

## How to Administer Formula from an ULTRAPAK® Bag Without a Feeding Pump

In the event there are not enough enteral feeding pumps to meet demand, refer to the following options below. These options are **NOT** a substitute for clinical judgement regarding the type of formula and/or method of formula administration.

- **Confirm feeding pumps are not available:**
  - Contact Materials Management/Purchasing to confirm inventory of feeding pumps and purchasing options.
  - Contact feeding pump manufacturer to secure more pumps, if available.
- **Switch feeding protocol from the Nestlé Health Science closed system ULTRAPAK® bag to an open feeding system:**
  - Evaluate current inventory of Nestlé Health Science formulas in 250 mL cartons (Tetra® Prisma).
  - If open system formulas (cartons) are not on formulary, contact Materials Management/Purchasing for purchasing options.
  - Administration of open system (cartons) will require a gravity-feeding bag with a pre-attached gravity set. Evaluate current inventory of gravity feeding administration bags/sets.
- **Use the Bolink™ Small Cap to transfer formula from an ULTRAPAK® bag to a gravity bag:**
  - This allows the practitioner to spike the ULTRAPAK® SpikeRight® Plus port and let the formula flow into another container such as, a gravity bag.
  - The Bolink™ Small Cap consists of short tubing with a clamp, and a SpikeRight® Plus spike. <https://www.udelivermedical.com/>.
    - Allows easy transfer of formula from the ULTRAPAK® bag to another container i.e., gravity bag/set.
    - Reduces risk of contamination compared to cutting the packaging.
    - Takes approximately 1 minute to drain 250 mL from ULTRAPAK® bag.
    - Available through major distributors. Contact Materials Management/Purchasing.
- **Cut Open One Corner of ULTRAPAK® Bag:**
  - Hold ULTRAPAK® bag with port pointing up.
  - Cut one corner of the ULTRAPAK® bag with sterile scissors.
  - Pour contents of ULTRAPAK® bag into an empty gravity bag with pre-attached gravity set (tubing must have roller clamp and drip chamber to control flow).
  - Using clean technique, pour **ONLY 8 hours** of formula from the ULTRAPAK® bag into a gravity bag:
    - In the ICU, the feeding rate is typically low (i.e. 30 to 50 mL/hour).  
Example: 30 mL x 8 hours = 240 mL of formula to transfer from the ULTRAPAK® bag.
    - Discard the remaining formula or, in a clean area, fill multiple gravity bags at one time to designate to patients receiving the same formula. Remember to mark each bag with the patient's identification, formula name, date, and time. Store in refrigerator and discard, if not used within 24 hours.



Update facility Policy & Procedure for gravity feeding. Remember to inform nursing staff that hang time is reduced to 8 hours based on ASPEN Safe Practices for Enteral Nutrition Therapy Guidelines<sup>1</sup>.

**For additional information and educational materials on tube feeding administration, please visit:**

<https://www.nestlehealthscience.us/mytubefeeding/how-to-education>

1. Boullata JI, Long Carrera A, Harvey L, et al. ASPEN safe practices for enteral nutrition therapy. JPEN J Parenter Enteral Nutr. 2017; 41(1):15–103.

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