

GASTROSTOMY TUBE (G TUBE)

Tube placed through the skin into the stomach. It is used to give food, medicine, and fluids.

SEDATION

- The sedation you received for your procedure is still in your system.
- You should take it easy the rest of the day. **DO NOT** drive and avoid drinking alcohol.
- In addition to procedural sedation you will receive local anesthesia to the skin.

CARE AFTER THE PROCEDURE

- Avoid strenuous activity for at least one (1) week.
- If you are on blood thinning medications you will need to contact your doctor who manages them. They will give you instructions on when to resume them and when blood work should be done.
- It is normal to have a moderate amount of discomfort around the tube site for a few days following the procedure.
- You may experience abdominal discomfort the first night of the procedure.
- Taking Acetaminophen (Tylenol) or Ibuprofen (Motrin or Advil) will help your pain.
- You can remove the dressing and shower in two (2) days.

DIET AFTER THE PROCEDURE

- The tube should not be used for feeding or medication for 24 hours.
- Drink a lot of fluids and have small meals.
- Try to avoid eating heavy meals for a few days. For example **DO NOT** eat steak, fried, or spicy food.

WHEN TO CALL YOUR OWN DOCTOR

- Call for questions regarding what the tube will be used for, and how long you will have it.
- If you require additional support, ask your doctor to order a visiting nurse.

WHEN TO CALL INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY

- Bleeding or foul smelling drainage around the tube.
- If you are having **difficulty flushing the tube**.
- If the **tube** accidentally **falls out**.

Call the Interventional Radiology Nurse Coordinators' line at **617-724-2239** between 8am and 5pm Monday through Friday. For emergencies in the **evening or weekend hours**, a doctor can be reached through the answering service at **617-726-1818**. Ask the operator to page the **Non-vascular Interventional Radiology Fellow**.

FOLLOW UP CARE

- You will have T Tachs (special sutures) in for two (2) weeks.
- Call the Interventional Radiology Clinic **617-724-2239** for removal of T Tachs.



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