

**Project Echo for Pediatric Care 2018-2020
Care of Infants and Children with Bridled Nasogastric Feeding Tubes in the Outpatient Setting
December 19, 2019**

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Provided by the University of Wisconsin–Madison Interprofessional Continuing Education Partnership (ICEP)

Intended Audience:

Pediatric emergency care professionals

Objectives:

As a result of this educational regularly scheduled series, learners will be able to:

1. Utilize new skills and guidelines determined to be safe for children when accessing pediatric trauma.
2. Identify proper tools and standardized practices in order to improve the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric patients.
3. Define roles and responsibilities of team members who triage pediatric emergencies in order to identify communication strategies that result in effective patient care.

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Care of Infants and Children with Bridled Nasogastric Feeding Tubes in the Outpatient Setting

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School of Medicine
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Objectives

- Identify patient population(s) requiring Assisted Home Feeding (AHF)
- Describe nasal bridle securement for nasogastric feeding tubes
- Identify the risks & benefits of nasal bridling
- Describe contraindications to nasal bridling
- Recognize & prevent potential device related issues
- Describe method(s) of device removal
- Identify key points for patients and families

Patient Population

- Assisted Home Feeding (AHF)
- 1 in 3 infants with medical complexity are discharged with assisted home feedings (AHF) (White, 2018)
 - 33% of AHF patients visit the ED within 6 months of discharge
 - 48% of AHF patients are re-admitted within first 6 months after discharge

Patient Population

- Reasons infants and children require assisted home feedings (AHF)
- High medical resource utilization for this unique population
 - Complex congenital heart disease
 - Maxillofacial abnormalities
 - Chronic lung disease
 - Significant intra-ventricular hemorrhage

Devices used for Assisted Home Feeding (AHF)

Nasogastric Tube (NGT)



- Placed bedside

Gastrostomy Tube (GT)



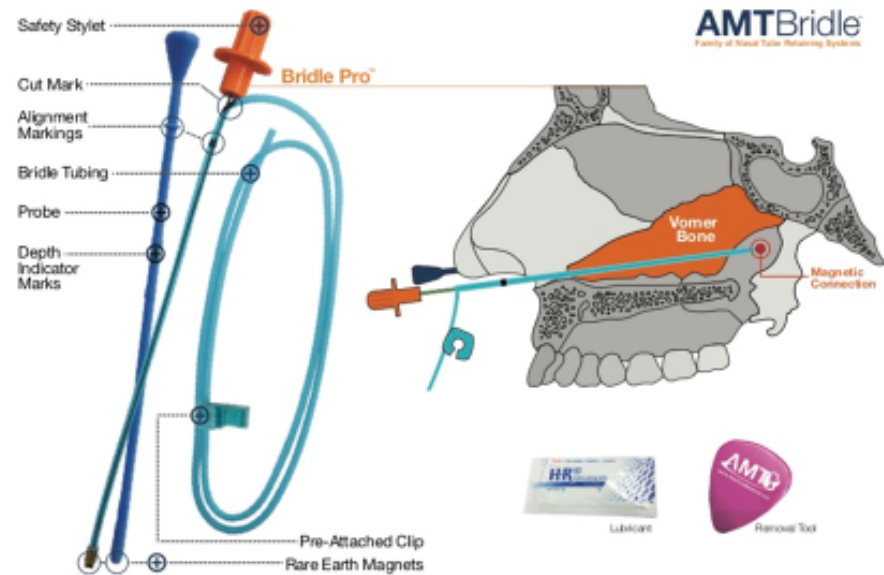
- Requires surgery

Photo credit: saintlukeskc.org

Nasogastric Tube (NGT) Securement

What is a Nasal Bridle?

