ICU GUIDELINE: ROUTES OF NUTRITION SUPPORT **Critical Care START Nutrition** Consider TPN www.criticalcarenutrition.com No Yes Able to meet needs Contraindication to use of (Individual assessment re via the oral route? gut? (see BLUE BOX - A) appropriateness required) Yes No **Enteral Nutrition** Oral diet BOX - A: Contraindications to use of gut: Absolute: Contraindication to gastric Mechanical bowel obstruction feeding (see PINK BOX - B) **Bowel** ischemia Relative: Yes Hemodynamic instability Small bowel ileus **Bowel anastomosis** NG tube ND tube BOX - B: Contraindication to gastric feeding: 1) Gastric residual volumes > threshold maximum Refer to resource entitled "ICU (250 ml) despite prokinetic(s). Guideline: Manual ND Feeding Pending abdominal 2) Chronic/acute gastroesophageal reflux. Tube Placement" for direction surgery? 3) High risk pulmonary aspiration (e.g. nursed in the how to place ND tube. supine or prone position). No Yes Short term: ND tube. Place using a manual technique Short term EN: ND tube. Place using an (see above). Place endoscopically or fluoroscopically intra-operative placement technique. if manual placement failed or contraindicated. Long term: Gastro-jejunostomy tube. Place tube Long term EN: Gastro-jejunostomy or jejunostomy endoscopically or fluoroscopically. tube. Place tube intra-operatively.

Developed by: J. Greenwood, RD. Critical Care Program – Vancouver Coastal Health Authority (Update 7/4/2010). Used with permission.