

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of two hands. The hands are holding white, cylindrical medical connectors, likely for enteral feeding. The focus is on the hands and the connectors, with a soft, out-of-focus background.

**Stay
Connected**

GSDSA EPSG

Enhancing Patient Safety

New global enteral feeding device
connector design: ENFit

United Kingdom

Reducing the Risk of Tubing Misconnections

A new international design standard for medical device tubing connectors is anticipated to be released in 2015 as part of a phased initiative called *Stay Connected*.

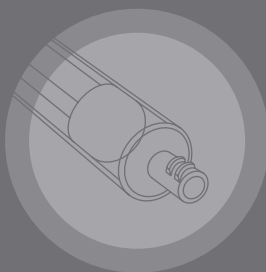
Stay Connected is led by an international group of clinicians, manufacturers, and regulators, which together developed ISO 80369-1. This standard establishes requirements for small-bore connectors for liquids and gases, making it difficult, if not impossible, for unrelated delivery systems to be connected.

The introduction of this standard will mark a new milestone in the global effort to improve patient safety, starting with enteral feeding systems. In an interim step toward enhancing patient safety during the ISO process, UK manufacturers met the customer demand for a safer connector with a reverse Luer system. However, since the reverse Luer enteral system is specific to the UK, and increasing numbers of patients are travelling internationally, a single global solution is required to ensure patient safety and prevent either a misconnection or no connection.

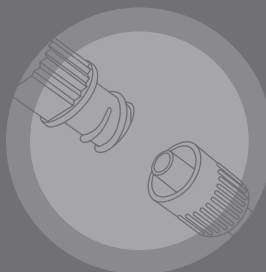
The new ISO standard connector system—called ENFit—will replace the reverse Luer connector systems in the UK, to ensure one global enteral connector.

The new design standard impacts the patient-access end of the enteral feeding system

PATIENT-ACCESS END

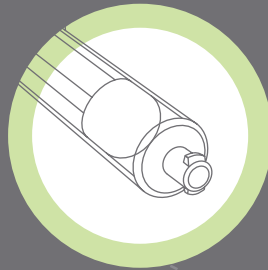


SYRINGE (CURRENT)



FEEDING TUBE (CURRENT)

NUTRITION END

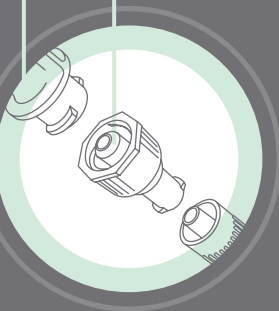


SYRINGE (FINAL)

Syringes to administer medicine, flush, hydrate, or bolus feed through enteral tubes will now require a precise enteral-specific fitment.

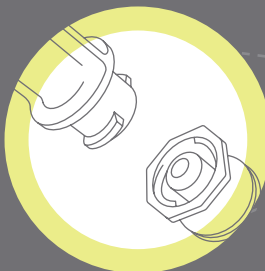
New ENFit female connector

Transition Connector to reverse Luer



TRANSITION SET (TEMPORARY)

Allows fitment to current feeding port until new ENFit enteral feeding tubes are available.



FEEDING TUBE (FINAL)

Changing from male—the reverse Luer connector—to the new ENFit female connector. The feeding tube port for the administration set will change from female to male.

About GEDSA and the EPSG

GEDSA

The Global Enteral Device Supplier Association (GEDSA) is a nonprofit trade association formed to help introduce international standards for healthcare tubing connectors. Comprised of manufacturers, distributors, and suppliers of enteral nutrition devices worldwide, GEDSA facilitates information flow about the three-phase initiative, which is designed to increase patient safety and optimal delivery of enteral feeding by reducing the risk of tubing misconnections.

EPSG

The Enteral Plastics Safety Group (EPSG) represents all leading UK enteral feeding device suppliers and is supported by clinical and patient representation from the PENG of the BDA, NNNG, BAPEN, BPNG and PINNT. The EPSG are assisting GEDSA in the introduction of the new global enteral feeding device connector ENFit in the UK.

Supported by:



Stay Connected

For further information and latest timelines, visit:
www.stayconnected2014.org

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