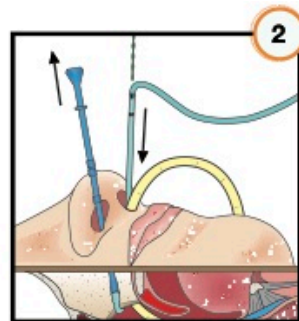
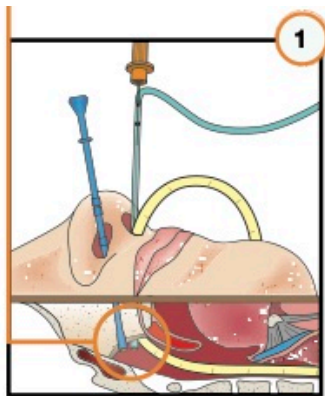
- Retaining device to secure nasogastric tubes (NGT)
 - Tape has been the traditional method
- 1980s debuted in medical literature (McGuirt & Strout)
 - Described in the pediatric patients in 2016 (Newton)
- FDA approved for all ages for 30 days of continuous use



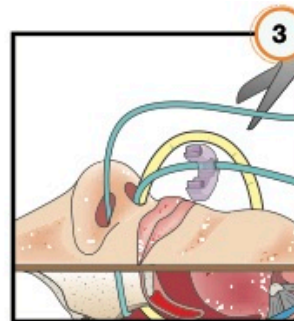
Nasal Bridle Basics

Additional loop of flexible material behind the vomer bone of the nasal septum:

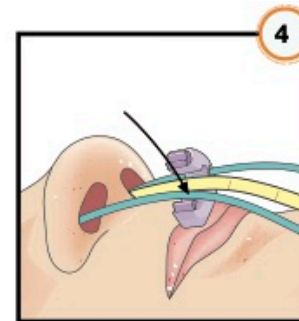
- Inserted in 1 nostril & exits the other
- Uses magnets (removed at end of procedure)
- External clip sits near philtrum & contains NGT + bridle loop



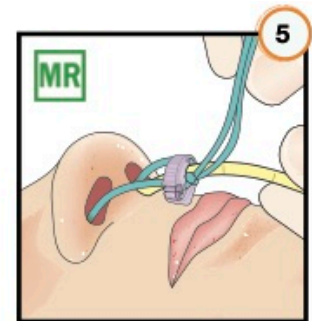
Slowly remove probe, drawing the bridle catheter around the vomer bone and out the patient's right nare.



Cut the excess bridle catheter off, leaving enough length to tie a knot, and then discard.



Place nasal tube in groove of clip. Place bridle catheter in hinge of the clip.



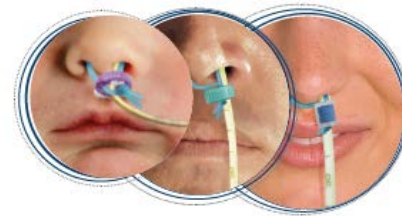
Secure clip 1cm below nose. Below the clip, tie both strands of the bridle catheter in a simple knot and cut excess tubing.

Nasal Bridle Benefits

Significantly reduces risk of NGT dislodgement

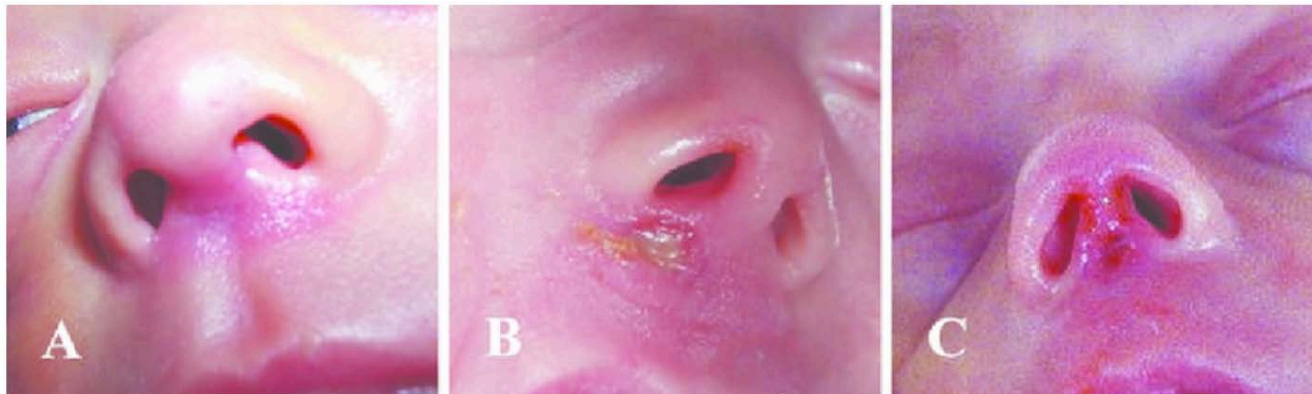
– 0.26 pull-outs / 100 tube days with bridle vs 5.12 pull-outs / 100 tube days with tape (Newton, 2016)

