

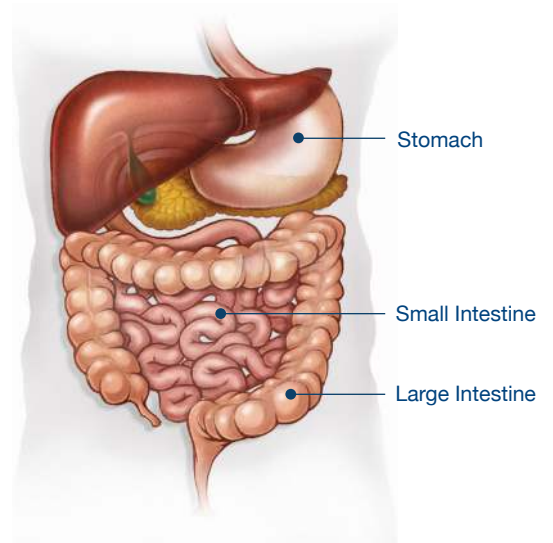
Enteral Nutrition

Are you new to Enteral Feeding?

Proper nutrition is essential to maintaining our bodies' health, growth, and ability to heal. It is important to understand how the gastrointestinal (GI) or digestive system works in order to understand Enteral Nutrition (EN). The digestive system is made up of several hollow organs joined as a long tube or pathway through your body.

Digestion begins in the mouth, through chewing the food you intake into smaller pieces, these pieces are then swallowed and passed down the esophagus. The esophagus carries the food from your mouth to your stomach. Once in the stomach, the food gets broken down into its main nutrients. These nutrients then pass into the small intestine where they are absorbed into the blood stream. Once through the small intestine, the remaining material passes into the large intestine where excess liquid is absorbed leaving solid waste product behind to be passed out of the body.

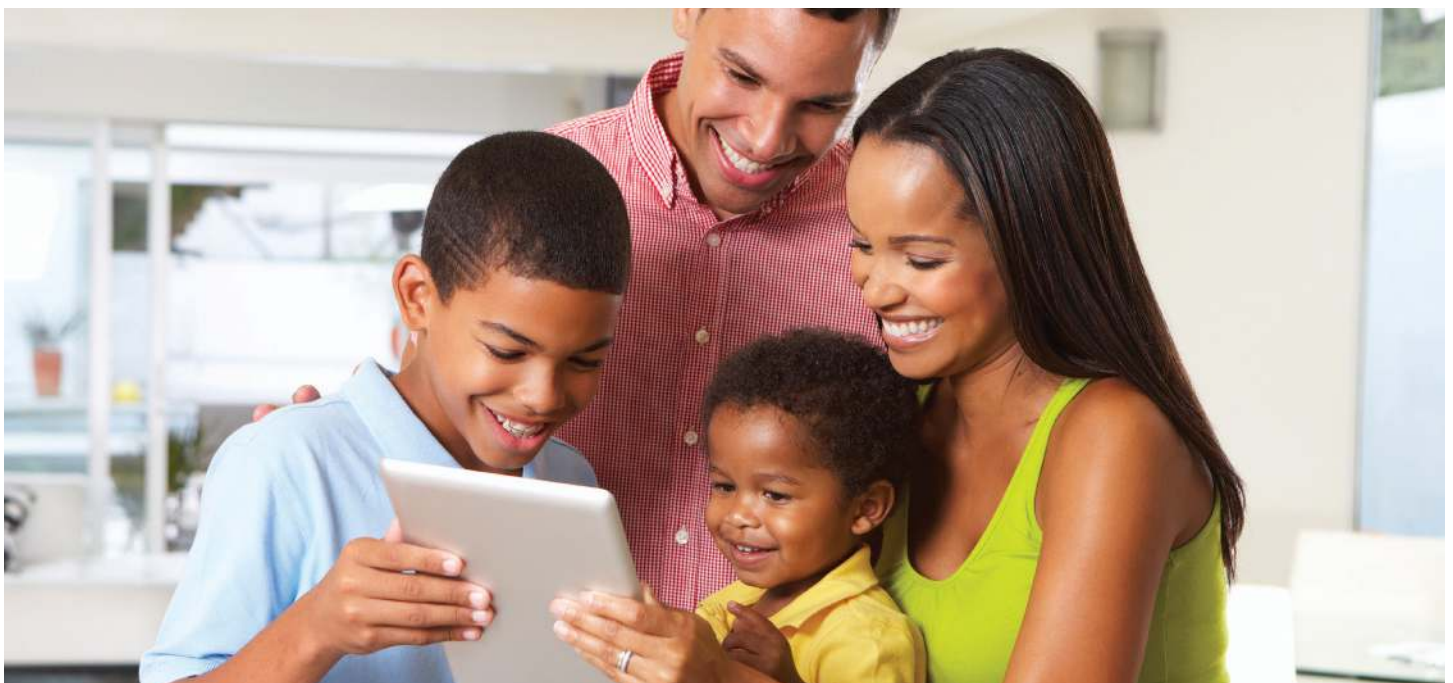
Various medical conditions may make it difficult or impossible for a person to eat orally, denying the body of essential nutrients. In such cases, your physician will select the best type of alternative feeding for your situation.



