



## ENTERAL FEEDING DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Medicare and private insurances have unfortunately made it difficult for patients to receive enteral feeding nutrients and supplies. This in turn requires you to provide specific documentation for us to be able to provide and bill these items for your patients. This document will guide you in what needs to be covered in your dictation for us to provide the patient's necessary supplies.

**The following MUST be documented in the medical record for the patient to qualify:**

### CHECKLIST

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- 1) The provider/speech therapist/dietician needs to spell out the exact condition that necessitates the enteral tub feeding. **The condition needs to be laid out explicitly.** Examples could include:
  - a) Patient has aspirated in the past due to severe dysphagia caused by CVA or TBI
  - b) Patient cannot keep food in their mouth/or chew due to motility issue
  - c) Patient has an obstruction (specifically named) in head or neck that prevents the patient from taking in food.
- 2) The provider/speech therapist/dietician must document that the patient's condition is permanent in their judgement (will not improve in the next 90 days).
- 3) The provider/speech therapist/dietician must document, "due to the above condition tube feedings are required to provide sufficient nutrients to maintain weight and strength commensurate with the beneficiary's overall health status."
- 4) The provider/speech therapist/dietician must document that, "Adequate nutrition is not possible by dietary adjustment and/or oral supplements."

### SPECIALTY FORMULAS – DIABETIC FORMULA

- 1) If the patient is on a specialty formula it will need to be documented by the provider/speech therapist/dietician why the patient requires a specialty formula. **A DIAGNOSIS OF DIABETES ALONE WILL NOT QUALIFY A PATIENT.** This can be because traditional formulas cause a unfavorable glycemic response, the patient needs sticter control over carbohydrates, etc..

### ENTERAL FEEDING PUMP ERQUIREMENTS

- 1) If the patient requires a enteral feeding pump Medicare will want to know why.

**\*\*\*THE EASIEST WAY FOR A PATIENT TO QUALIFY IS TO HAVE THE PROVIDER DOCUMENT THE PATIENT REQUIRES THE NUTRIENTS TO BE ADMINSTRETED AT A RATE OF LESS THE 100ml AN HOUR OVER SEVERAL HOURS AND WHY.\*\*\***