

Table 5: Summary of Recommendations in Included Guidelines

Recommendations	Strength of Evidence and Recommendations
ACI & GENCA, 2015 ⁷	
For inadvertent removal of a gastrostomy tube or device if the stoma tract is mature:	
<p>"If a dedicated gastrostomy device is not available a Foley catheter can be used for this purpose as a temporary measure to protect the tract. (Grade D)</p> <p>-- A Foley catheter of equivalent size that is adequately secured can be used in the interim for medication or feeding but should be replaced with a dedicated gastrostomy tube or device as soon as possible."</p> <p>(p.54)</p>	<p>Body of evidence is weak and recommendation must be applied with caution</p>
<p>"Foley catheters are not recommended as a long term replacement feeding tube or device because:</p> <p>-- They do not have an external flange increasing the risk of migration and obstruction and are not designed as a long term gastrostomy device (Grade D)</p> <p>-- A "spigot" or stopper is required to cap off the proximal end when not in use and it may be at risk of being lost or being unavailable</p> <p>-- Standard tube length is 40cm – outlet obstruction becomes a risk if the tube is allowed to migrate in (see the point above)</p> <p>-- Their closed distal end causes the tube to be at risk of obstruction</p> <p>-- There is increased risk of posterior gastric mucosa ulceration due to exposed distal tube past the balloon</p> <p>-- The manufacturer's guidelines are for urinary bladder insertion."</p> <p>(p.54)</p>	<p>Body of evidence is weak and recommendation must be applied with caution</p>

ACI = Agency for Clinical Innovation; cm = centimeter; GENCA = Gastroenterological Nurses College of Australia