

# CARE OF THE GASTROSTOMY BUTTON



# AGENDA

Precipitating event

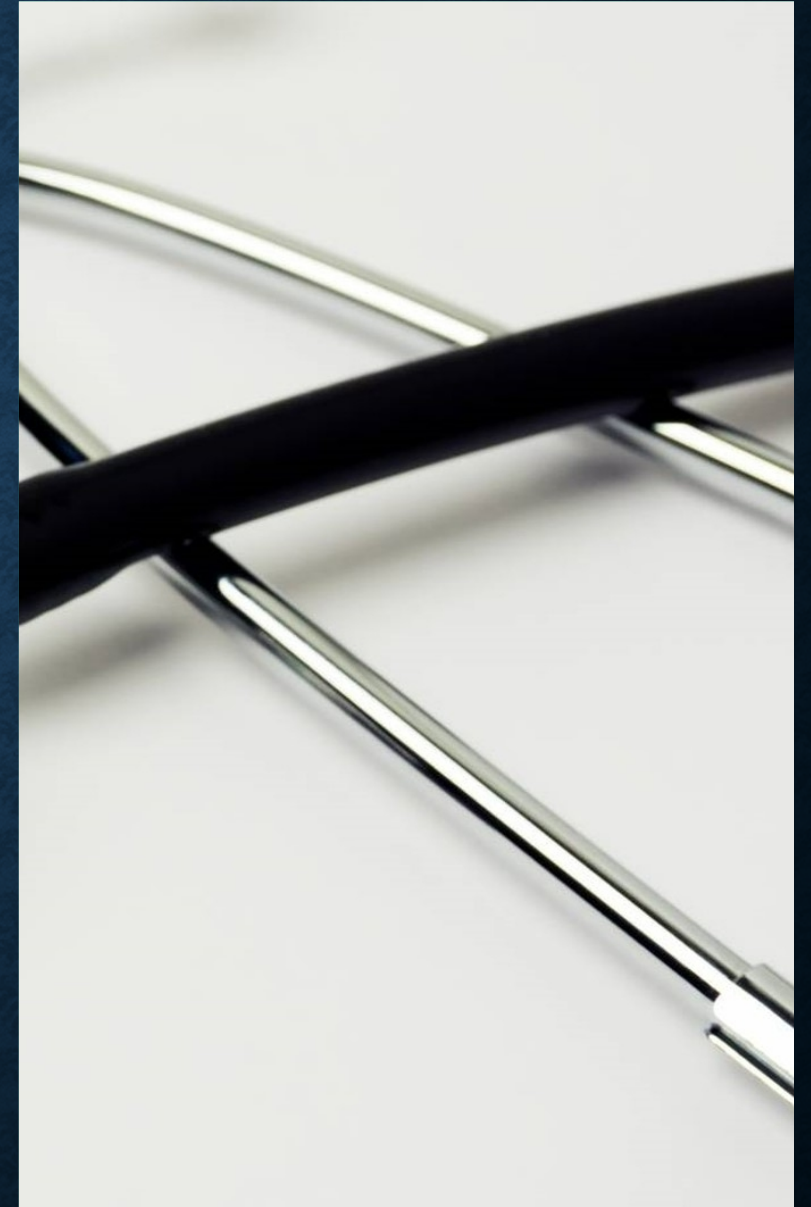
Introduction to G-button

Common complications

Interventions

Preventing complications

G-button care tips



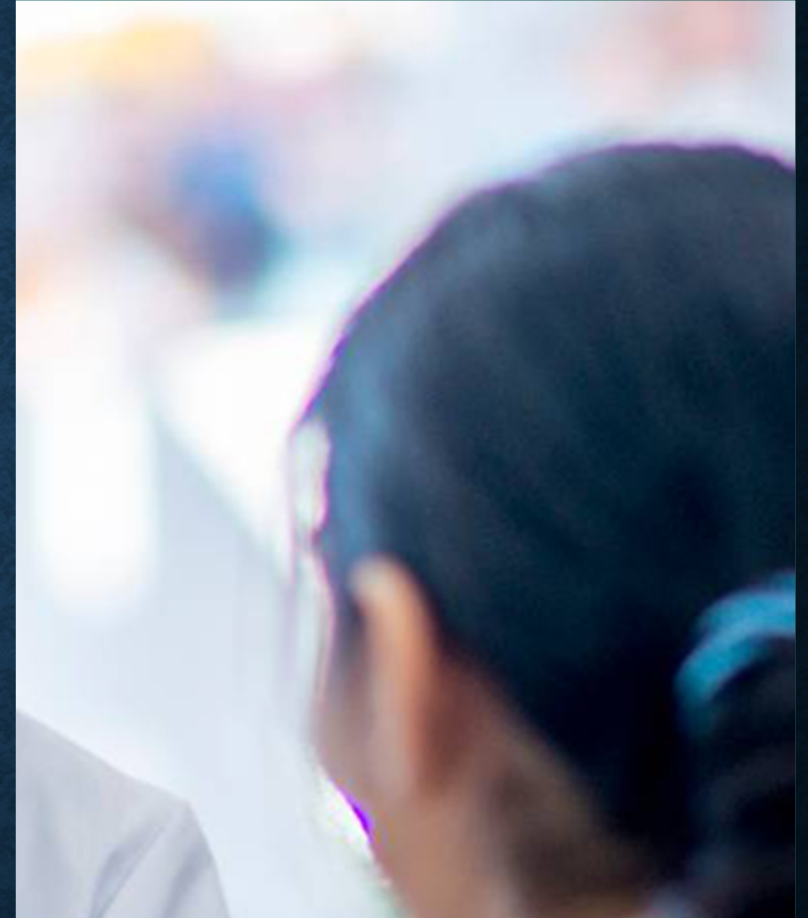
## THE PRECIPITATING EVENT THAT LED TO THIS GRAND ROUNDS PRESENTATION.

