



NGPOD®

v1.5

NGPOD[®]

A pH test device which confirms acidity (pH 5.5 or below) at the distal tip of a fibre-optic sensor inside an in-situ nasogastric tube, as part of the Nasogastric placement confirmation pathway.



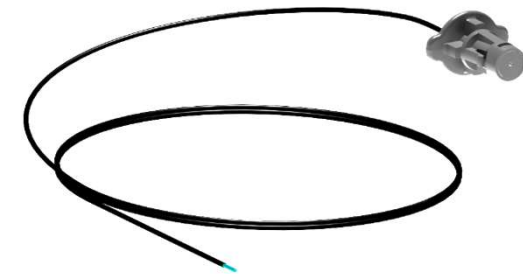
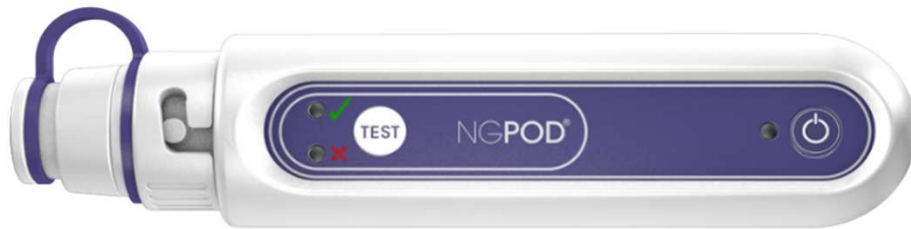
Learning Objectives

- **To feel competent using the NGPOD system**
- **When & How to pH test using the NGPOD System**
- **Know how to store NGPOD correctly**
- **Know where & what assistance is available**

NOTE: NGPOD should only be used by trained clinical personnel as indicated in the local NHS Trust nasogastric tube policy. The result should not be used to override clinical judgement if other concerns or observations during placement indicate referral to senior personnel or for Chest X-ray.

NGPOD[®] System

A proven pH test system for assisting NGT placement confirmation



- ✓ Handheld, battery operated bedside test device
- ✓ Battery operated
- ✓ Objective result in c.20 seconds
- ✓ Reduces risks & feed/medication delays

- ✓ Disposable single-use sensor
- ✓ Compatible with most NG Tubes
- ✓ Must use the correct sensor with the patient's NG Tube

When not to use the NGPOD[®] System

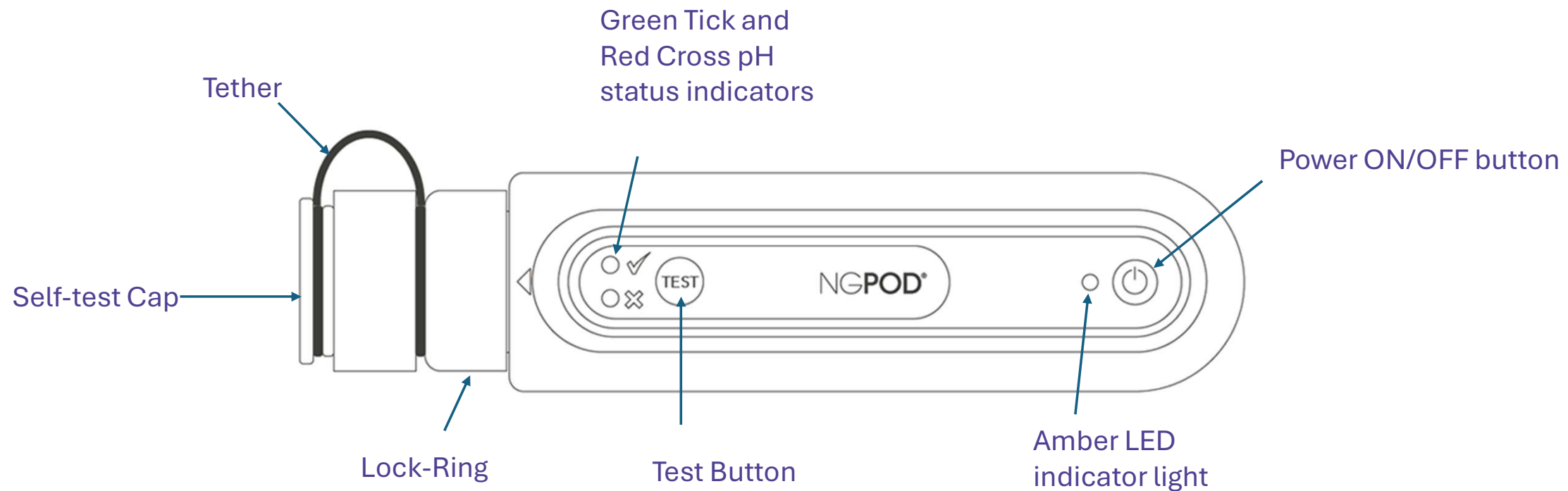
- If the patient is contraindicated for blind NG tube placement
- If pH testing is clinically contraindicated
- When observations during placement indicate concern