A **Gastrostomy Tube**, also known as a g-tube, may be inserted through the abdominal wall to provide direct access to the stomach for feeding.

A **Gastric-jejunal Tube**, also know as a GJ-Tube, may be inserted through the abdominal wall into and through the stomach to provide direct access to the jejunum, which is the second part of the small intestine.

A **G-Tube** or a **GJ-Tube** is a convenient and effective means for delivering nutritional formulas to the body. These nutritional formulas are either commercially available or homemade using a food processor. A physician will prescribe the proper feeding procedure, formula, and amount of water to most effectively meet your nutritional needs.





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Introduction To Tube Feeding

A feeding tube, like the AMT **MiniONE**[®] line of buttons and **G-JET**[®] button, is used for people who cannot take food through the mouth, or are unable to intake the proper amount of nutrients to meet their current needs. The AMT **MiniONE**[®] buttons deliver a liquid food (called formula) directly into the stomach by bypassing the mouth and esophagus. The AMT **G-JET**[®] button delivers formula directly into the small intestine by bypassing the mouth, the esophagus and the stomach. Once the formula enters the body through either the AMT **MiniONE**[®] or AMT **G-JET**[®], digestion works the same as when food begins in the mouth. You receive the same nutrients delivered to your body through a feeding tube as you would receive by mouth.

Tube feeding with the AMT **MiniONE**[®] line of buttons and **G-JET**[®] button provides you a complete and healthy diet so you can continue to grow and develop. It will take time to adjust to tube feeding at home, but with the help of your health care professionals and some practice, you will gain the confidence to take care of your AMT device.

Comfort & Confidence are Important, Too

As a caregiver or patient, we believe you have a right to the most comfortable and reliable gastrostomy tubes. That's why we developed the **MiniONE**[®] and **G-JET**[®] line of buttons. Whether you use our Balloon or Non-Balloon design, we hope to provide the comfort and confidence you deserve.

There's Lots of Support for Your Feeding Tube Issues

You are not alone. There are many helpful individuals and organizations to assist you with your enteral feeding questions. Of course, you should always start with your physician when you have any g-tube-related issues, but these groups can provide additional comfort and confidence:

- www.oley.org The Oley Foundation is for people who feed by tube or IV at home
- www.parent-2-parent.com A unique support system for parents of children with developmental disabilities
- www.feedingtubeawareness.com A group of parents of children with feeding tubes
- www.foodfortubies.com An organization that helps people with feeding tubes use "real" food

Our team of Enteral Products Specialists are available to help:

800 869 7382
CS@AppliedMedical.net



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Applied Medical Technology, Inc.
8006 Katherine Boulevard
Brecksville, Oh 44141 USA
Phone: 800 869 7382
Fax: 440 717 4200
Email: CS@AppliedMedical.net
www.AppliedMedical.net
ISO 13485 Registered Company



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