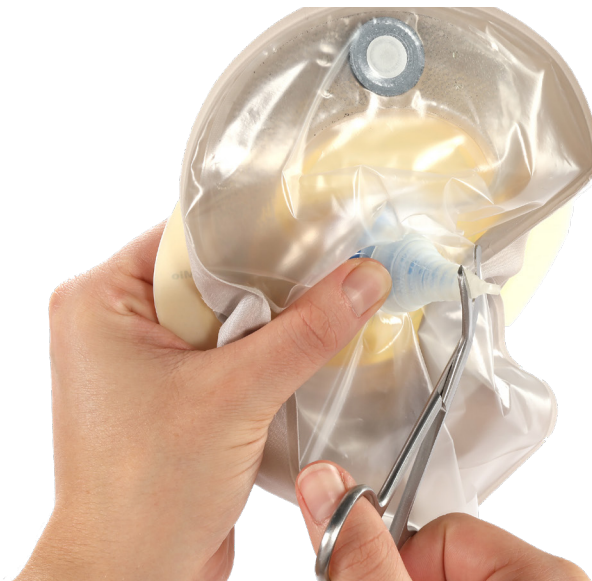




Take the white rubber cone and put it on top of the blue one.



Press the two cones firmly together so they snap together. The white cone should now be attached to the white ring of the blue cone. The blue cone can now be removed.



Cut the end off the white cone to create a small opening.



Take the end of the gastrostomy feeding tube and insert into the white cone.



Continue to manoeuvre the tube into the bag through the opening until the end of the tube and white cone are level as shown in the picture.



Then attach the giving set.



This is how it should look.

For further advice:

If you have any questions or concerns about distal feeding or your equipment please do not hesitate to contact your stoma nurse or nutrition nurse using the below contact details.

Colorectal / Stoma Care Nursing Department: 01902 694084
(for advice about stoma pouches).

Nutrition Team: 01902 307999 Ext: 85336
(for any advice about the feed and feeding tube).

English

If you need information in another way like easy read or a different language please let us know.

If you need an interpreter or assistance please let us know.

Lithuanian

Jeigu norėtumėte, kad informacija jums būtų pateikta kitu būdu, pavyzdžiui, supaprastinta forma ar kita kalba, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Jeigu jums reikia vertėjo ar kitos pagalbos, prašome mums apie tai pranešti.

Polish

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać te informacje w innej postaci, na przykład w wersji łatwej do czytania lub w innym języku, prosimy powiedzieć nam o tym.

Prosimy poinformować nas również, jeżeli potrzebowaliby Państwo usługi tłumaczenia ustnego lub innej pomocy.

Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਵਿਚ ਆਸਾਨ ਰੂਪ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ, ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ ਦੀ ਜਾਂ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਦੱਸੋ।

Romanian

Dacă aveți nevoie de informații în alt format, ca de exemplu caractere ușor de citit sau altă limbă, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Dacă aveți nevoie de un interpret sau de asistență, vă rugăm să ne informați.

Traditional Chinese

如果您需要以其他方式了解信息，如易读或其他语种，请告诉我们。

如果您需要口译人员或帮助，请告诉我们。