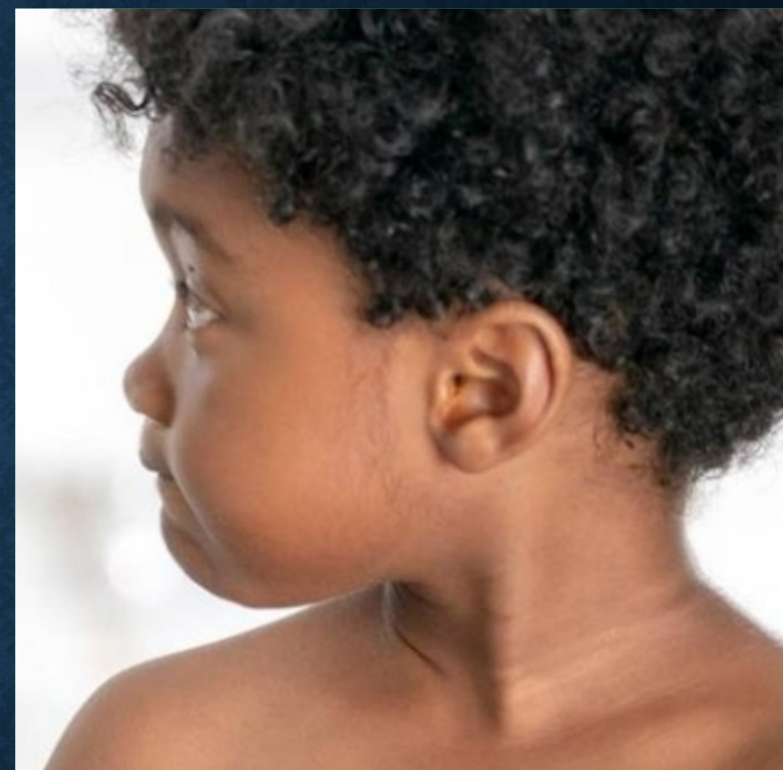
