

Taking Care Of Your Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy (PEG) At Home



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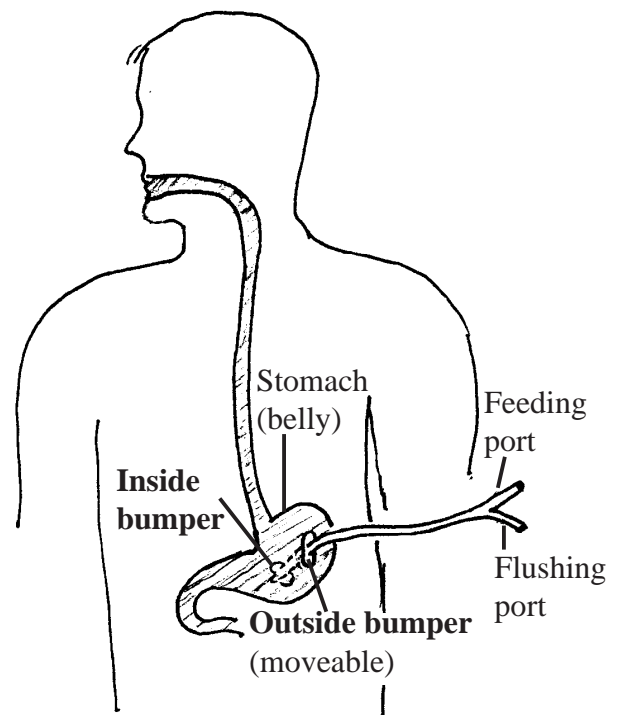
**Do not put anything through your feeding tube
until you have been shown how to use it.**

You have just had a Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy (PEG) tube put in your stomach (belly). For the next 24 hours:

- You may be drowsy or forgetful.
- Do not sign any important or legal papers today.
- Do not drive.
- You may feel slightly bloated (swollen) and have pain in your stomach from the gas put into your belly while the tube was being put in.
- You may have pain at the place where the tube was put in.
- Your throat may be a little sore.

About your PEG tube:

- The tube you see coming out of your stomach (belly) has a round bumper **inside** your stomach to keep the tube from coming out.
- There is another bumper **outside** your stomach (belly), which you can see lying against your skin. This outside bumper can be moved to keep you comfortable if you gain or lose weight. Your feeding tube will not fall out if you loosen this bumper. This outside bumper should not be pressing into your stomach (belly). It should lie flat against your skin so you are comfortable.



(over)

Taking care of your PEG tube:

- Every day check the place where your tube goes in (tube site). See if it is red, swollen or has drainage that smells bad. If you have any of these problems call your health care provider right away, or go to the Emergency Room.
- Every day, clean around the tube with soap and water. Dry the tube site by patting it gently with a clean towel. **Do not** put a dressing (bandage) around the tube site. A bandage may keep the tube site damp. It may then get infected.

Go to the Emergency Room right away if:

- You vomit.
- The pain in your stomach gets worse.
- You have trouble breathing.
- You have a fever of more than 100° Fahrenheit (37.8° Centigrade).
- You have bad pain when you swallow.
- You have chest pain.
- There is green or yellow drainage that smells bad around the tube site.
- There is redness and swelling around the tube site.
- The tube comes out.