How to Use the NGPOD[®]

Always check for any visible signs of damage to the pod, including cracked housing.

Do not use the NGPOD[®] if it has been damaged to the extent that cracks are evident in the casing or if parts are missing.

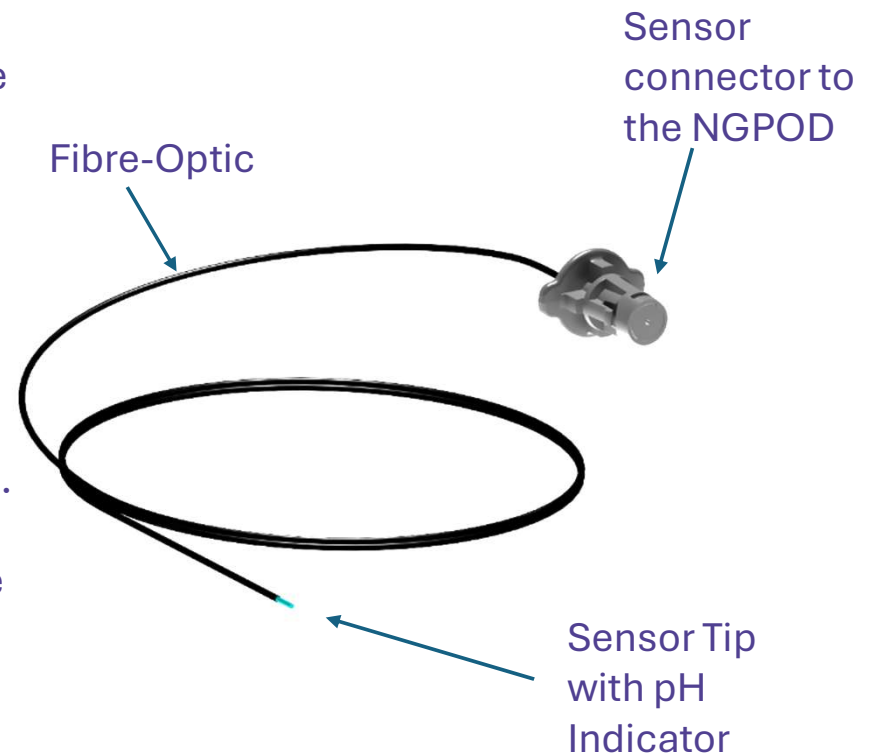


NGPOD[®] Sensor (disposable)

NGPOD Sensors come in various sizes, this is because NG tubes come in many different lengths and the feeding holes are placed differently between each tube and manufacturer. It is important that the correct sensor is used for the NG tube. You can check this by scanning the QR code on the pod, or by checking the Appendix to the IFU on the NGPOD website for the full compatibility list.

Before starting an NGPOD test, check that the sensor packaging is sealed, intact and undamaged before use.

When operating the NGPOD handset device the device will run a sensor check, prior to it being inserted into the nasogastric tube, to confirm the sensor tip is not damaged.



Step 1: Cap on, Power on.