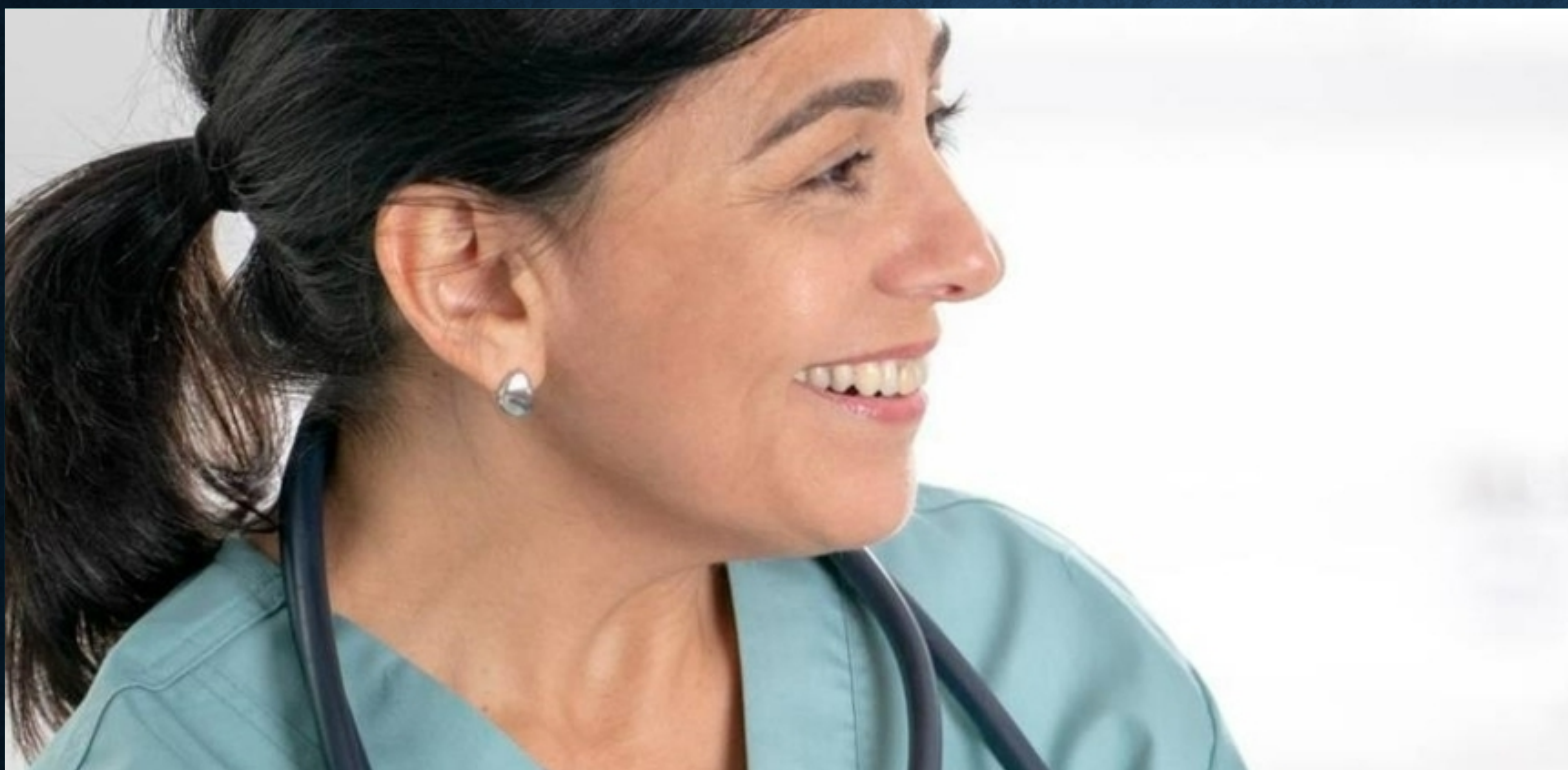


