

Gravity Feed

As an NDIS provider, Life Without Barriers (LWB) must comply with the NDIS Practice Standards and Quality Indicators to deliver high quality and safe High Intensity Daily Personal Activities (HIDPA) support. In addition, trainers should use the [High Intensity Support Skills Descriptors](#) to ensure the training they offer equips LWB staff with the skills and knowledge expected to provide high-intensity supports.

To support this, on the next page is a table to guide Appropriately Qualified Health Practitioners (AQHP) in the training requirements regarding the provision of gravity feeding support.

When training LWB staff in gravity feeding, please include ALL the essential elements relevant to the person's plan and support task.

You will be asked to complete an endorsement following training to confirm the following:

- you have accessed the NDIS LWB 5699 HIDPA Gravity Feeding - Training Essentials (this document)
- you have accessed the relevant LWB HIDPA Support Procedure
- names of staff member/s you trained in the person's plan and support task
- that the staff member/s were assessed as competent and effectively demonstrated skills, knowledge and understanding associated with the plan, or whether further training is required.

If you have any additional questions regarding the training and requirements of our staff, please contact our Professional Learning Team at LearningDMH@lwb.org.au.

Thank you for working in partnership with LWB to maintain the safety and wellbeing of the people we support and assist us in complying with the [NDIS Practice Standards and Quality Indicators](#) related to the provision of enteral feeding support.

Essential Training Element	Training Outcome LWB staff members will practically demonstrate:
Understands the basic anatomy of the gastrointestinal tract, the purpose of enteral feeding and complications associated with the procedure	An understanding of the basic anatomy of the gastrointestinal tract
	An understanding of the need for enteral feeding and the purpose of administering enteral nutrition
	An understanding of the person’s Enteral Feeding Plan, including when and what action is required
	An understanding of complications associated with the administration of gravity feeding
Emergency Response	Knowledge of when to stop the procedure and what action to take
Administration of gravity feed according to the person’s enteral feeding and management plan.	How to check the person’s Enteral Feeding Plan
	How to wash hands and put on appropriate PPE
	How to gather equipment and prepare the area
	How to flush the feeding/extension tube with the correct amount of water before administering the formula
	How to pour the formula into the feed container, attach the giving set and prime the line. (If Ready to Hang formula is used, the container is connected directly to the giving set)
	How to attach the giving set to the feeding/extension tube
	How to open the clamp and adjust the rate according to the Enteral Feeding Plan
	On completion of the feed, how to close the clamp and remove the giving set
How to flush the tube with a set amount of water, remove the extension tube (if used) and recap the feeding button/tube	

Essential Training Element	Training Outcome LWB staff members will practically demonstrate:
	How to monitor the person for distress and complications throughout the procedure
Shows respect for the individual and works with them to make the process comfortable	Ensuring support practice respects the person throughout the process
	An explanation to the person of each step to be taken and seek their consent before performing any tasks
	Actively involving the person in their support, as outlined in their plan, and to their chosen level
	How to assist the person into the correct position for the procedure and reassure them throughout the process
Health, Safety and Environment	Hygiene and infection control procedures. For example, they wash their hands and put on appropriate PPE before commencing activities
	How to clean and dispose of all equipment and waste appropriately
	Appropriate and accurate documentation and when Mealtime support is completed.