



Enteral Products Safety Group (EPSG)* Statement

Liquidised Food

Due to increasing enquiries from patients and clinicians regarding blended food, the EPSG recommends that any patient/carer wishing to administer liquidised food via their enteral feeding device should do so with a shared decision-making approach, as advocated in the BDA practice toolkit; The use of blended diet with enteral feeding tubes.¹ Therefore, an individualised enteral feeding risk assessment should be carried out by a healthcare professional, in line with their Trust or Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) risk assessment policy and in line with the suggested good practices within the BDA practice toolkit. NICE guidelines recommend that wherever possible, pre-packaged, ready-to-use feeds should be used in preference to feeds requiring decanting, reconstitution or dilution.² Some pre-packaged tube feeds contain food derived ingredients which may be of preference for those wishing to use alongside a blended diet.

In addition to the feed, some enteral feeding devices may also be suitable for use of liquidised feeds, but only under the advice of a healthcare professional. The EPSG recommends that the device instructions for use (IFU) should always be referred to.

1. BDA. 2021. The Use of Blended Diet with Enteral Feeding Tubes. Available at: <https://www.bda.uk.com/resource/the-use-of-blended-diet-with-enteral-feeding-tubes.html>

2. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) CG139. 2017. Recommendation 1.3.2.1

*The EPSG (Enteral Products Safety Group) represents UK enteral feeding devices suppliers. The following companies are members of the EPSG: Abbott; Cardinal Health; Enteral UK; Fresenius Kabi; Nestle Health Science**; Nutricia; Vygon.

**Nestle Health Science does not supply feeding tubes, giving sets and syringes.

Updated: January 2022