

Oley Webinar Traveling with IV Nutrition or Tube Feeding Q&A not covered on the video

1. In addition to the tube feeds, I also need to travel with IV hydration and multiple IV medications. Like my tube feeds, the IV hydration also comes with a backpack, although it is very, very difficult to carry both at the same time.

Barb: Use a suitcase on wheels for all your supplies. If it's 100% medical, it will not count as a carry on but be free. You can hook multiple bags together by hooking the strap on the first suitcase to the handle of a second one and make a kind of train with multiple bags. No lifting required until placing in the overhead. I ask for help from a fellow passenger!

2. A nurse changes my PICC line dressing weekly. How do you handle a dressing change when you travel?

Barb: I have been trained since day one to do my own dressing changes. It gives me the independence I want. I even learned to access a port myself when I had one. A PICC is harder to access but I could talk a fellow traveler or friend in sterile gloves through the process if needed. Have your nurse teach you how to do it yourself. Also, video your nurse doing the dressing change and keep that on your phone for instructions while away. Be sure to have the nurse narrate the video.

Editor's Note: Oley is aware that some consumers arrange to have a dressing changed by a hospital or homecare nurse in the area they are traveling to. It is certainly less convenient than doing the dressing change yourself or having a friend or family member traveling with you do it. You might ask your homecare company if they can help you find nursing care in your destination city. You will want to check with your insurance company and with the nursing service about whether the service would be covered and how the billing process would work.

3. We are going on a cruise with our 12-year-old son who is on tube feedings and has a heart condition. I completed medical forms so the onboard medical staff will be familiar with his medical issues, and he has a medical alert bracelet. If there anything else I can do to enhance his safety?

Barb: I pray for the best and go for it. You cannot cover all emergencies that may arise but you cannot live your life in fear. It's all about quality of life to me. US medical help is a flight away. I developed a catheter infection while in the Caribbean. I found a doctor to give me a day of oral antibiotics until I could get on a plane. I went straight to the hospital in the US. All worked out.

Rick: Having a sense of humor helps, too. For example, when you go to the dining room and any one asks why your son is not eating, tell them that he gave it up for Lent.

4. Can baby food be declared medically necessary?

Susan: Here are some resources on the TSA website

Baby Food: www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/whatcanibring/items/baby-food

Baby food is allowed in reasonable quantities in carry-on bags. Remove these items from your carry-on bag to be screened separately from the rest of your belongings. Please see traveling with children for more information.

Traveling with Children: www.tsa.gov/travel/special-procedures/traveling-children

To ensure your security, all travelers are required to undergo screening. However, TSA has developed modified screening procedures for children who appear to be 12 years old and younger. TSA officers will consult parents or the traveling guardian about the best way to relieve any concerns during the screening of a child.

For children 13 years and older, TSA's [standard screening procedures](#) apply. Accessible property of all travelers, regardless of age, must be screened. If there is an alarm, the individual will undergo additional screening.

Children with Medical Conditions, Disabilities, or Mobility Aids

Inform the TSA officer if the child has a disability, medical condition or medical device, and advise the officer of the best way to relieve any concerns during the screening process.

Inform the TSA officer if your child is able to walk through the metal detector or needs to be carried through the metal detector by the parent/guardian. You may carry your child to ease the screening process. The TSA officer will not remove your child from his/her mobility aid, wheelchair or scooter.

Request Assistance

TSA Cares is a helpline to assist travelers with disabilities and medical conditions. Call [TSA Cares 72 hours prior](#) to traveling with questions about screening policies, procedures and what to expect at the security checkpoint. You may also call to request assistance at the checkpoint.

Formula, Breast Milk, and Juice

For the purposes of our screening procedures, an infant is defined as a child who must be physically carried by an adult throughout the screening process. A toddler is defined as a child who receives assistance in walking by an adult throughout the screening process.

Notify the TSA Officer

Formula, breast milk and juice for infants or toddlers are permitted in reasonable quantities through the security checkpoint. Remove these items from your carry-on bag to be screened separately from the rest of your belongings.

Inform the TSA officer at the beginning of the screening process that you carry formula, breast milk and juice in excess of 3.4 ounces in your carry-on bag. These liquids are typically screened by X-ray.

Screening Formula, Breast Milk and Juice

TSA officers may need to test liquids for explosives or concealed prohibited items. Officers may ask you

to open the container and/or have you transfer a small quantity of the liquid to a separate empty container or dispose of a small quantity, if feasible.

Inform the TSA officer if you do not want the formula, breast milk and/or juice to be X-rayed or opened. Additional steps will be taken to clear the liquid and you or the traveling guardian will undergo additional screening procedures, to include a pat-down and screening of other carry-on property.

X-ray Screening

The Food and Drug Administration states that there are no known adverse effects from eating food, drinking beverages and using medicine screened by X-ray.

3-1-1 Liquids Rule Exemption

Formula, breast milk, juice in quantities greater than 3.4 ounces or 100 milliliters are allowed in carry-on baggage and do not need to fit within a quart-sized bag. Remove these items from your carry-on bag to be screened separately from the rest of your belongings. You do not need to travel with your child to bring breast milk.

Ice packs, freezer packs, frozen gel packs and other accessories required to cool formula, breast milk and juice are allowed in carry-on. If these accessories are partially frozen or slushy, they are subject to the same screening as described above. You may also bring gel or liquid-filled teething rings, canned, jarred and processed baby food in carry-on baggage. These items may be subject to additional screening.

Screening of Children's Items

- Place all carry-on baggage such as children's toys, bags and blankets on the X-ray belt for screening.
- Strollers, umbrella-strollers, baby carriers, car and booster seats and backpacks must be screened by X-ray.
- Place items in the stroller pockets or baskets, in a carry-on bag or on the X-ray belt for screening.
- Equipment that does not fit through the X-ray machine will undergo a visual/physical inspection by TSA officers.

Screening Technology

Walk-Through Metal Detector

Children able to walk through the metal detector without assistance may do so separately from their parent or guardian. If they alarm, children are allowed multiple passes through screening technologies and may undergo other procedures to resolve the alarm to reduce the need for a pat-down. Infants and small children may be carried through the metal detector. Should the alarm sound, additional screening is required.

Advanced Imaging Technology

If your child is able to remain standing in the required position for 5 seconds, he or she may be screened through the advanced imaging technology. If a child 12 and under goes through the machine and alarms, they have an opportunity to go through again or the TSA officer may use other procedures to resolve the alarm to reduce the need for a pat-down.

You may not be screened by this technology when carrying an infant or child.