NG tube taping, Stays Put, Pressure Free

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Aim

- **Establish a standardised method for anchoring Nasogastric (NG) Tube** for both intubated and non-intubated patients in ward ICU B26.
- **Prevent Nostril Pressure Injuries** (NPIs) caused by NG Tubes, thereby reducing the need for wound care products, avoiding additional costs and minimizing the risk of extended hospitalisation.
- **Enhance patient comfort** by using a less adhesive, more breathable dressing.

Background

- Prior to the project, practices for securing an intubated patient's NG tube in ICU B26 were inconsistent. Nurses used varying techniques, including securing the tube to the nose, philtrum, or the AnchorFast device.
- This lack of standardisation increased the risk of pressure injuries and patient discomfort. Delicate mucosal tissues, such as those in the nose, are particularly susceptible to pressure ulcers, leading to complications and prolonged hospital stays.
- The method of using Micropore/ Durapore tape often caused upward tube movement, leading to pressure on the nostril roof and difficult inspection. Additionally, Micropore tape did not adhere well on sweaty patients, while Durapore tape, though more secure, caused skin tears and discomfort due to tightness.

Team Members

Name	Designation	Department
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Farahliana Binte Rahmat	SSN	B26
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Norine Goh Zhi Leh	NM	B26
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Interventions / Implementation

The **5S approach** was adopted for the NG tube securement project:

Sort — Non-woven fabric tape selected based on its effectiveness, affordability, and hypoallergenic properties.

Set in Order — A reference guide to standardise methods of preparing, storing, and applying the tape.

Shine — Consistency through visual rounds and patient reviews.

Standardise — Staff training through roll calls and mannequin demonstrations.

Sustainability — Easily adopted by nurses and integrated into interdepartmental practices.

Benefits
- ➢ Reduce pressure on the nostrils
- ➢ Allow tube movement
- ➢ Enhance visibility for regular inspection
- ➢ Prevent skin tear during removal

Non Intubated

Intubated

Allowances

Onward 2026

The mission to provide good quality, affordable and hassle free healthcare with science, love and wisdom

- ★ A standardised NG tube securement with non-woven dressing improves patient safety and comfort.
- ★ Nostril pressure injuries prevented, reducing the need for additional treatment and extended stay.

Quality and patient safety

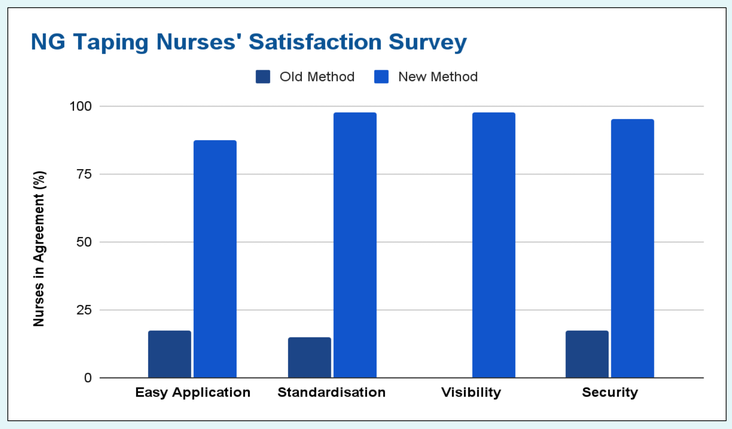
- ★ Successfully reduced pressure injury incidences to zero for over three years.
- ★ Adopted across multiple departments (A61, A62, D78, B85, B86, B105, B106, B75).
- ★ Improved patient safety, cost-effectiveness, and sustainability in care.

Results & Outcomes

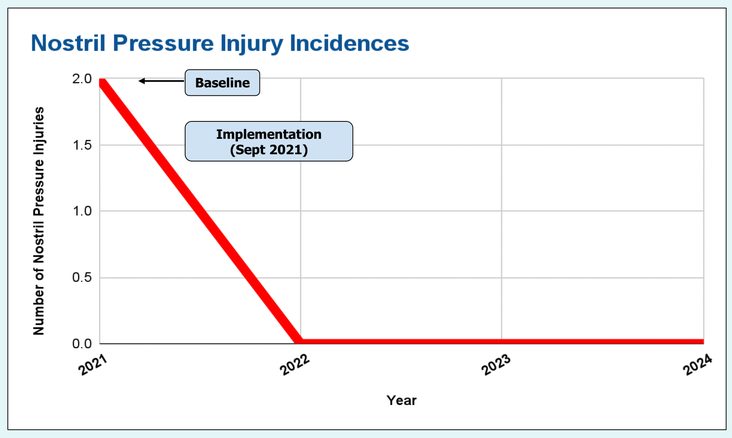
Better
- ➔ Established uniform nursing practice
- ➔ Improved patient and staff experiences

Safer and Cheaper
- ➔ Reduced patient discomfort and NPI incidences since 2021
- ➔ More secure, leading to fewer NG tube replacements

Faster
- ➔ Easier to apply, hence time and energy efficient



Data from the hospital's incident records confirmed that, prior to implementation, two serious NPIs were reported, but since adopting the pressure-free method, there have been no incidents. This sustainable, user-friendly approach has improved patient comfort, prevented complications, and reduced hospital stays. Nurses also appreciated the tape's gentleness upon removal and the minimal residue left on patients' skin.



Conclusion

This new NG tube taping method has been successfully integrated into the ICU daily routines, improving patient outcomes and nurse satisfaction. With zero reported NPIs since implementation, the practice has been sustained for over three years and adopted by multiple departments across KTPH. Ongoing training, feedback, and compliance monitoring ensure its continued success. This sustainable approach promises lasting improvements in care quality, preventing pressure injuries and enhancing both patient comfort and nursing efficiency.