

Using liquidised food for tube feeding: information for families

We understand that you are using liquidised food for your child's tube feed at home.

While your child is an inpatient at GOSH, we must use commercial feeds for their tube feeds for the following reasons:

- for patient safety, we are obliged to abide by the manufacturer's instructions for the use of the tubes that they make
- we also need to take into account the risk of foods being contaminated with bacteria if they are liquidised on the ward – food poisoning would be very harmful for your child
- the texture of the liquidised food cannot be of a guaranteed consistency and your child's tube is likely to become blocked, which would require the tube to be changed
- we cannot be sure that liquidised foods will provide your child with the best possible nutrition that they need while they are in hospital

The ward staff will refer you to the dietitian who will discuss with you the best tube feed for your child while they are under our care.

Nutrition Steering Committee

4th November 2014