

Transition Checklist for Nurses and Clinicians



A new design standard for medical device tubing connectors is on its way. Starting with enteral feeding, application-specific standards will help ensure that connectors do not fit into ports other than the type for which they are intended, reducing the incidence of misconnections.

This global patient safety initiative starts in the US, Canada, and Puerto Rico, with the goal of completion in these markets by 2016.

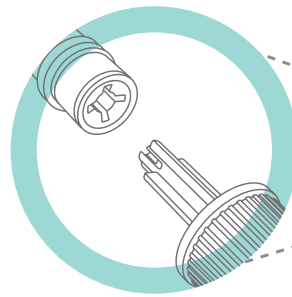
More than anyone else, nurses and clinicians will be handling and using the new ENFit connectors, so your preparedness is key. This is not intended to be a complete list, but use the STEPS below to get started:

<p>S</p>	<p>Supplier communication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Familiarize yourself with all the product-specific changes <input type="checkbox"/> Practice new connections with all products including feeding sets, enteral-specific syringes, and feeding tubes <input type="checkbox"/> Understand anticipated timing of the transition
<p>T</p>	<p>Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Engage your nursing education team <input type="checkbox"/> Communicate importance of connector changes to enhance patient safety <input type="checkbox"/> Explain how new feeding sets will change and demonstrate how they will connect <input type="checkbox"/> Reinforce locking feature and safety benefits of the new ENFit connector <input type="checkbox"/> Identify a super user for each shift and seek hands-on training opportunities
<p>E</p>	<p>Education</p>	<p>Patient/Caregiver</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Discuss implications of impending connector changes, including timing and transition process <input type="checkbox"/> Plan opportunities for patients/caregivers going home on enteral feeding to learn about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The difference between current and new devices, and how they work <input type="checkbox"/> Administering enteral formula and medications if prescribed <input type="checkbox"/> Flushing the tube and checking residuals as appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Providing additional hydration <input type="checkbox"/> Give checklist to patient/caregivers discharged on enteral feeding <p>Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Direct product-specific questions to the manufacturer/supplier <input type="checkbox"/> Direct procedural questions to a multidisciplinary transition team
<p>P</p>	<p>Process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Assemble a multidisciplinary transition team to evaluate current procedures and protocols and adjust to include the new ENFit connectors <input type="checkbox"/> Update medication and enteral delivery order sets for use of new products <input type="checkbox"/> Review pharmacy medication preparation and delivery processes to incorporate new enteral-specific syringes <input type="checkbox"/> Develop communication mechanisms between nursing and pharmacy to identify patients who need medication through feeding tube <input type="checkbox"/> Inform prescribers and pharmacists that medication orders must specify route—enteral (tube) or oral (mouth), and not say “po” for both. Until ENFit connectors are fully transitioned, the order must also indicate which connection the patient is using
<p>S</p>	<p>Supply management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Audit and consolidate all storage areas for enteral devices (feeding sets, enteral-specific syringes, feeding tubes) in preparation for new inventory <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce excess inventory of enteral devices with current connectors <input type="checkbox"/> Let products with ENFit Transition Connectors and ENFit feeding tubes flow through inventory <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid overstocking any enteral feeding products

Enteral System Connector Changes

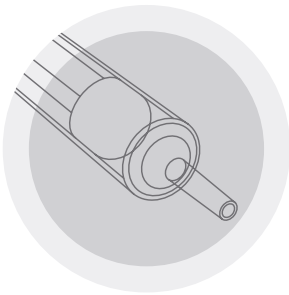
The new design standard impacts the entire enteral feeding system

NUTRITION END

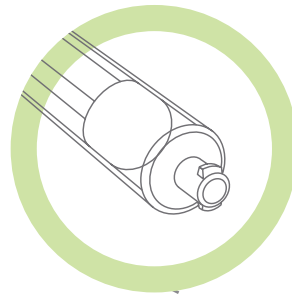


CONNECTOR (FINAL)
[In place since 2012]

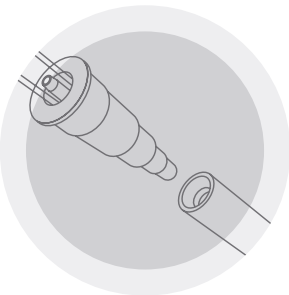
PATIENT-ACCESS END



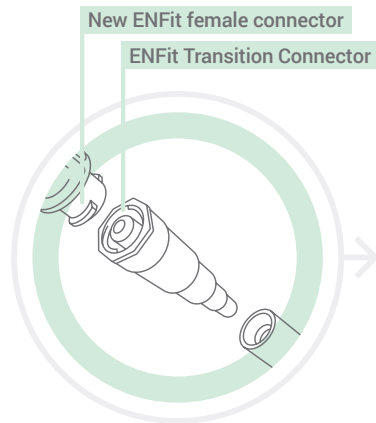
SYRINGE (CURRENT)



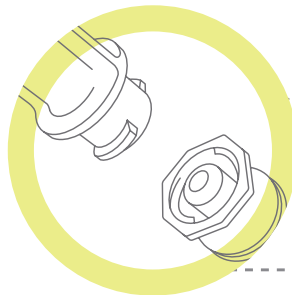
SYRINGE (FINAL)
Syringes to administer medicine, flush, hydrate, or bolus feed through enteral tubes will now require a precise enteral-specific fitment.



FEEDING TUBE (CURRENT)



TRANSITION SET (TEMPORARY)
Allows fitment to current feeding port until new ENFit enteral feeding tubes are available.



FEEDING TUBE (FINAL)
Changing from male—the stepped or Christmas tree connector—to the new ENFit female connector. The feeding tube port for the administration set will change from female to male.

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