

FACT SHEET 10: UNIVERSITY

WHAT ABOUT GOING TO UNIVERSITY?

Yes, you will be able to go to university. You will need to let the university know about your medical condition and feeding tube, so that they can provide any additional support you need to manage your tube.

Your Nutricia Homeward Nurse team will inform the same team local to your university. Your tube feeds can be sent to your new address during the time you are away.

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW WHEN I LIVE ON MY OWN?

You will need to be able to care for the feeding tube yourself so will need a good knowledge of:

- Hand-washing practices
- How to clean the feeding tube site
- How to push and rotate the feeding tube daily
- How to administer your tube feed, flushes and medication correctly and safely
- Have a copy of your feeding regimen
- Understanding what to do in case the feeding tube comes out
- Be able to arrange your monthly deliveries of tube feed and ancillaries
- Have the contact numbers for the healthcare professionals who can help if you are having any problems with your tube feeding.

You need to ensure you know who to contact in the event you feel unwell or you experience pain and discomfort around your stoma site or when tube feeding. Your local nutrition team and current Nutricia Homeward Nurse will provide you with this information for your new home.

You also need to know where to go in the event your feeding tube falls out or comes loose — this is usually the local Accident and Emergency department.

DO I NEED TO REGISTER WITH A NEW DIETITIAN?

This depends on how far away you are moving. In the event you are moving to another region or county, your current dietitian will make a referral to the closest dietetic team to your new address and inform them of your medical history and nutritional needs and requirements.

HOW DO I KNOW MY RECORDS WILL BE TRANSFERRED?

Your current dietitian will ensure you receive a copy of the referral letter to your new team. The new team will then contact you to make an initial appointment and go through your notes with you during this session. All documentation is now electronic and will be accessible by your new team as soon as your referring dietitian provides them with access to these encrypted documents.

WHAT ABOUT THE HOLIDAYS AND MY DELIVERIES?

You will need to inform Nutricia Homeward about all of your holidays and when you will be returning home. Deliveries and nursing input can then be coordinated around these times.

WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE ANY PROBLEMS?

Your healthcare professionals will provide you with details of who to contact. You may have two different sets of contact details if you are receiving shared care. Make sure you have all of these details listed so you know who you need to contact.

If you experience any issues or problems with deliveries, or for change of address dates, you can contact the Nutricia Homeward Customer Service team on 0800 093 3672.

