

Feeding Tube Connectors

Attention: Home tube feeding clients and family members

There are new standards for feeding tube connectors. New connectors will be introduced to improve patient safety. The new connectors will prevent connections between medical devices that are not supposed to attach.

The new connectors will be introduced in different stages for use in hospitals, care facilities and at home. You need to know how the new connectors will impact you.

- The new standards will affect: •Feeding sets for giving formula •Feeding tubes
 - Syringes for flushing the tube, bolus feeding and giving medication

Now =

Stage 1, **Current Connection**



- All current feeding sets have the "stepped" connector
- These feeding sets fit into your current feeding tube

What you can do now:

- **1.** Ask your tube feeding supplier when you can expect to change to feeding sets and syringes with the new connector. Dates are subject to change.
- **2.** Ask the doctor who inserted your feeding tube when you can expect to change to a feeding tube with the new connector. Dates are subject to change.
- 3. Look at these websites for

Spring 2015* -Stage 2,

Transition Connection



- All feeding sets will have the new connector
- You need a "stepped" transition connector to connect the feeding set to your feeding tube
- The transition connector will be in the same package as the feeding set
- Depending on the brand of feeding set you use, the transition connector might be attached to the feeding set, or you might need to attach it yourself

Dates are subject to change.

Late 2015 =

Stage 3, **Final Connection**



- All feeding sets will have the new connector
- All feeding tubes will have the new connector
- You do not need the transition connector

* Note:

Syringes with the new connector will be available in mid-2015. You do not need the new syringes until your doctor replaces your feeding tube with one that uses the new connector (Stage 3, above).

- more information:
 - GEDSA (Global Enteral Device Supplier Association): Stay Connected 2015 www.stayconnected.org
 - The Oley Foundation: Enteral Nutrition Connectors www.oley.org/EN_Connector_Articles.html

Thanks to Providence Health Care for permission to adapt their material