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## ESOPHAGOSTOMY TUBE FEEDING INSTRUCTIONS

Client \_\_\_\_\_ Patient \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Problem \_\_\_\_\_

### Diet:

Food via the esophagostomy tube (e-tube) A/D (one can) mixed with 30cc water

### Medications:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

### Food Warming and Feeding Instructions:

1. Store unused food in the refrigerator. Make sure it is tightly covered.
2. Heat food to a lukewarm temperature, but test before feeding. Food that is too cold may cause vomiting, and food that is too hot can cause Serious burns in the stomach. A small amount of water may be added to the food to facilitate passage of the diet through the feeding tube if necessary.
3. Remove the cap from feeding tube and aspirate by placing a syringe in the tube and pulling back on plunger. *If greater than 10cc fluid removed, skip meal and halve the following meal.*
4. Feed slowly over 10 minutes. If the food is given too quickly, it may cause vomiting. Medicate now if due for any.
5. Follow the feeding with 10cc lukewarm water to prevent tube obstruction. Replace cap at the end of the feeding tube following each feeding.

### Feeding Amounts and Schedule:

- Day 1: Feed \_\_\_\_\_cc gruel every 4 hours.  
Day 2: Feed \_\_\_\_\_cc gruel every 4 hours.  
Day 3+: Feed \_\_\_\_\_cc gruel every 6 hours.

*\*Remember, aspirate tube before each meal. If greater than 10cc fluid retrieved, skip that meal and halve next one. Resume feeding schedule.*

*\*If your pet vomits, also skip one meal, halve the next one, then resume feeding schedule.*

### If esophagostomy tube becomes blocked:

Blockage of the e-tube should not occur if the tube is flushed with water after each feeding, if the tube does become obstructed:

1. Try aspirating (pulling back) on the syringe.
2. Try flushing with warm water or warm soda.
3. Call VetCare at 925-556-1234.