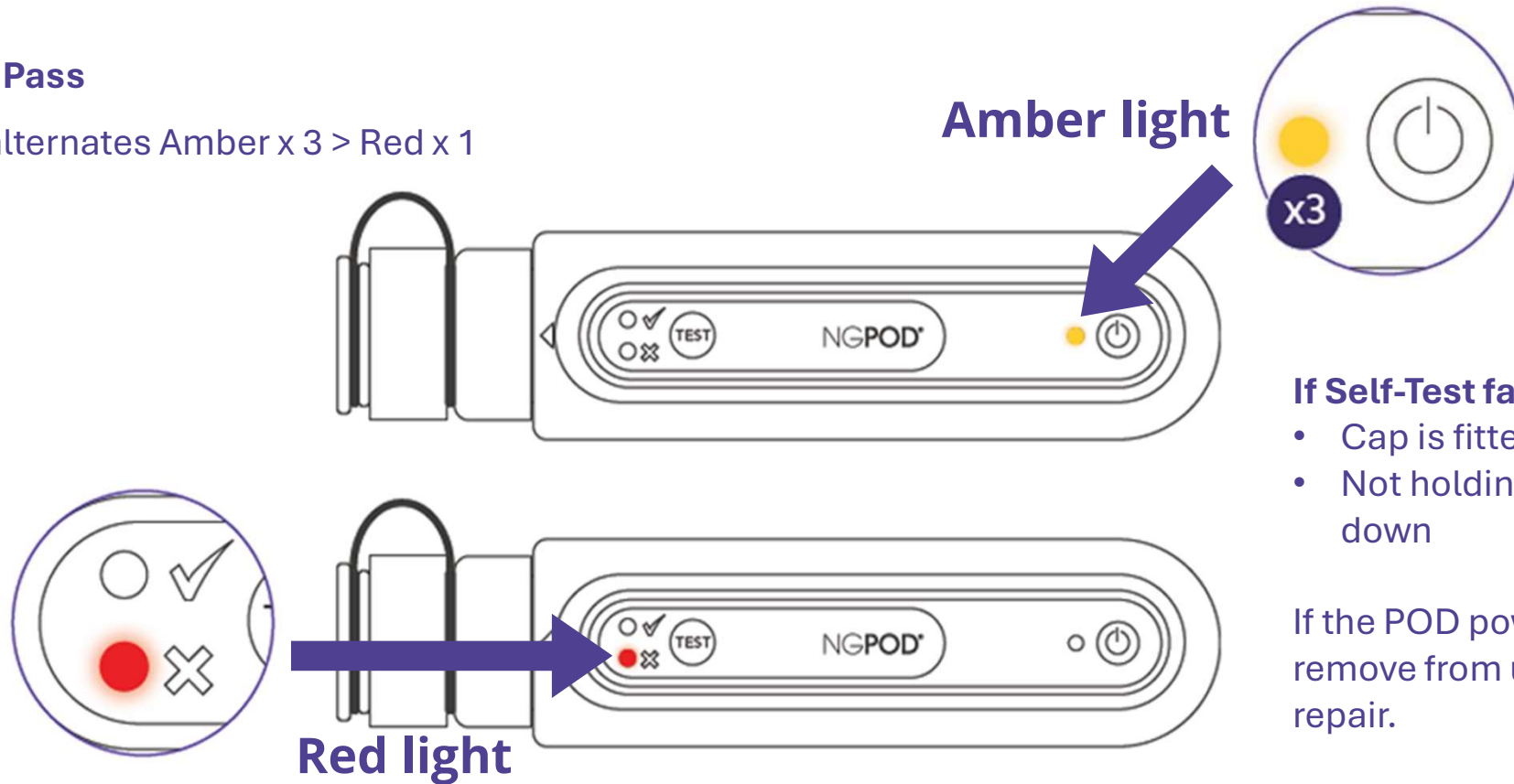


NOTE: If Red LED light flashes 4 times and POD switches off, check Troubleshooting Guide.

During power up the handset performs a self-test to check the internal system.

Self-Test Pass

NGPOD alternates Amber x 3 > Red x 1



If Self-Test fails check:

- Cap is fitted securely
- Not holding power button down

If the POD powers down again, remove from use & send for repair.

