



Gastric Tube Placement/Exchange

1. Labs are not usually ordered unless the patient is on anticoagulant therapy or the patient's condition indicates the need (i.e., diagnosis that decreases platelets). No labs needed for exchange. For placement, PT/INR, PTT, CBC (HCG if needed.)
2. Be prepared to keep the patient NPO for 4 hours prior to the procedure. This will include tube feedings.
3. Usually, routine medications are given, excluding anticoagulants. You will need to obtain an order for withholding anticoagulants.
4. If the patient is unable to give informed consent, please make sure the appropriate designee is available, either in person or by phone.
5. I.V. access will be needed for antibiotics, pain meds, I.V. fluids

An Imaging nurse can be reached at x5280, M-F, 7am – 7pm. After hours, the on-call nurse can be paged by contacting the Imaging Front Office at 678-312-4455 or Extension 24455.