



# Complex Child E-Magazine

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## The Tube-Feeding Emergency Kit

by Susan Agrawal

Imagine having 15 minutes to evacuate before a natural disaster strikes. Or imagine rushing your bleeding child to the Emergency Department of a local community hospital completely unfamiliar with tube-feeding. Having an emergency kit full of tube-feeding supplies can make these situations much easier and less stressful for you and your child.

We actually have two emergency kits. One is the day-to-day kit that we take along with us wherever we go. It simply contains a 60 mL Monoject syringe (that fits into a MicKey button), an extension set, and a roll of tape. You can handle most basic emergencies with this kit.

The larger emergency kit sits atop a cabinet right next to the front door. It is packed and ready to go whenever we need it. We bring it on long trips and hospital visits. Fortunately, we have never had to evacuate!

The contents of the kit include:

- 1 extension set
- 1 extra G button (a used one is fine as long as the balloon is intact)
- Stoma care supplies: gauze, Qtips, tape, and some Triamcinolone cream
- An NG tube or foley catheter to hold the stoma open if the button falls out
- A day's worth of medications...the ones in pill form, at least
- 1 60 mL Monoject syringe for feeding or venting
- 2 smaller Monoject syringes that fit into the button for button problems or medications
- 1 pump feeding bag
- 2 cans of formula
- 1 bottle with cap for mixing and storing extra formula
- 2 single serving packages of baby cereal for on-the-go feeding
- 1 washcloth
- 1 change of clothing
- 4 diapers
- A package of travel wipes
- Personal care supplies like a toothbrush, hairbrush, ponytail holder, etc.
- Basic care instructions, including a list of medications, feeding schedule, phone numbers for doctors and other medical professionals, emergency medical forms, and any other pertinent information

