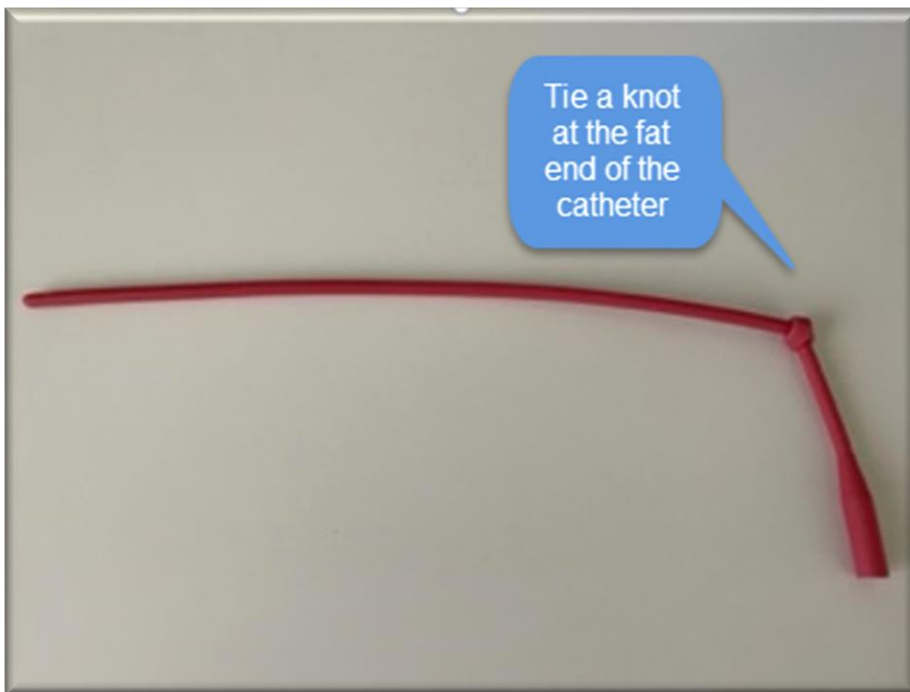


## What to Do if Your TEP Prosthesis Comes Out by Accident

1. Stay calm.
2. Do not eat or drink.
3. Get your red rubber catheter – you may have a thicker and thinner one. Please do the following with the thicker catheter.
4. Tie a knot at the fat end of the catheter.



5. Lubricate the tip of the catheter with water soluble lubricant.
6. Insert the tip of the catheter into the TEP. Continue inserting the catheter through the TEP until only 3 or 4 inches remain outside of your body. Do not force the catheter into the TEP! **If it will not go in easily, use the thinner catheter for steps 4 through 6.**
7. Tape the fat end of the catheter to your chest.
8. If you successfully inserted the thicker catheter, you can resume eating and drinking. If you had to use the thinner catheter, wait a couple hours before you eat and drink – you want the TEP to snug down around the catheter to reduce the risk of leakage around the catheter.
9. Once the catheter is in place, call your Speech Pathology Clinic to have a new prosthesis placed. It would be good for you to be seen in the next 2 or 3 days.

10. If you cannot find the dislodged prosthesis, you should get a chest X-ray the same day you noticed the missing prosthesis. The purpose of the chest X-ray is to see if it has fallen into your lungs. Rarely does a prosthesis fall into a person's lungs – it is even rarer for it to cause difficulty breathing. However, if you do experience trouble breathing, go to your emergency room immediately.
11. Here is a link from another hospital that will show you a video of what to do:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ydc8rWNE6lg>
12. On the following page are images of a TEP with a prosthesis, without a prosthesis, and with a catheter inserted.