- I had a nine-month-old patient with a G button related to GI conditions, the cause of which is still unknown. The patient was unable to tolerate food by mouth. This patient was a new admission to my company. Upon initial assessment I noticed redness at the G button site. The redness progressed to pain, and the patient would scream anytime I touched the G button. There was a brown and yellow drainage present. Upon speaking with the patient's mother, she exhibits signs of a need for education. Proper G button care is crucial, as serious complications can arise if it is not properly cared for. During the time I worked with this patient, I was able to maintain a clean site. The patient showed little to no pain at times in relation to the G-button site, as evidenced by the reactions to touching the area. Drainage was significantly minimized, and redness around the stoma had decreased. I did not have the privilege to see this patient through the complete treatment and healing of the G button, as I was assigned to a different patient.

# WHAT IS A GASTROSTOMY BUTTON?

- G button, also known as a gastrostomy button is a small tube that is surgically placed in a child's stomach through a cut in the abdomen. The purpose of this is to give the child fluids, formula and medications.
- The G-button consists of a balloon, balloon port, feeding port and cap.





**WHEN CARING FOR A PATIENT WITH A G-BUTTON, IT IS CRUCIAL TO KNOW HOW TO CARE FOR THE G-BUTTON SITE, IDENTIFY AND PROMPTLY RESPOND TO COMPLICATIONS, AND KNOW WHEN TO SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION.**

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# G-BUTTON COMMON COMPLICATIONS

- Skin irritation
- Abdominal pain
- Formation of granulation tissue
- Vomiting
- Infection
- Bleeding
- Button dislodgment
- Leaking around G-button



# INTERVENTIONS

1. If leaking occurs place a split 2x2 gauze or other dressing under G-button to bolster up the G-button. check the water in the G-button balloon. If leaking continues, call the surgeon's clinic.
2. Minimizing unintended dislodgements by using T-fastener/anchor systems
3. Intentional replacement with balloon-type tubes
4. If vomiting occurs: Stop the feed. Place the child in a side-lying or sitting position with head tilted forward. Vent the G-button to release gas in the stomach. Start feeding again when the child feels better.
5. Redness may be due to irritation from the drainage. Clean the site and apply a barrier cream, such as diaper rash cream (Aquaphor or Desitin) or Calmoseptine.
6. Change the gauze around the G-button site when wet with drainage to prevent irritation.
7. Redness around the G-button along with fever or pain and swelling to the G-button site, may indicate an infection. Call the child's primary care doctor or the surgeon's office.
8. Secure the G-button to prevent excessive movement as this can lead to granulation tissue forming. Discuss treatment options for granulation tissue with the surgeon. Some options are silver nitrate sticks, triamcinolone cream, or a mixture of 50/50 Alum powder and Desitin.





## PREVENTING COMPLICATIONS

- Educating family members on the proper care of the G button is essential.
- . When the bandage is soiled, promptly change it to prevent infection and irritation.
- Be aware of the signs and symptoms of infection, such as redness in the affected area, swelling, a foul odor, increased drainage, irritation, fever, abdominal pain, abdominal distension, and heavy bleeding, among other symptoms.
- Knowing when to seek immediate medical attention is also essential in maintaining the G button site. Keeping follow-up appointments with the patient's doctor is essential to promote care and healing.

# G-BUTTON CARE TIPS

- Clean around the G-button site twice a day with water and cotton-tipped applicators.
- Flush the tube as ordered to keep the G-button patent and prevent clogging.
- Two weeks after surgery, the child may bathe normally, and the incision and G-button may be submerged under water in a bath.
- Protect the G-button from being pulled on by making sure the child is wearing a onesie, shirt, or G-button belt.
- If the G-button comes out place a gauze dressing over the stoma to absorb any fluid. Stomach contents might leak out of the stoma, and the site may bleed a very small amount, especially if the G-button was accidentally pulled out. Apply gentle pressure to stop the bleeding. The stoma will close up within a few hours if the G-button comes out. It is important that a new G-button be placed as soon as possible.



# THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

Gloria Sims, RN

Tennessee Wesleyan  
University

RN- BSN Student

