

Standard 8

Revised: 2003, 2006, 2009
Reviewed: 1991, 1994, 1997, 2000

CARE OF THE PATIENT REQUIRING ASSISTANCE WITH FEEDING

OBJECTIVES:

1. To provide adequate nutrition.
2. To promote independence.
3. To prevent aspiration.

PROCESS STANDARDS:

1. The patient will be positioned with head of bed (HOB) elevated, if possible.
2. The patient will be educated concerning dietary restrictions/recommendations and aspiration prevention, as appropriate.
3. The patient's food tray will be positioned within reach.
4. The patient will receive assistance with each meal/feeding and the necessary hygiene, as indicated.
5. The patient's nutritional intake will be monitored each meal or feeding.
6. The patient, should they have a functional upper extremity (UE), will receive adaptive device/intervention to increase independence with feeding.

OUTCOME STANDARDS:

At the time of discharge:

1. The patient will have had adequate nutritional intake.
2. The patient will have participated in meals within individual ability.
3. The patient will not have aspirated.

HAVE I DOCUMENTED:

- * Patient position (HOB elevated)
- * Dietary tray within reach
- * Assistance given with feeding
- * Nutritional intake
- * Patient Education
 - Aspiration precautions
 - Diet

At The Time of Discharge:

- * Plans for feeding at home
- * Patient/family has understanding of home and follow-up care

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Reference:

1. Coxen, V. and Johnson, K., Delmar's Fundamental & Advanced Nursing Skills-2nd Ed. (2004). *Assisting with Feeding*. Clifton Park, NY: Delmar Learning.
2. Doenges, M., Moorhouse, M.F. and Muir, A. Nurses Pocket Guide: Diagnosis, Prioritized Interventions, and Rationales. Risk for Aspiration. Accessed 10/29/2009 [AR, LA, OK Libraries - LSU - Shreveport -- Nurse's Pocket Guide: Diagnoses, Prioritized Interventions, and Rationales - 11th Ed. \(2008\)](#) Philadelphia: F.A. Davis