Best Interest Feeding in Adults

Previously referred to as ‘comfort feeding’ or ‘feeding with accepted risk’, the recently launched Best Interest Feeding Guidelines for Adults aims to guide teams through an organised decision making process, encompassing patient choice and multidisciplinary clinical input in what can be an ethically complex area.

- The Consultant responsible for the patients care will ultimately be the person who makes the decision regarding a nutrition plan.
- It is essential that the initiation of a best interest feeding decision is preceded by detailed information gathering to establish the nature of the dysphagia.
- All stages can be initiated by either the medical team or SALT, except the detailed dysphagia assessment which must be carried out by SALT.

The guidelines can be found at: http://staffroom.ydh.yha.com/policies-and-procedures/clinical/nutrition-and-dietetics/best-interest-feeding-guidelines-for-adults

Further advice and support can be sort from the Adult Speech & Language Therapy Department at York or Scarborough on 01904 725768.

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