ICU GUIDELINE: GASTRIC FEEDING

Goal: To safely deliver >80% of required calories daily. To achieve:
Initiate enteral nutrition (EN) within 24 – 48 hrs of admission*; start EN at 25 mL/hr;
elevate HOB >45 degrees*; provide metoclopramide concurrent to start of EN */#.

FIRST ↑ GRV (>250 mL):
1) Refeed GRV to maximum 400 mL; discard excess.
2) Continue feeds at same rate.
3) ↓ narcotics as tolerated.
4) Continue in BLUE section.
SECOND ↑ GRV (>250 mL):
5) Go to PINK section below.

GRV > 250 mL?

YES

Q4H GRV > 250 mL?

1) Refeed GRV to max 400 mL; discard excess.
2) Continue feeds if at goal rate; ↑ feeds by 25 mL if not at goal rate.

NO

1) Refeed GRV to max 400 mL; discard excess.
2) Hold feeds 1 hr; recheck GRV.
3) Do not stop feeds.
4) Go to Prokinetic Guide (ORANGE BOX A).

BOX A - PROKINETIC GUIDE:
1) Order erythromycin®; 250 mg IV q 6H x 4 doses.
2) Once GRV <250 mL, titrate feeds to goal by multiples of 25 mL/hr as per protocol. Complete original order of 4 doses of erythromycin.
3) If GRV >250 mL after 2 doses of erythromycin, prokinetic has failed. Stop erythromycin and go to ND Placement Guide (PURPLE BOX B).

NO

BOX B - ND PLACEMENT GUIDE:
1) Place ND tube® (Refer to resource entitled "ICU Guideline:Manual NDFeeding Tube Placement" for direction how to place tube)
2) Following confirmation of optimal tip position, resume feeds (Refer to resource entitled "ICU Guideline:EN Post-pyloric Feeding" for direction re feed resumption and titration).

*Unless contraindicated  # Requires MD order
• Evidence-based recommendation; all other information opinion-based.

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