



FDA WARNING:

POTENTIAL RISK OF ENTANGLEMENT AND STRANGULATION FROM ENTERAL FEEDING DELIVERY SETS

**IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT**



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is warning health care providers, parents and caregivers of pediatric patients (children) who receive enteral feeding that there is a risk of strangulation from the use of enteral feeding delivery sets. The feeding set tubing can become wrapped around a child's neck and cause strangulation or death. The FDA has received reports of two toddlers who died after being strangled by the tubing.

Recommendations for Parents and Caregivers of Children who Use Enteral Feeding Delivery Sets

- Be aware that the feeding set tubing can get wrapped around a child's neck, which can lead to strangulation or death.
- To the extent possible, avoid leaving the feeding set tubing where infants or children can become entangled.
- Discuss with your child's health care provider:
 - If your child has been tangled in their tubing before.
 - Steps you can take to help ensure that tubing does not get wrapped around your child's neck, such as keeping the tubing away from the child as much as possible.
 - Any other concerns you may have about the risk of strangulation from feeding set tubing.

If your child is injured from enteral tubing, please report the injury at:

- <https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch/index.cfm?action=reporting.home> or DICE@FDA.HHS.GOV or call 800-638-2041.

Your report, along with information from other sources, can provide information that helps improve patient safety.

Other Medical Tubing

In addition to the FDA warning, please be aware of all medical tubing use with children and infants requires supervision, assessment of the need for medical tubing, which may include oxygen tubing, IV tubing, electrical cords and monitor leads. The risk may increase when a child is not being watched closely, rolling over, sitting up or crawling.

Direct supervision is always instructed and recommended.

Questions

Contact your physician or Rady Children's HomeCare, 858-966-4941 with questions.

Sources:

- ISMP Medication Safety Alert, Feb. 24, 2022, Volume 27, Issue 4
- <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/safety-communications/potential-risk-strangulation-children-who-use-enteral-feeding-delivery-sets>



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