- Less ED & clinic visits
- Less x rays
- Less nutrition disruption
- Less delayed medication



Nasal Bridle Risks

- Epistaxis during placement
- Nasal Congestion
- Discomfort
- Nasal septal irritation or erosion



Classification of nasal trauma. (A) stage I (non-blanching erythema), (B) stage II (superficial erosion), (C) stage III (necrosis of full thickness of skin).

(*from CPAP. Fischer Fumeaux, 2010)

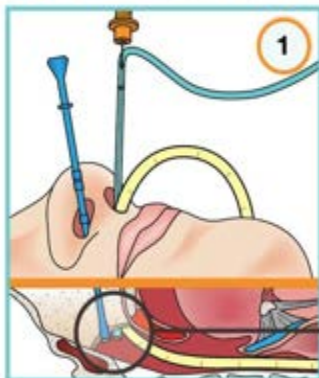
Nasal Bridle Contraindications

- Mechanical obstruction of the nose (i.e. choanal atresia)
- Maxillofacial or basilar cranial fractures
- Coagulopathy
 - INR > 2.5
 - Platelets < 35

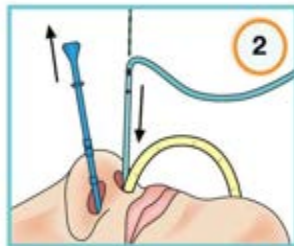
Nasal Bridle Placement

- Bedside procedure that typically takes 10-15 min
- No or minimal analgesia / sedation needed
 - May use intra-nasal Afrin-lidocaine 0.01%-3%
 - Optional intra-nasal midazolam

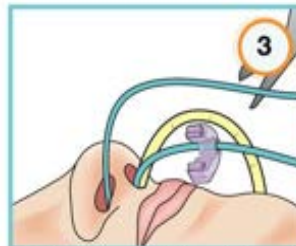
Safe Placement*



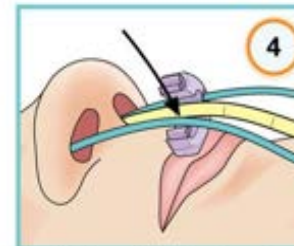
Advance probe in nare opposite the nasal tube, then safety stylet with bridge catheter in the other nare until magnets connect (you may hear an audible 'click'). Remove safety stylet from the bridge catheter.



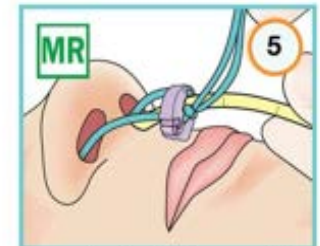
Slowly remove probe, drawing the bridge catheter around the vomer bone and out the patient's nare.



Cut the excess bridge catheter off, leaving enough length to tie a knot, and then discard.



For the Range Clip place loose strand of bridge catheter between the clear flats below the circular region of the clip.*



Secure clip 1cm below nose. Below the clip, tie both strands of the bridge catheter in a simple knot and cut excess catheter.

*This is not a substitute for the directions for use. To find out how to secure an AMT® "Dinko"® "Dinko Pro"® clip see our directions for use.

