



Information for You from Your Health Care Team

Feeding Tubes

Nasogastric Tube (Na-zo-gas-trik) or NG Tube

An NG is a plastic tube that is gently inserted into the patient's nostril and into the stomach. The tube is hollow and allows stomach fluids to be removed. Medicines and feedings can also be given down the NG.

Kaofeed tube (Kay-o-feed)

The kaofeed tube is inserted into the stomach for feedings and is also used to give medicines and fluids. A kaofeed tube is smaller than an NG tube.

Nasojejunal tube (Na-zo-ja-june-al) or NJ Tube

An NJ is a small, flexible tube placed through the patient's nostril into the stomach and into the small intestine (jejunum). There is less risk of feedings or medicines going back up the esophagus (e-sof-uh-gus) or throat and getting into the lungs.

Who needs a feeding tube?

Any patient who cannot eat or drink (unconscious patients with a working stomach, patients on a ventilator or patients who have trouble swallowing or chewing). Any patient with increased nutritional needs (infection, burns, trauma or head injury).