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**Blended Diet by Gastrostomy Tube – Risk Assessment School.**

Child's Name:            NHS number:    DOB:

Prior to completing the risk assessment it should be confirmed that the patient/parent/carer has a full understanding of the implications and requirements of this method of feeding

<b>RISK</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>	<b>MITIGATIONS</b>	<b>DISCUSSED</b>
<b>Nutritional risk</b>	Nutritional risk relates to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to dilute blended food in order to Achieve a suitable solution for administration. This will result in the need for larger volumes of feed in order to provide sufficient nutrition</li> <li>• Blended feeds may have a lower energy content than commercial formula</li> <li>• The nutritional content of blended meals is not known</li> </ul>	Liaison is required on an individual basis. It may be beneficial to use a combination of commercial formula and blended food, at least initially. Tolerance of volume should be closely monitored.  Close monitoring of growth should be undertaken. Information regarding suitable energy dense supplementation should be provided as appropriate to the individual  Analysis of food diaries to enable assessment of nutrient intake may be needed, to identify any potential deficiencies or excesses of vitamins, minerals or macro or micronutrients. Supplementation may be required. This should be assessed on an individual basis.	
<p><b>Specific risks identified :</b></p> <p>No other risks identified.</p> <p><b>Actions identified to reduce risk :</b>Ongoing dietetic monitoring.</p>			



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RISK	DETAILS	MITIGATIONS	DISCUSSED
<b>Infection</b>	Risk could arise from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inappropriately or undercooked foods</li><li>• Inappropriate storage of feeds</li><li>• Poor hand hygiene</li><li>• Particles of food remaining in the tube after feeds</li><li>• Poor cleanliness of equipment used</li></ul>	Ensure awareness of food safety guidance, and recommend on line food hygiene training  Ensure patient/family and all professionals involved with the blended diet are aware of appropriate storage conditions and disposal requirements of prepared blended feeds.  Blended feeds should be labelled with the date and time of preparing if sent to school/nursery or other setting  Promote good hand hygiene  Ensure tube is flushed immediately after all blended feeds  Ensure liquidiser/blender, and any other equipment is of a design which can easily be cleaned thoroughly	
<b>Specific risks identified:</b>  No other risks identified.  <b>Actions identified to reduce risk :</b>			



RISK	DETAILS	MITIGATIONS	DISCUSSED
<b>Blended feed administration</b>	Risk relates to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thicker consistency of blended meals</li><li>a. It is unlikely that gravity bolus feeding will be practical</li><li>b. Pump feeding is not recommended</li></ul> Pumps are not calibrated for this consistency of feed. Blended meals may not remain in suspension for a prolonged period of time.  Increased infection risk from prolonged hanging time <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Potential uneven or over-heating of feed, if parents prefer to give warmed blended feeds</li></ul>	Administration using a syringe will be needed  Avoid warming feeds if possible. If refrigerated, remove from the fridge 20 minutes before administration to allow to come to room temperature.  If blended feed is warmed, ensure the temperature does not exceed hand temperature, and the blended food is re-mixed after warming.	
<b>Specific risks identified :</b>  <b>Actions identified to reduce risk:</b>  Use of Hywel Dda Blended Diet Care plan for this patient.			



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<b>RISK</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>	<b>MITIGATIONS</b>	<b>DISCUSSED</b>
<b>Tube blockage</b>	Risk could arise from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Blended food being incompletely liquidised</li><li>• Attempts to administer a solution which is too thick</li></ul>	Ensure blended feed is completely smooth  Flush tube immediately after all blended feeds  Ensure blended feed is adequately diluted to a suitable consistent Review the tube type is necessary	
<p><b>Specific risks identified:</b></p>  <p><b>Actions identified to reduce risk:</b></p> <p>Use of Hywel Dda Blended Diet Care plan for this patient.</p>			



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RISK	DETAILS	MITIGATIONS	DISCUSSED
<b>Tube/device condition</b>	Devices other than buttons are not approved by the manufacturer for the administration of blended feeds.  Earlier deterioration of devices or associated equipment could result.	The patient, family member and other professionals should be made aware of this. The condition of the tube should be reviewed regularly by the MDT.	
<b>Specific risks identified:</b>    <b>Actions identified to reduce risk:</b>  Spare Mickey button to be brought with child to school.			



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**Recommendations/summary**

Paediatric Consultant..... Date.....

Dietitian.....Date.....

Patient/parent/family.....Date.....

Copies to be filed in medical and dietetic records and a copy must be provided to the family.