Nasal Bridle Placement Demonstration

- Video [Placing a bridle](#) (1:40 min) practice placement on the product rep.
- [Placing the AMT Bridle Pro® Nasal Tube Retaining System](#) (8:55 min) full instructional video

Nasal Bridle Placement Tips & Tricks

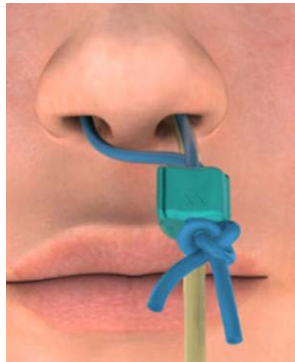
- Insert probe & stylet straight back, aiming for ears (not upwards)
- Let go of stylet & gently wiggle probe to see if magnetic connection has occurred (should move together). May hear an audible “click”.
- Use a gentle push-pull technique to pull tubing through to externalize magnets
- Off-center position of clip is helpful in neonates
- Bridle clip should be 1 cm from nare and should not touch lip
- Bridle should be placed prior to NGT in pediatric patients
- Alternate naris with each NG/bridle replacement/change



Nasal Bridle - Key Points

Bridle Key Points:

- Both tubings should be through the Bridle & double knotted underneath (Fig.1)
- Ensure Bridle clip is not touching child's nare or lip (Fig. 2)



(Fig.1)



(Fig. 2)

Spotting Issues

- Need gap between nostril & clip (1 cm)
- Clip should contain **both** blue loops
- Inspect for columella irritation or ulceration



Nasal Bridle Removal

- To adjust or remove NG tube without removing bridle (use supplied AMT clip opening device) (Fig. 1 & 2)



(Fig. 1)



(Fig. 3)

- To remove bridle and NG tube: Clip one strand of tubing. Gently pull bridle and nasal tube out of nose (Fig. 2)



(Fig. 3)

Anticipatory Guidance for Patients/Families with Bridled NGT

- Patient/family should inspect the skin for signs of pressure, irritation, and/or breakdown related to the feeding tube and/or bridle
 - Skin Barrier protection
 - Duoderm[®] to nasal columella
 - Aquaphor[®] with cotton tipped applicator to nostrils
- Routine saline nasal spray & bulb suctioning may help minimize congestion
- Check cm depth marking of NGT prior to each feed
 - If different don't use tube for feeds or meds & follow contact instructions provided
- Oral intake typically declines in first 24-48 after bridle placement & should then return to baseline

Anticipatory Guidance

- 30 days of continuous use
 - Both NGT & bridle should be replaced if tube feeding is required beyond 1 month
 - “re-clipping” the bridle is not recommended

2018 Systematic Review

- Lynch et al in the Australian Journal of Otolaryngology
- 18 studies
 - 2 RCTs
 - 1 meta-analysis
 - Only 1 in pediatric-specific population
- Included data from > 1000 patients

2018 Systematic Review of Bridles

- Significantly reduce tube dislodgement compared to conventional methods
 - increase delivery of nutrition
 - Reduce # of x rays
 - Higher incidence of epistaxis
 - Skin complications in 13% of bridled group
 - No cases of sinusitis
 - Less day-to-day discomfort in bridled group (28%) compared with control group (41%)

In Summary

Key points –

- Nasal bridling is a safe & effective method of feeding tube securement
- Nasal bridles are placed by trained nurses and providers
- Nasal bridles are FDA approved for all ages up to 30 days of use (or the life of the tube)
- Patients/families should be instructed to inspect skin for signs of pressure, irritation, and/or breakdown related to feeding tube and/or bridle
- If indicated, the nasal bridle can be unclipped or removed by patient/family/caregiver/or healthcare professional per manufacturer's instructions:

<https://www.appliedmedical.net/enteral/bridle/>

Selected References

- Khalil et al. “Outcomes of Infants with Home Tube Feeding: Comparing Nasogastric Versus Gastrostomy Tubes.” *J Parenter Enteral Nutr.* 2017; 41(8): 1380-1385.
- White et al. “Prevalence and outcomes for assisted home feeding in medically complex neonates.” *Journal of Pediatric Surgery.* 2019; 54: 465-470.
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- Lynch et al. “A systematic review of the effectiveness and complications of using nasal bridles to secure nasoenteral feeding tubes.” *Aust J Otolaryngol.* 2018; 1.

Questions?