Step 2: Sensor Check

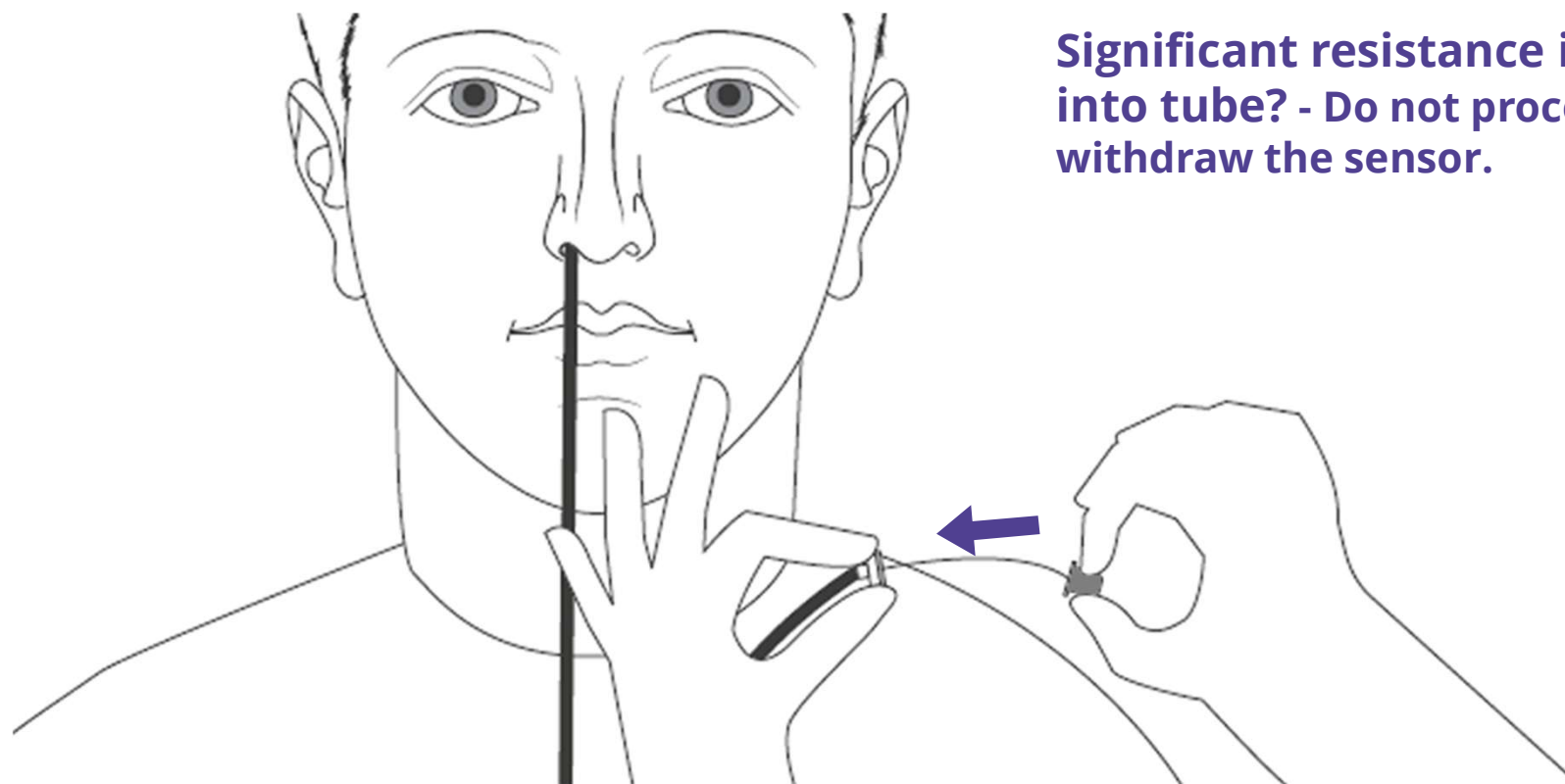
Remove Cap, open new sensor pouch & connect grey connector into POD by gently pushing and rotating.



Once new sensor clicks into POD, the POD will perform an automatic sensor check. If successful, the RED light will no longer flash and the Amber light will continue to flash periodically. Detach sensor ready for insertion into the NG Tube.

If the sensor is defective, a sequence of 2 Red lights and 1 Amber light will flash. Check lock-ring is on securely. If sensor-check has not passed, use a new sensor.

