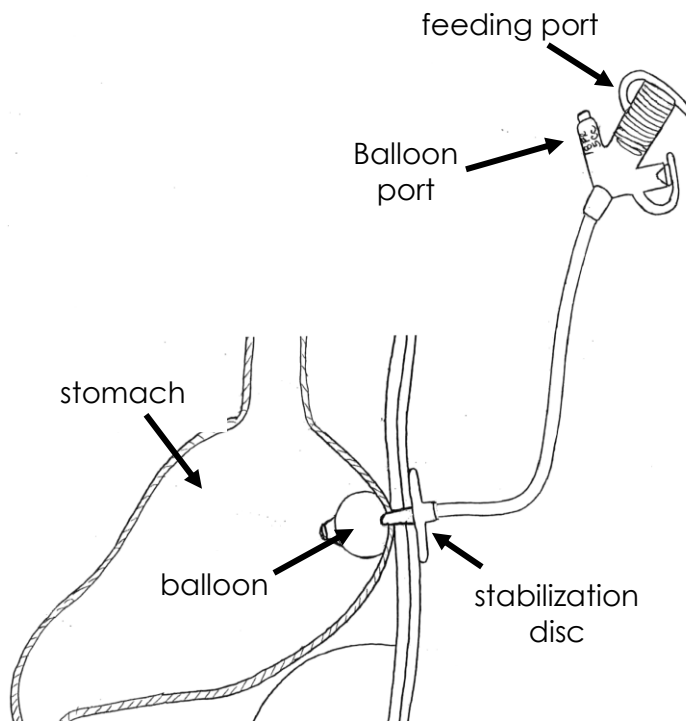


## What is a MIC long tube?



The MIC long tube is a long type of feeding tube. It is held in place in the stomach by a water balloon.

Some children may have an MIC long tube placed as their very first tube. If this is your child's first tube, it needs to stay in place for at least 6 weeks before it is changed. This is needed for the tract to heal. After this time, the tube will be changed by a doctor or nurse. They will teach you how to change the tube at home.

If your child had a tube changed to an MIC long tube, you will be taught how to change the tube.

## Why does my child have a MIC long tube?

You and your child's doctor decided this kind of feeding tube would be the best for your child at this time.

Your child's MIC long tube size is \_\_\_\_\_.

## How do I care for the tube?

See the Caring for a Child with a Feeding Tube Notebook or go to [www.chw.org/gtube](http://www.chw.org/gtube).

### Information and videos on website:

- Cleaning the site
- Giving feedings
- Flushing the tube
- Giving medicines
- Venting the tube
- Common skin problems

### Balloon port

There is a port on the side. This is where you can add water or remove water to the balloon. If your child's button has never been changed yet, do **not** check the amount of water in the balloon port.

#### To check the amount of water in the balloon:

1. Attach a slip tip syringe to the balloon port.
2. Pull back on plunger. Look at amount of water.
3. Add any more sterile, distilled or bottled water to the balloon port if needed.



### How do I replace the tube?

If this is your child's first tube, you should **not** replace it until you told to do so.

If your child's tube has been changed, you need to keep a MIC long tube of the same size at home.

Change the tube every 3 to 6 months or sooner if it fails. It is important to check gastric content after a tube change.

### Other teaching sheets that may be helpful

- How to Place a Long G-tube or J-tube #3008

### What problems might I have with the MIC long tube?

Problem	Causes	Solution
<b>Leaking of formula or stomach juices at the site where tube is in the skin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stabilization disc is loose.</li> <li>• Balloon broke or had water removed.</li> <li>• Child is ill or sick. Sometimes when your child is sick with coughing or throwing up, there is leaking at the site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check the amount of water in water in the balloon. If needed, add more water. If your child's tube has never been changed yet, do <b>not</b> check the amount of water in the balloon port.</li> <li>• Call your child's doctor or nurse if leaking keeps happening or you are not able to fix it.</li> </ul>

<b>Balloon will not deflate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balloon port clogged.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note: If this is your child's first tube, you should <b>not</b> check water balloon. Call the clinic to talk to the nurse or doctor for instructions.</li> <li>Gently twist the slip tip syringe in the balloon port until the valve is opened. Using a moist cotton-tipped applicator, clean out the balloon port. Attach a syringe and try again. Call the clinic to talk to the nurse or doctor if this does not work.</li> </ul>
<b>Tube appears too tight or too loose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The stabilization disc on tube moved.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Move the stabilization disc so it is resting gently on the skin. If the disc keeps moving, you can put a piece of tape around the tube above the disc to keep it from it from moving.</li> </ul>

**This sheet was created to help you care for your child or family member. It does not take the place of medical care. Talk with your healthcare provider for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up.**

**ALERT:** Call your child's doctor, nurse, or clinic if you have any questions or concerns or if:

- the tube is the first tube and it has fallen out.
- the tube site is closing up.
- your child has feeding problems such as vomiting or gagging.
- you are not able to spin the tube in the tract.