

practitioner. The [Nursing Care Guidelines](#) box describes the procedure for gavage feeding.

## Translating Evidence into Practice

### Confirming Nasogastric Tube Placement in Pediatric Patients

#### Ask the Question

#### PICOT Question

In children, how should correct placement of nasogastric (NG) tubes be assessed during hospitalization?

#### Search for the Evidence

#### Search Strategies

Search selection criteria included English-language, research-based articles, and children and adolescents requiring NG tube placement. Search areas included aspirate, auscultation and radiology methods, NG tube length prediction methods, age-related height-based methods, and accurate NG tube placement. Searches excluded newborns and preterm infants.

#### Databases Used

PubMed, Cochrane Collaboration, MDConsult, Joanna Briggs Institute, AHRQ-National Guideline Clearinghouse, TRIP database Plus, PedsCCM, BestBETS

#### Critical Appraisal of the Evidence

Studies compared various methods used to evaluate correct placement of the NG tube.

#### Accurate Nasogastric Tube Length Measurement

- Children 8 years, 4 months old or younger: Use age-related height-based equation for NG length predictions.
- Children older than 8 years, 4 months old, short stature, or when you cannot obtain accurate height: Use nose–ear–midxiphoid–umbilicus (NEMU) ([Beckstrand, Ellet, Welch, et al, 1990](#);