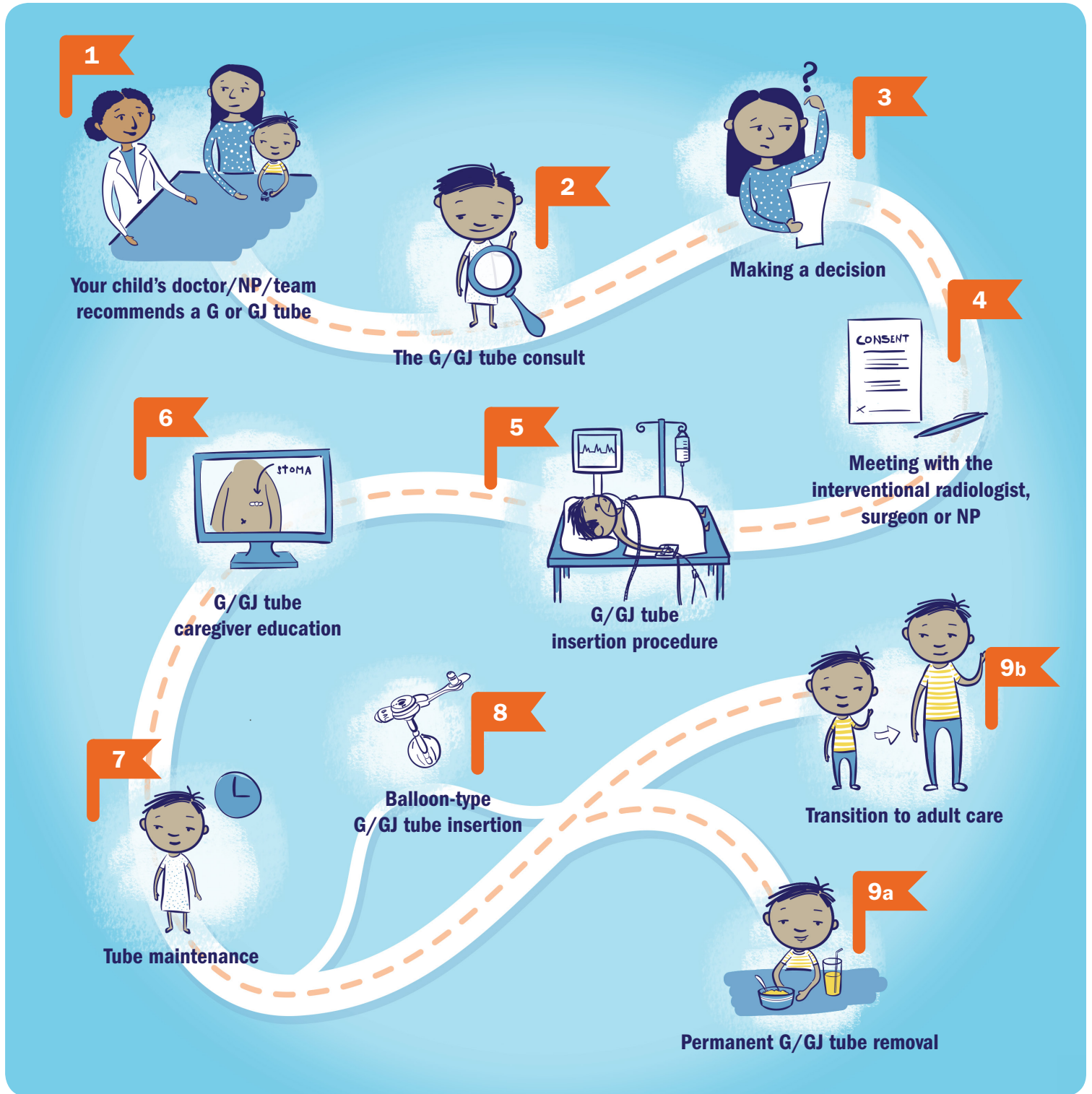


Gastrostomy/Gastrojejunostomy (G/GJ) Tube

Family Milestones



This is a general process. All cases are unique and sometimes diverge from the standard process.

G/GJ Tube Family Milestones

1

Your child's doctor/NP/team recommends a G or GJ tube

The most common reason a child needs a G or GJ tube is to provide them with the fluids, nutrition and/or medication they need to grow and stay healthy. You and your child's doctor/NP/team will discuss if a G or GJ tube is the right option for your child.

2

The G/GJ tube consult

You will meet with an NP and/or a doctor to review your child's medical history. The consult team decides if a G or GJ tube is the right option. They will assess if placing a tube is technically possible and decide which type of tube is best.

3

Making a decision

With the support of the health-care team and the G tube consult service, you will decide if you would like to proceed with a G or GJ tube for your child. Resources are available to help you make the decision.

4

Meeting with the interventional radiologist, surgeon or NP

You will meet with an interventional radiologist, surgeon, or NP. They will review the details of the procedure including any possible complications. At this time you will sign a written consent for the procedure.

5

G/GJ tube insertion procedure

Tube insertion is usually done in the IGT department or operating room. Your child may be in the IGT department for 1-2 hours. Your child will move to a recovery area before returning to their original unit.

G/GJ Tube Family Milestones

6

G/GJ tube caregiver education

You will be taught how to care for the G or GJ tube through classes, videos, written and online resources. This is to help you feel confident about caring for your child's G or GJ tube by the time they leave the hospital.

7

Tube maintenance

If the G or GJ tube breaks, is blocked, pulled out or you want to exchange your child's tube you will need to visit the G Tube Clinic or IGT department

8

Balloon-type G/GJ tube insertion

A balloon-type G/GJ tube has many positive features that are preferred by patients and families. Ask your doctor, G tube team or NP about it. If you would like your child's G/GJ tube exchanged, contact the G Tube Resource Nurse. This procedure may be done under general anesthesia.

9a

Permanent G/GJ tube removal

If your child is able to take all of their nutrition, fluids and medication by mouth for 2-3 months, your team may discuss permanently removing the tube. This can be done in clinic. The stoma will close within a few days.

9b

Transition to adult care

Some children need the support of a G or GJ tube for a short time. Others will need a tube for their entire lives. Once your child is 18 years of age, they will no longer be a SickKids patient. SickKids will help plan and transfer your child's G or GJ tube care to an adult facility.