Step 3: Insert Sensor into Patient's NG tube

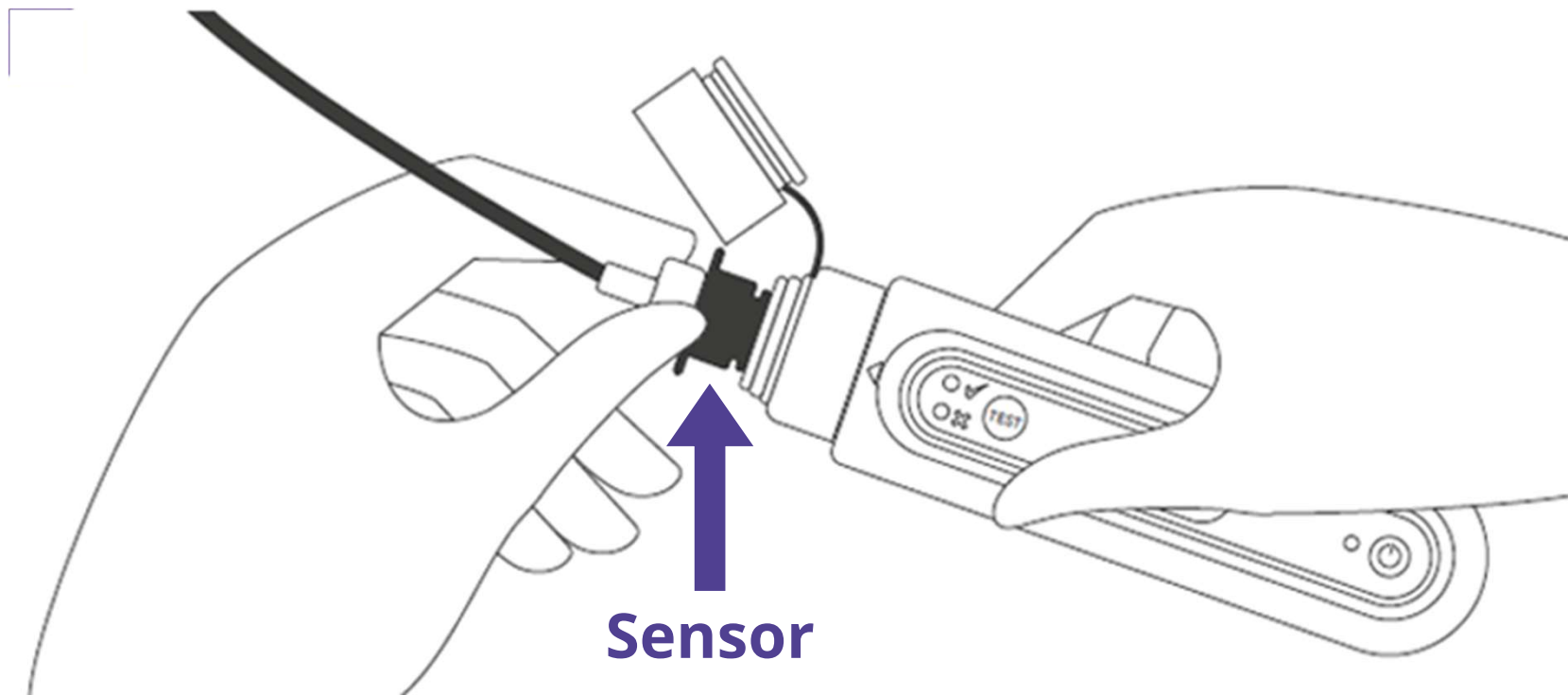


Significant resistance inserting into tube? - Do not proceed. Carefully withdraw the sensor.

NOTE: Fully insert until grey connector is in contact with the purple ENFit connector.

If the sensor is difficult to insert, it could mean the tube is coiled or blocked.

Reconnect the Sensor to the handheld POD



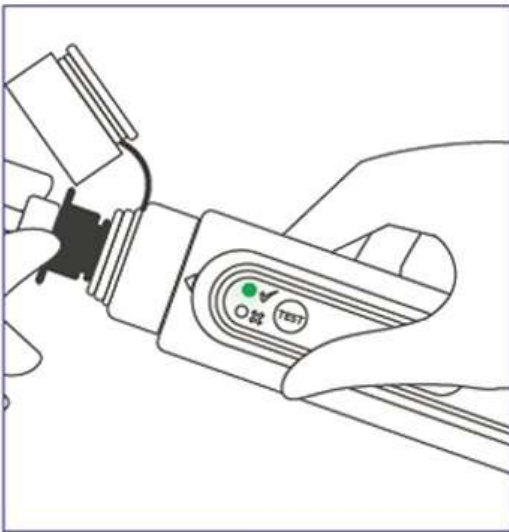
Step 4: NGPOD Test & Results

Once the sensor is reconnected to the device, the pH test starts automatically without pressing the Test button.

This is indicated by a repeating double flash of the Amber LED.

