

# PEG (Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy) Procedure at Your Bedside

## *To Place a Feeding Tube*

### General Information

Your health care provider wants you to have a percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG).

This surgery bypasses your mouth and esophagus (the tube that connects your mouth and stomach) so liquid feeding can go directly from the tube to your stomach. This is a minor surgery.

A gastroenterologist (a specially trained doctor) or surgeon and a nurse or specially trained technician will place an endoscope down your throat to see where to put a feeding (or PEG) tube. A feeding tube will be placed through a small cut in your abdominal (stomach) wall.

The procedure name means:

- **percutaneous:** through the skin
- **endoscope:** a small, lighted instrument about the size of your little finger
- **gastrostomy:** a small cut in the abdominal wall.

The procedure takes about 30 minutes.

### Before the Procedure

- About your medicines:
  - Most medicines may be taken up to midnight the night before the procedure.
  - Some medicines, such as aspirin and blood thinners, might be stopped because of bleeding risks.

— Your health care provider will look at your medicines and talk with you about this.

- Do not eat or drink anything 6 hours before the procedure.
- You will be asked to sign a consent form.

### During the Procedure

- You will be given a medicine (through your IV line) to help you relax.
- The health care provider will spray a numbing medicine on the back of your throat.
- The nurse will watch your heart rate, blood pressure and oxygen levels.
- The gastroenterologist will put the endoscope down your throat.
- Once the endoscope is in place, the health care provider will numb the skin on your abdomen and make a small cut. Then he or she will place the feeding tube through your stomach wall.

### After the Procedure

- You will restart your tube feedings and medicines within 24 hours.
- Talk with a member of your health care team if you have any questions or concerns.