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1: [J Pediatr Surg.](#) 1992 Oct;27(10):1269-72.

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The bowel management tube: an effective means for controlling fecal incontinence.

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Regular bowel washout enemas have been used as a method of management of fecal incontinence. The effective administration of a washout enema to a child with weak anal sphincters is often a problem. Using a new silastic balloon-tipped enema catheter (bowel management tube [BMT]) of our design, we prospectively studied its effectiveness in a group of children who suffered fecal incontinence. Thirty-one children were studied over a 1-year period. Their diagnoses included meningomyelocele (19), postoperative Hirschsprung's disease or imperforate anus (10), and other (2). Before and after starting the BMT enema system, clinical assessment and a diary, which graded the degree of fecal incontinence and satisfaction with the system, were completed. Five patients failed to benefit because of noncompliance (3) or balloon extrusion (2). Three more patients discontinued the use of the tube system. Twenty-three patients achieved successful results with this system as evidenced by a significant amelioration in their fecal incontinence and their unwillingness to give up the use of the BMT. We conclude that the use of a regular washout enemas with BMT can be an effective method for control of fecal incontinence in children.

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