



Home Enteral Nutrition Patients In NSW

Results from a One Month Audit of New and Existing HEN Patients from NSW Public Healthcare Facilities

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Home Enteral Nutrition (HEN) is the delivery of nutrition support either orally or by tube into the gastrointestinal tract in the home setting

Introduction

There is limited information on the use of HEN therapy in NSW.

Methods

A one-month audit of HEN patients treated at NSW public Healthcare facilities was conducted in November 2005. Fifty-one NSW public healthcare facilities responded (representing ~80% of available acute beds).

Results

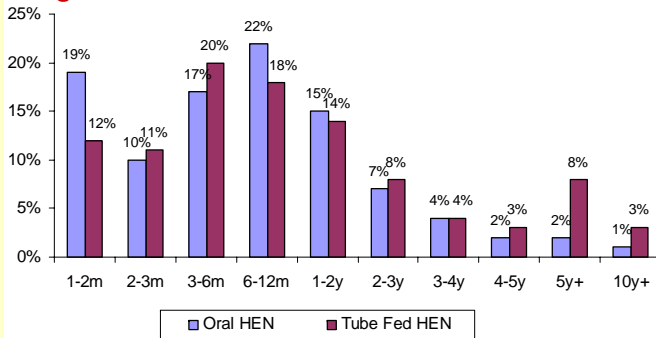
- 1129 HEN patients were seen in November 2005
- 461 patients commenced HEN therapy

8,000 - 10,000 patients/year require HEN Therapy

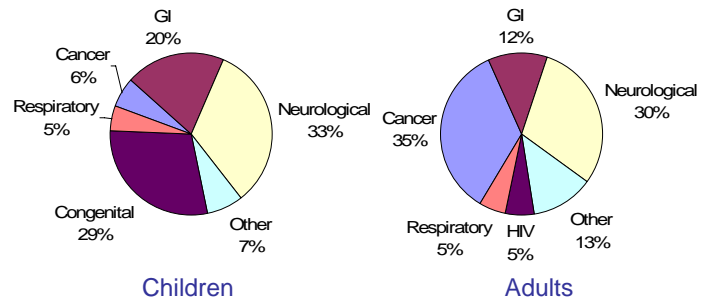
Type of HEN Therapy

Adults: 68% Oral HEN; 32% Tube Fed HEN
Children: 33% Oral HEN; 67% Tube Fed HEN

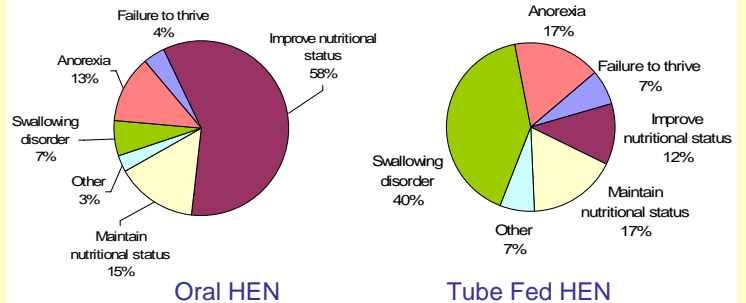
Length of Time on HEN



Primary Diagnosis



Indication for HEN



Conclusion

Tube fed HEN has grown by 250% over the past 8 years (~20% per annum). There is no population data on oral HEN use.

Patients require HEN therapy for a wide variety of reasons and diseases. Patients are on HEN for varying lengths of time and in some cases permanently.

A HEN register is required to monitor trends in HEN therapy and collect outcome data such as complications, reasons for ceasing HEN and time on HEN therapy. This data will assist in planning for future HEN services in NSW.