

Medical Procedures

- Follow universal precautions, particularly when the caretaker is sick. A mask should be worn and hands washed frequently.
- Use non-split 4x4 sponges to clean delicate areas like the eyes, nose, mouth, and around the trach area. They are soft and absorbent. You can get these from your medical supplies company.
- Always tell your child before suctioning to reduce anxiety.
- If your child has a g-tube, tape the med-port at night to avoid accidental opening and leaking all over bed.
- Discuss with your child's pediatrician to see if flu shots and synergis are recommended. Synergis is a vaccine against the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), a virus that can cause bronchiolitis.
- If you can, provide breast milk for your child in the best way you can. According to the editors of Prevention Magazine in *Food and Nutrition*, one of a series of health books: "Early breast milk contains substances that bolster a baby's immune system to help fight off allergies and infections."