Critical Care Nutrition

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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 *#♦.

Q4H GRV > **250 mL?**

YES

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.

1) Refeed GRV to max 400 mL; discard excess.
2) Hold feeds 1 hr; recheck GRV.

GRV > **250 mL?**

NO

YES

1) Discard GRV (total amount).
2) ↓ feed by multiples of 25 mL to min of 25 mL/hr: Example:
   if 75 mL/hr ↓ to 50 mL/hr
   if 50 mL/hr ↓ to 25 mL/hr
   if 25 mL/hr continue as is.
3) **Do not stop feeds**.
4) Go to Prokinetc Guide (**ORANGE** BOX A).

NO

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.

♦GASTRIC RESIDUAL VOLUME (GRV) THRESHOLD MAXIMUM 250 mL

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

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**, prokinetc has failed. Stop erythromycin and go to ND Placement Guide (**PURPLE** BOX B).

BOX B - ND PLACEMENT GUIDE:
1) Place ND tube*# (Refer to resource entitled "ICU Guideline:Manual ND Feeding 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).

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