

Caring for your AMT Mini Balloon Button

What is a Mini Balloon Button?

The AMT Mini Balloon Button is a low-profile gastrostomy tube that is used to help patients that have feeding difficulties meeting their nutritional requirements. It has a small water-filled balloon which sits inside the stomach and prevents the device from falling out.

Care and Hygiene of the Mini Button

Always wash your hands before and after

- Care of the tube
- Administration of feeds or medication

Daily

- Clean and dry the skin around the stoma site once a day
- Rotate the Mini Balloon Button

Weekly

- Balloon checks weekly as per health care professional advice.

Insert a 5ml or 10ml syringe into the balloon inflation port and slowly withdraw the water. The observed water should be clear, and the volume withdrawn should be approximately the amount that was first used to inflate the balloon. If the amount you withdraw is less than you expect, discard the water and refill with recommended fill volume as per table below, and contact your healthcare professional.

Balloon Fill Volumes:

| Balloon Fill Volumes | Minimum | Recommended | Maximum |
|----------------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| 12 Fr | 2ml | 2.5ml | 3ml |
| 14 Fr | 3ml | 4ml | 5ml |
| 16 Fr | 4ml | 6ml | 8ml |
| 18 Fr | 6ml | 8ml | 10ml |
| 20 Fr | 7ml | 10ml | 15ml |
| 22 Fr | 7ml | 10ml | 15ml |

The healthcare professional who advises you on feeding or medication administration will demonstrate this to you.

Feeding and Administration of Medications:

To prevent blockages, the Mini Balloon Button should be flushed with 5ml (or as advised by healthcare professionals) of sterile or cool boiled water (or in line with local guidelines) before and after feeding or administration of medicines. You should also flush in between giving medications. This reduces the risk of those medications reacting with each other and potentially causing a blockage of the device. If the feed is continuous, then the Mini Balloon Button should be flushed three times a day. Always use an AMT extension set.

Problem Solving

Blockage

If the Mini Balloon Button becomes blocked, you may attempt to unblock it by trying to flush with 10ml of warm water, carbonated or soda water. (Sugary drinks should not be used e.g. pineapple or coke) Push the syringe plunger backwards and forwards. If you can see or feel the blockage, you can squeeze or massage the tube at that point. Leave the tube for 15 minutes then flush with water again. If the tube fails to unblock, please contact your healthcare professional who usually advises you on your Mini Balloon Button.

Mini Balloon Button falls out

If you have been given a replacement device and have been shown how to place it, then you should do so. If not, contact the healthcare professional who usually advises on your tube immediately.

It is important that the Mini Balloon Button is replaced as soon as possible to prevent the stoma from closing.

Problems with Stoma

Contact the healthcare professional who usually advises you on your Mini Balloon Button if your stoma:

- Emits an odour
- Persistently bleeds
- Is constantly red, or the surrounding skin is red and swollen
- Pain on feeding- device should not be used and contact your health care professional
- Has pus around it and/or oozes profusely.



