

INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

ICU is the specialized care of patients whose conditions are life-threatening and who require comprehensive care and constant monitoring.

EQUIPMENT

- Arterial Line
- Central Venous Pressure (CVP) Line
- Chest Tubes
- Electrocardiogram (ECG/EKG)
- Endotracheal Tube (E.T. Tube)
- GI Tube
- Intracranial Pressure (ICP) Monitor
- Jejunostomy Tube (J Tube)
- Nasogastric Tube (NG Tube)
- Respirator/Ventilator
- Tracheostomy Tube
- Support Hose/TEDS
- Transducer

PERSONNEL

- Attending Physician
- Consulting Physicians
- Internist
- Nurse

CONVERSATION IN THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Nurse: Good morning, Mr. Yuko. I'm Kiko and I will be your nurse for today.

Patient: Good morning, Kiko.

Nurse: Have you already eaten your breakfast?

Patient: Not yet. I lost my appetite and I can't swallow the food properly.

Nurse: I'm sorry to hear that. Do you want some water?

Patient: I can't swallow anything.

Nurse: Okay. I will inform your Attending Physician about this.

Patient: Thank you!

Doctor: Hello, Mr. Yuko. I'm Dr. Chavez, your attending physician. How are you?

Patient: I'm not good, doctor. I think I lost weight. I cannot eat well.

Doctor: When did this start?

Patient: Just last night when I was about to eat my dinner.

Doctor: Okay. I will order NGT insertion.

Patient: What is NGT insertion doctor?

Doctor: NGT is nasogastric tube insertion.

Patient: I don't understand. Can you tell me more about it?

Doctor: Sure. It's a small tube that goes into the stomach through the nose. Milk or liquid food is given through the tube directly into the stomach, giving you extra calories. Feeding this way helps you get enough nutrition to grow, develop, and recover from illness. In other cases this is to:

1. Decompress the stomach by aspiration of gastric contents (fluid, air, blood).
2. Introduce fluids (lavage fluid, tube feedings, and activated charcoal into the stomach).
3. Assist in the clinical diagnosis through analysis of substances found in gastric contents.
4. Administration of medication

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Patient: How is it performed?

Doctor: The tube will pass through the nose and down through the nasopharynx and esophagus into the stomach. And you will be position in high-fowlers.

Patient: Okay. Thank you for the information.

Doctor: Alright, are you ready for the insertion?

Patient: Yes

Doctor: Great!