



NCCU CLINICAL GUIDELINES
SECTION: 6

NUTRITION: ENTERAL AND PARENTERAL

Section: 6 Nutrition: Enteral & Parenteral
Tube feeding by parents in the NCCU
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CRITERIA FOR TUBE FEEDING BY PARENTS IN THE NCCU

Parents can be offered the option to tube feed their infant if the following criteria have been met:
Please note: Tube feeds by a parent are to be performed in the presence of nursing staff.

1. Senior Medical/CNC approval has been obtained and documented on the infant's 'Tube Feeding Pack'.
2. Infant is not ventilated (including nasal CPAP/HHF).
3. Infant is tolerating full enteral feeds and medically stable. Normally this will not occur before the infant reaches 1200gms.
4. The parent has expressed a willingness to take on the procedure, has received education as per the [NCCU learning package](#) and is assessed as safe (competent) in performing a tube feed for their infant.
5. The infant is due a tube feed.
6. If a top up tube feed is required after a Breast Feed.
7. Infants must be returned to the incubator/cot for tube feeds by parents.