The Yorkshire and Humber Neonatal Operational Delivery Network

Nasogastric Tube Feeding Crib sheet for Parents/Carers

Parent/carer has received, read, and understood a copy of the information provided by the unit.

Hygiene- Parent/Carer can:

- demonstrate the correct handwashing technique and use this prior to preparing and administering feed *(& medication if local unit policy)* via NGT.

Preparation – Parent/Carer can:

- gather the correct equipment to NGT feed their baby:
- Correct size of syringe to aspirate (adhere to local unit policy).
- pH paper.
- Correct size of syringe to give feed.
- Milk at room temperature and 2 persons check with a Nurse.

Check tube for displacement Parent/Carer can:

- check the feeding tube is securely attached with tape.
- check the feeding tube is in at the correct length and documented on the feeding chart (use of tape measure).
- check in their baby's mouth for coiling of the NGT.

Aspirating the NGT – Parent/Carer can:

- gently aspirate the NGT tube to check the tip is in the correct position.
- know what a normal aspirate (clear/milky) looks like and to call for help if green/yellow or brown/ blood stained.

pH testing – Parent/Carer:

- have been taught to test the stomach aspirate on pH paper.
- understand the result range on the pH paper (adhere to local policy). If above the recommended pH they must not feed their baby and inform the Nurse.
- certain medications can affect the pH result please discuss this with parents.

Safety issues – Parent/Carer:

- are aware of the risks associated with NGT feeding i.e., potential for milk aspiration.
- are aware what to do if baby cough, chokes, gags or vomits, becomes unwell or changes colour whilst feeding.
- know what to do if their baby vomits and at the same time the NGT becomes dislodged.
- Knows how to stop the feed in an emergency.

Giving the bolus feed – Parent/Carer:

- know how to correctly position their baby for NGT feeds.
- understand the importance of watching their baby closely throughout the NGT feed.
- can remove the plunger and attach the syringe correctly to the NGT before commencing feed.
- can ensure the milk flows slowing into their baby's tummy depending on how high or low they hold the syringe.
- know how to remove the syringe and replace the cap on the NGT at the end of the feed.
- will not let anyone else tube feed their baby who hasn't been trained to do so by the Neonatal staff.
- know where to dispose of all the equipment when the feed has been completed.

Care of skin – Parent Carer:

- knows how to check the skin for redness where the NGT is secured and ensure the tape is clean.

Problem solving – Parent/Carer:

- know what to do if the NGT is pulled out, dislodged, or blocked, the pH is above the recommended range, aspirate is green, yellow or blood stained or any other concerns.

Milk storage – Parent/Carer:

- know where to collect their baby's milk from.
- have been shown how to label their baby's milk.
- know how to store their baby's milk.

Staff

- **Parents have received training, been assessed, and feel safe and able to undertake nasogastric tube feeding for their baby. Parents are willing to take responsibility for giving NGT feeds to their baby without supervision.**

Please sign separate competency document