

ENFit® ENTERAL FEEDING CONNECTOR

UNDERSTAND WHAT ENFit IS, WHY IT IS BEING USED, AND WHAT TO EXPECT GOING FORWARD

In an effort to prevent tubing misconnections, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) developed the ISO 80369-3 enteral connector standard. ENFit is compliant to this standard.

WHY WAS ENFit CREATED?

Traditional, or legacy, enteral connectors use a universal stepped adapter (left) to connect to feeding tubes. This means there is the possibility for an inadvertent connection between an enteral feeding system and a non-enteral system. The ENFit connector (right) was developed to reduce the likelihood of misconnections and accidental disconnection by creating a unique design that does not allow connectivity with connectors for any other clinical use.

Downward pressure + friction fit

Downward pressure + locking threads

BENEFITS OF ENFit

The primary benefits of the ENFit change are enhanced patient safety and convenience.



Standardized Connectors

Standardized connectors across the industry increases familiarity in healthcare settings.



Reduce Misconnections

The unique connector design helps ensure that enteral tubing and syringes are able to connect only to feeding tubes.



Reduce Accidental Disconnection

The locking threads help prevent the connector from accidentally pulling away from the tubing.



Reduce Leaks

The more secure fit of the ENFit connector reduces the potential for leaks at connector sites.

HOW WILL YOU BE IMPACTED?

All enteral feeding products with a connector will be changed to include the ENFit connector. This includes syringes, gravity sets, pump sets, extension sets, and even feeding tubes themselves. Nearly everyone who uses enteral feeding products will be impacted.

Note that button style G-tubes will not be changing, just the extension sets that connect to them.



Clinicians & Nurses

Healthcare providers should be familiar with ENFit connectors, and evaluate current procedures and protocols to include ENFit.



Caregivers

Soon (or already in some cases), your enteral feeding supplies will include the ENFit connector. Speak with your healthcare provider about any different techniques or supplies that may be needed.



Patients

Eventually, your feeding tubes and other enteral connections will be changed to ENFit connectors. Understanding the differences of the new connectors and how to care for them is important.



Equipment Providers

Manufacturers will be transitioning to ENFit only connectors in the near future. Make sure you understand where your manufacturers are in this transition process.

WHAT'S NEXT?

GEDSA (Global Enteral Devices Supplier Association) manufacturers are targeting the following important production phase-out date for legacy enteral connectors:

2nd Quarter 2022

"Transition sets and adapters sold separately from other devices will no longer be manufactured."

This means all feeding sets (both gravity and pump set) will no longer be manufactured with the transition adapter after this date, and will only have ENFit connectors. Note that it may take some time for existing inventory with transition adapters to be used before the new ENFit-only sets hit the market.

Several resources are available that can provide additional information and updates on the ENFit connector transition.



<http://stayconnected.org/enteral-enfit/>



FEEDING TUBE
AWARENESS FOUNDATION

<https://www.feedingtubeawareness.org/enfit/>



<https://oley.org/page/NewENConnectors>