

Guideline for Replacement of a Dislodged Gastrostomy

Note: Any individual presenting to Emergency Department (ED) with a dislodged gastrostomy should be considered as “Urgent” (within 60 minutes)

Identify when gastrostomy tube placed

≤ 2 weeks: Cover stoma site and contact Gastroenterology/Radiology immediately

≥ 2 weeks: Replacement by treating Doctor in the ED. See procedure for replacement below



No existing tube/Foley catheter keeping stoma site open

Action: Attempt to keep stoma site open, exerting minimal force on insertion as per clinical judgment*

Options:

- Gastrostomy replacement, see below for guidelines

OR

- Place a Foley catheter until gastrostomy replacement possible (can use smaller size if indicated)

Existing tube/Foley catheter keeping stoma site open

Action: Gastrostomy replacement, see below for guidelines

*If unfamiliar with replacement, ensure Foley catheter insitu



Commence procedure for replacement below

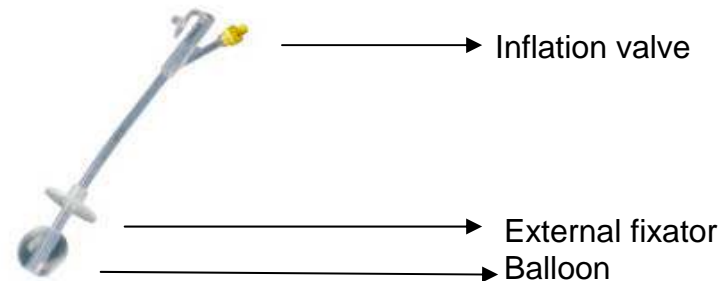
Note: If unsuccessful with gastrostomy replacement cover stoma site and contact Gastroenterology/Radiology immediately

Link to video of procedure for replacing a Corflo Balloon Gastrostomy Tube : http://www.corpakmedsystemsuk.com/Learning_Center/learning-center.html

Procedure for Replacement

Preparation for placement:

1. **Aim to Identify French Size of Gastrostomy:** Different French size may be required to fit current stoma.
2. **Source Tube** from stock on ED OR patient may have replacement.
3. **Positioning**, ensure the patient is lying on flat bed/reclining chair.
4. **Aseptic technique**
5. **Inspect the tube prior to use:**
 - Fill the balloon with 5 ml or 20 ml of water, depending on balloon volume. This is printed on the inflation valve
 - Completely deflate the balloon after inspection
 - Check the external fixator to see that it slides up and down the shaft of the tube
6. **Remove the existing tube if insitu** by removing all water from balloon
7. **Clean the stoma** with normal saline
8. **Close the feeding port** on the new tube



Placement:

9. **Lubricate the tip** with water-based lubricant or at least moisten the tip with water. Do not use a petroleum-based oil or jelly.
10. **Guide the lubricated tip through the stoma and into the stomach**. The replacement tube must be able to move freely in and out of the abdomen.
11. **Inflate the balloon with sterile water**. Balloon volume as per manufacturer's instructions, this maybe printed on the inflation valve. Never inflate the balloon with air. Never overinflate the balloon.
12. **Withdraw the tube**, until tension is felt from the balloon contacting the stomach wall.
13. **Slide the external fixator** down the shaft of the tube until there is a space of ~5mm between the stoma and the fixation plate. Excessive tension should **not** be applied and the external fixator should **not** be sutured in place.
14. **Check that the tube is in the correct position** by aspirating gastric contents with a syringe and testing aspirate on pH indicator paper. If in doubt of position, have a gastrograffin study performed.