

# G-Tube care & skin care

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Always keep the skin around the stoma clean and dry.  
Before cleaning, tell the patient what you are going to do.

Do these **every day**:

- Always wash and dry your hands before caring for a G-Tube (or you may use a waterless alcohol-based handrub instead of washing your hands). Ask the nurse if you should wear gloves.
- **Gently wipe the tube and the skin around it.** Use a soft, clean cloth or gauze wet with warm water. If needed, you may use a gentle soap as long as you rinse it off.



The nurse or doctor may want the skin around the stoma cleaned with a certain product.

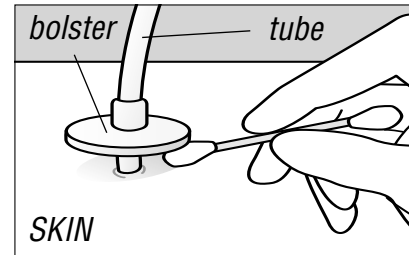
Ask the nurse about this and write it in here:

\_\_\_\_\_.

(Do not leave gauze on the skin.)  
Keep the area uncovered (unless the patient pulls on the tube)  
so you will see any leakage.

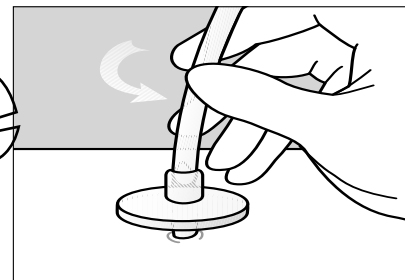
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- **Clean under the bolster** that is against the skin. If needed, use a cotton-tipped swab to clean under the bolster. **Be careful not to pull on the tube.** Gently pat the skin dry with a soft cloth or gauze. The nurse or doctor may want the patient to wear a gauze and tape dressing. Ask the nurse about this and check which to do:



- Cover with gauze and tape
- Do not cover

- **Gently turn the tube** to keep the balloon or bumper from sticking to one place inside the stomach.



Sample

With each feeding, check the skin for redness, cracks, pain or swelling.