

FACT SHEET 11: WORK

CAN I GO TO WORK?

Yes, you can work; you may find it useful to let your employers know about your medical condition and feeding tube, so they can provide any additional support you need to manage your tube.

Your Nutricia Homeward Nurse can visit you at work if you would like them to. They can help you to assess your working environment and support you with your tube feeding while you are at work.

WHAT WILL MY EMPLOYERS/COLLEAGUES NEED TO KNOW?

Your employers will need to know how they can best support you to manage your feeding tube when in your work environment. Your feeding tube will be hidden under your clothing, although the giving set may be visible. It's your choice to give your colleagues as much information as you feel comfortable with.

WHAT ABOUT LUNCHTIMES AT WORK?

Tell your work colleagues when you feel ready to discuss your feeding tube and tell them only what you feel you want them to know. If you do not feel ready to discuss details about your feeding tube, you could direct them to the PINNT website (pinnt.com) to answer their queries.

If you are unable to have your nutrition via your mouth, what you do on your lunch breaks is entirely up to you. You may decide that you would still like to sit and chat with your work colleagues and use this as a socialising time, or you may decide you would rather spend the time going for a walk or run.

WHAT ABOUT HAVING A TUBE FEED AT WORK?

Ensuring that your employer is aware of the fact you have a feeding tube means they can do what they can to support you to provide an appropriate private environment for you to be able to administer your tube feed whilst on site if needed.

This information is intended for patients who have been prescribed a tube feed by a healthcare professional.

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