

THINGS TO CONSIDER TUBE POINTERS

For tubes such as Gtube, Peg tube, nephrostomy tubes, surgical drains



HOW CAN WE AVOID TUBE DISLODGEEMENT?

MARK

- **Mark** the tube at the exit site with a sharpie or other indelible marker and write down the external length of the tube when it's placed.
- **Anchor** the tube with the right kind of securing devices and techniques, dependent upon where the tube is located. If the stoma site is newer, secure with medical tape, but be careful to avoid putting pressure on the stoma. Dangling tubes should be pinned or taped to clothing to avoid slack that leads to tugging.
- **Reassess** the tube placement frequently. Notice the distance that the tube normally protrudes. If the tube gets shorter or longer, it may be pulling in or out of the body. If the tube disappears or comes out, contact your doctor immediately.
- **Keep** pressure off the skin where the tube inserts and make sure all caregivers are up to date on best practices for tube care.

THINGS TO WATCH OUT FOR

- ✓ Increased Drainage
- ✓ Leaking
- ✓ Redness
- ✓ Pain or Discomfort
- ✓ Change in input or output
- ✓ Tube movement or dislodgement

If any of these occur, please contact the Provider for appropriate follow up

NOTE: These are general guidelines. Please customize assessments and interventions to the patient's individual care plan and always check with the attending physician.