



Appendix 5

Definition of Outcomes

Study	Nutritional Achievement	Gastric Retention/Distension	Diarrhoea	Aspiration Pneumonia
Chen et al. [29]	I. Nutritional goal for each patient was calculated as 105kj/kg/day II. This was attempted by 3 rd day III. At 5 th day they calculated the % of nutritional goal achieved	I. Every 4 hours the residual gastric volume was measured II. Assessed through aspiration via NG tube III. If <100ml then feed continued at same rate IV. If 100-200ml then volume delivered at reduced rate V. If more than 200ml then this was defined as Gastric retention	Defined as I. 2 loose stools per day or II. 3 or more defecations per day or III. Continuous diarrhea	Aspiration Pneumonia diagnosed by clinicians if: I. Symptoms started 48 hours after admission II. Bacteria identified in sputum III. Raised White cell count IV. Consolidation on CXR V. Other supporting features include: VI. Fever, Cough, Increased sputum and/or chest pain As defined by the American thoracic society guideline for hospital acquired pneumonia
Wang YB et al. [24]	Not measured	I. The measurement of gastric residual volume or assessment of gastric retention is not mentioned in this study. II. Gastric distention is assessed through abdominal palpation combined with measurement of abdominal circumference	Defined as I. More than 3 defecations per day or II. Weight of faeces is more than 200g each time	Study States: "Reflux-related infections refer to the relevant standards for lower respiratory tract infections in the "Diagnostic Standards for Nosocomial Infections (Trial)" of the Ministry of Health"
Gungor I et al. [30]	Not measured	I. Every 4-6 hours the residual gastric volume was measured II. Assessed through NG tube free drainage for 30 minutes III. If more than 250ml then this was defined as Gastric retention	Defined as I. An average of more than 250ml per defecation and II. More than 3 defecations per day	I. Aspiration Pneumonia diagnosed by clinicians using: II. Symptoms: Increased bronchial secretion and respiratory distress III. horacic examination and Fever IV. Investigations: FBC, Arterial Blood gas and Chest X-ray, blood and bronchial aspirate cultures, CT Thorax

kj/kg/day: kilojoules per kilogram per day; %: percentage; ml.- millimetre; g: grams; NG: Nasogastric; CT: computed tomography.