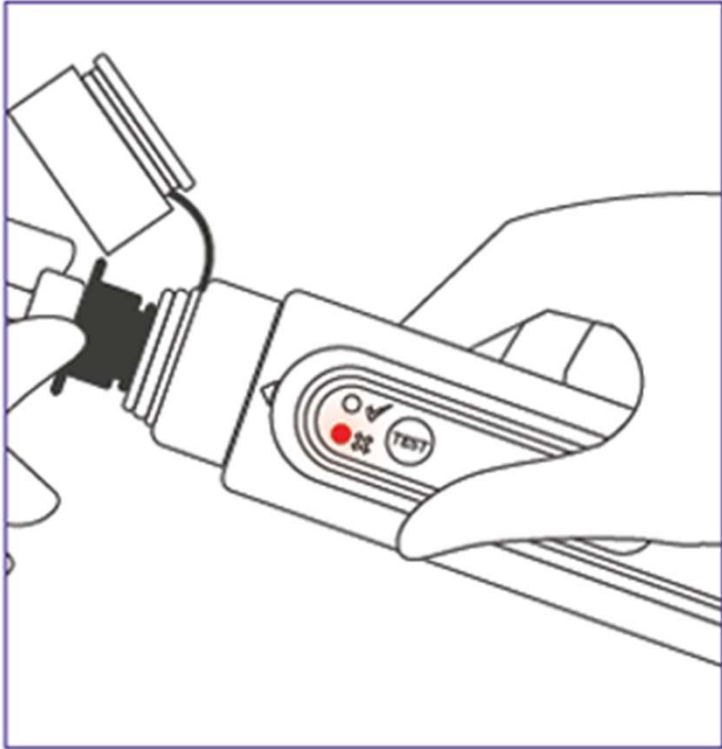
Do not withdraw the sensor and wait for a Green (✓) or Red (✗) result to display. The POD allows up to 5 minutes for the sensor to react before giving a red result.

If patient is on continuous feed and/or acid reducing medication, the test may take longer due to borderline pH.



A GREEN light (✓) illuminated continuously for 4 seconds indicates the test is complete, and the sensor tip is in a pH environment of ≤ 5.5

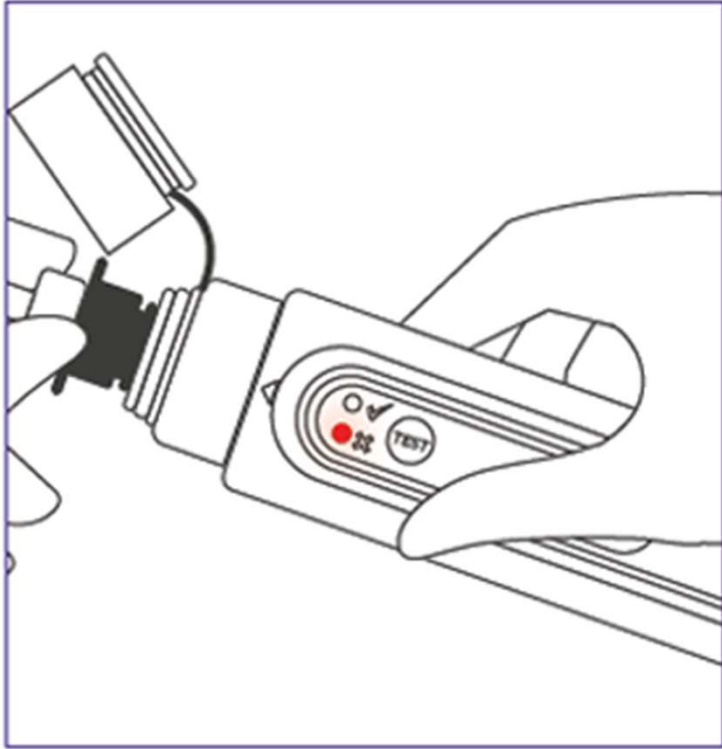
Note: During the pH test, the amber light may progress from a double flash to triple and quadruple flashes. The sequences indicate a partial reaction at the sensor tip, not a result.



If after 2 minutes, the device has not yet displayed a Green result, perform interventions as indicated in your organisation's NG tube policy (e.g. advance NG tube, mouthcare, etc).

Leave the NGPOD sensor in the NG tube but detach it from the device while carrying out interventions.

