

Self-Collapsing Feeding Tube with Cleaning Mechanism

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Background & Unmet Need

- Jejunostomy feeding tubes (J-tubes) are often needed to support the enteral nutrition needs of a patient during both short and long-term illnesses
- Current catheters are typically simple tubes that are placed surgically through the abdominal wall and inserted into the proximal small intestine
- The only anchor is a simple suture in the skin wrapped around the tube externally, leading to risk of tube migration
- Additional potential adverse effects include skin excoriation and cellulitis of the abdominal wall due to leakage
- In addition, feeding tubes often become clogged, necessitating tube replacement if the obstruction cannot be cleared
- **Unmet Need:** Improved J-tube design that prevents tube migration and enables clearance of blockages

Technology Overview

- **The Technology:** J-tube that includes external and internal anchors to prevent migration and dislodgement, plus a cleaning mechanism to clear blockages
- The device includes a flexible intra-peritoneal “anchoring” bumper that lies between the small intestine and intra-abdominal wall
- This anchor prevents inadvertent retrograde displacement of the tube but is flexible enough so that the J-tube can be safely removed by a clinician
- In addition, the device is compatible with a fixed-length bristle brush that can be inserted into the lumen of the tube to clear obstructions
- Importantly, the cleaning brush is the same length as the J-tube, preventing accidental damage to the small intestine

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Patents:

[US Application Filed](#)

Publications:

N/A

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Technology Applications

- Improved J-tube design for patients requiring enteral nutrition
- Applicable for both short- and long-term enteral nutrition

Technology Advantages

- Anchors prevent J-tube migration and dislodgement
- Includes cleaning brush to remove tube blockages
- Reduces risk of complications due to leakage

Supporting Data / Figures

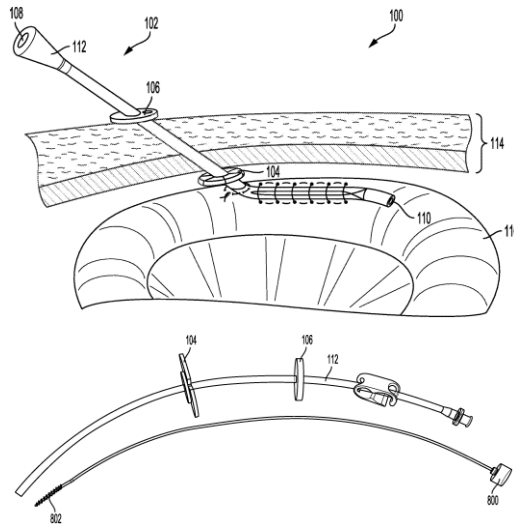


FIG. 10

Figure 1: Drawings of the disclosed self-collapsing feeding tube, which contains a cleaning mechanism. The lower drawing includes the cleaning brush design.

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