

Conversation starters

- why you are on home parenteral nutrition (or HPN). (This would be a great video!)
- the most positive benefit you have received because of PN.
- what you want people to know about IV nutrition or your routines. Are there misconceptions you'd like to address?
- ask, "What would you like to know about HPN that you have been uncomfortable or afraid asking?"
- a negative experience you have encountered because of HPN, and how it could have been more positive. What *should* have happened? (This would be a good topic for a blog or a letter.)
- a positive experience you have encountered because of HPN, and what made it positive

(adapted with permission from FeedingTubeAwareness.com, 2011)

Did you know

- that without parenteral (PN) and/or enteral (EN) nutrition, some people would not be able to survive? PN is infused intravenously through a catheter into the bloodstream, while EN formula goes through a tube into a person's stomach or intestines.
- that people can administer PN and EN at home (called "homePEN")?
- that people on homePEN can work, travel, go to school, raise families?
- that homePEN is prescribed for people who've had cancer, AIDS, or strokes, as well as people with intestinal disorders, such as Crohn's, colitis, Gastroparesis, and so on?

The Oley Foundation (www.oley.org)

- is a national, independent, non-profit organization
- provides information and psychosocial support to homePEN consumers
- helps homePEN consumers live fuller, richer lives
- has over 17,000 members
- publishes a newsletter, coordinates a peer support network, offers online educational modules, sponsors conferences, and more
- offers all of its programs FREE to homePEN consumers/caregivers