Following this, reattach the NGPOD sensor to the device to continue the test until a Green (✓) or Red (✗) result is achieved.



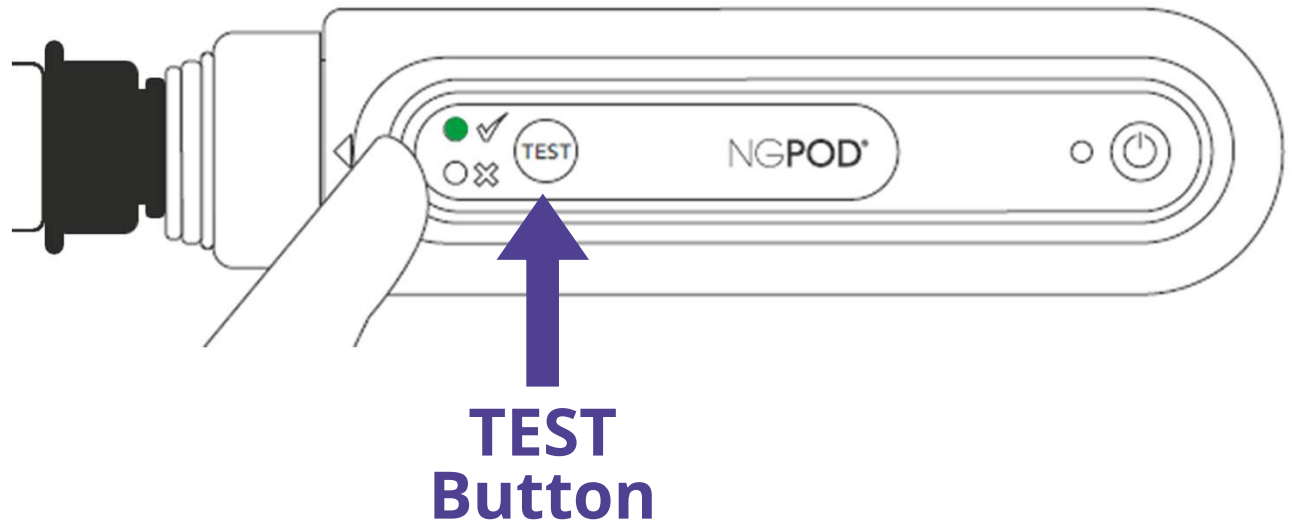
RED light (X) illuminated continuously for 4 seconds indicates that the sensor tip is NOT in an environment with a pH level associated with the stomach (pH below 5.5 or No fluid)

This result is only produced when a sufficient reaction at the sensor tip has not been detected within the test time (c. 5 minutes)

If a RED light is obtained, follow local guidelines for second line confirmation (e.g. X-ray)

After a result has been indicated for 4 seconds the device will continue to indicate the result by repeatedly flashing the LED light.

Pressing the test button will repeat the 4 seconds display of the result.

