



# OSCE Checklist: Nasogastric Tube Insertion

Introduction	
1	Gather and prepare equipment
2	Wash your hands and don PPE if appropriate
3	Introduce yourself to the patient including your name and role
4	Confirm the patient's name and date of birth
5	Briefly explain what the procedure will involve using patient-friendly language
6	Gain consent to proceed with nasogastric tube insertion
7	Check if the patient has any allergies
8	Ask the patient if they have any pain before continuing with the clinical procedure
9	Position the patient so that they are sitting comfortably
Measurement of the insertion length	
10	Position the patient sitting upright with their head in a neutral position
11	Don a pair of non-sterile gloves (if not already wearing some)
12	Estimate how far the NG tube will need to be inserted: measure from the bridge of the nose to the ear lobe and then down to 5cm below the xiphisternum
Insertion of the NG tube	
13	Lubricate the tip of the NG tube
14	If available, a local anaesthetic should be sprayed towards the back of the patient's throat
15	Warn the patient you are about to insert the NG tube
16	Insert the NG tube through one of the patient's nostrils
17	Gently advance the NG tube through the nasopharynx
18	Continue to advance the NG tube down the oesophagus
19	Once you reach the desired nasogastric tube insertion length, fix the NG tube to the nose with a dressing
Aspiration of the NG tube	
20	Attempt to aspirate gastric contents
21	Once the NG tube is deemed safe for use, the radiopaque guidewire can be removed
To complete the procedure...	
22	Explain to the patient that the procedure is now complete and reassure them that the NG tube will become more comfortable over the next few hours
23	Thank the patient for their time
24	Offer the patient paper towels to clean their face and nose
25	Dispose of used equipment, including PPE, into a clinical waste bin

<b>26</b>	Let the nursing staff know if the NG tube is currently safe to use	
<b>27</b>	Document the details of the procedure in the patient's notes	

Read the full guide at  
[geekymedics.com](https://www.geekymedics.com)



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