



Nasogastric Feeding Solutions Limited ('NGFS'), trading as Enteral Access Technologies or E.A.T., is an ISO 13485 certified medical device developer and manufacturer.

The company's mission is to revolutionise enteral access by providing clinicians with better tools to safely place lifesaving nasogastric or orogastric feeding or decompression tubes. The DoubleCHEK device achieves this aim, and after £3.3m of investment into product development and trials, the device is now in manufacture, and terms for European distribution are in the process of being agreed, with the US to follow later in 2021.

The problem DoubleCHEK solves

There is a risk to the patient of serious harm or death if a nasogastric feeding tube is misplaced and enters the lung instead of the stomach, particularly if fluids, medicine or feed is delivered through the tube.

Nasogastric tube placement safety is a key area of concern within the NHS, with incidents where NG tubes are incorrectly placed into the lung and fluid, medicine or feed is passed through them classified as Never Events.

An HSIB report published in Dec 20 recommended that NHS Supply Chain develops essential specifications to support clinically led procurement of devices to confirm NG tube placement, which is what DoubleCHEK will do.

Market opportunity

The risk of misplaced NG tubes is one experienced worldwide, and with an estimated 47.6m NG tubes being used worldwide (exc. China & India) each year there is a large addressable market. On average a patient has a feeding tube in place for 12 days, meaning there is the potential for 12 DoubleCHEK devices to be used for every NG tube fitted, a total potential use of 571m devices each year.



Traction to date

- NGFS rebrands to Enteral Access Technologies (E.A.T.) in February 2021.
- E.A.T. has excellent links into the NHS, being placed on the supplier framework at the most recent tender, and having conducted user evaluation trials at three NHS trusts. The feedback from the trials was that 95.5% of users preferred DoubleCHEK over the pH strip alternative.
- Received UKCA Mark in May 2021.
- Signed exclusive Distribution Agreement with Medicina, Ltd. in June 2021 for coverage in the UK and Ireland. Discussions are ongoing with other major international distributors for ROW coverage.
- Submitted US FDA 510(k) application in July 2021.

Funding round

£3.3m of funding has been raised to develop the device since 2014, all from private individual investors with the exception of £369,000 from the Future Fund in November 2020.

Funding of £1.5m - £2m is required to support the initial product launch and future growth of the business, with £500,000 required to provide working capital whilst the product gains traction in the market, £1.25m to invest in high efficiency tooling and automated assembly in order to drive unit cost down and improve gross margins, and £250,000 for new product development.

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