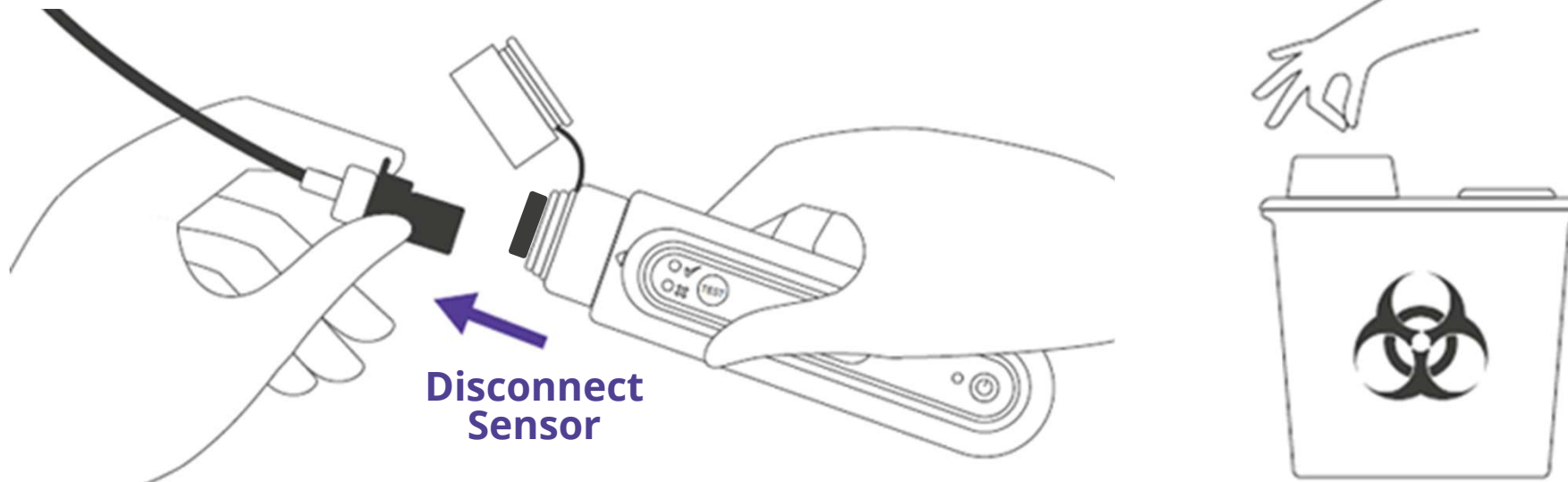


Clinical Considerations

- If the NG tube cannot be advanced to the intended insertion depth, or beyond, in accordance with local policy, the NGPOD result **must not be used in isolation**.
- Acidic fluid with a pH less or equal to 5.5 may be present outside the stomach following reflux, aspiration, or other conditions. This presents potential risk for all pH-based confirmation methods.
- Clinicians should be aware of the signs that a patient is struggling with secretions and/or clearing them, e.g., a wet voice, gurgling, a weak voice and frequent use of a spit cup.

Note: NGPOD observes a colour change of a reagent at the fibre-optic sensor tip. Exposure to fluid with a pH of 5.5 or less causes the tip to change colour from blue to green/yellow. **This reaction can occur even with amounts less than normally required for pH testing.**

Disconnect and Dispose Sensor. Turn off the POD.

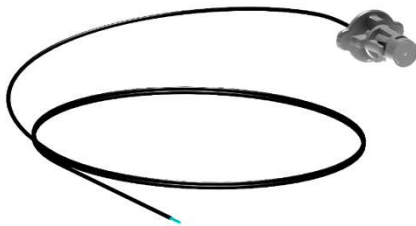


The Pod will power down after disconnection following a result.
Clean the POD after use with soft disinfecting wipes.
Dispose of the sensor as clinical waste.

Storage

SENSOR

- Store sensors in a cool, dry and dark place.
- Keep sensors in the box
- Do not leave sensors exposed to light, heat or humidity.



NGPOD DEVICE

- Clean and disinfect the NGPOD after use before storage
- Store the NGPOD between use in a designated storage area
- Do not store the NGPOD in an environment of high temperature, humidity, explosive or inflammable atmosphere or strong magnetic fields.



Troubleshooting

PROBLEM	SYMPTOM	REMEDIES
Pod fails Self-Test	Red LED flashes 4 times after Power key is released & Pod switches off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check test cap is fitted correctly before powering on. • Remove cap, clean lens & re-attach cap. • Report to NGPod Customer Service
LEDs are not functioning	Red, Amber or Green LED does not display during self-test of Pod	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to Customer Service
Sensor fails Sensor Check or sensor not detected.	Pod will not enter pH test mode, a sequence or 2x RED and 1x AMBER LEDs will flash.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check grey sensor connector has clicked fully into the POD • Sensor could be used, damaged or defective. • Dispose of Sensor & attach a new one
Low Battery	Amber LED flashes 10 times when powered on.	Contact Customer Service to arrange for return and replacement of Pod.
Difficulty Inserting Sensor into NG tube	Significant Resistance felt when inserting NGPod sensor into NG tube.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure no tight turns in the external part of the tube, re-tape once inserted • If initial insertion, resistance may indicate the tube is coiled/folded. • If on repeat testing resistance may indicate the tube has displaced or is blocked by residual tablet/feed waste

Useful Information

Customer Service	info@ngpodglobal.com +44 (0) 161 696 6400
Website	https://www.ngpodglobal.com
Sensor Compatibility (Appendix 1)	Tube Compatibility
How to Use NGPOD Video	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdSancuiN7g

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Code for



- Full NGPOD[®] Instructions for Use
- NGPOD[®] Quick User Guide
- Sensor Compatibility
- Cleaning Guidelines