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Gavage - food supplementation for stalled weight gain in mice

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working



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Abstract

In mice, specifically in *Ndufs2fl/fl* mice, weight gain usually stops above 70 days post injection with the TH-Cre AAV into SNc. From that point, food supplements should be provided once daily via a gavage of 0.4-0.5 mL Ensure (Ensure original; 9gr protein, 220 calories and we use Plastic feeding Tubes 22gax25mm FTP-22-25n from INSTECH mfg 2021-08-17; www.instechlabs.com) as long as mice keep gaining weight. When the second stop of weight gain happens, another daily gavage and 1 mL of subcutaneous saline should be added as necessary care.

Materials

- Plastic feeding Tubes 22gax25mm FTP-22-25n from INSTECH mfg 2021-08-17
- Ensure (Ensure original; 9gr protein, 220 calories)

Troubleshooting

Gavage

- 1 Provide light anesthesia with isoflurane.



- 2 Once the animals are ready we look to put the feeding tube behind its tongue.



- 2.1 Once there, we place the feeding tube parallel to the animal with a light hyperextension, in this manner the feeding tube will get into the stomach with no effort**

*With this detail we will be avoiding all complications for gavage that can happen acute or chronic.



- 3 Slide the feeding tube in to the stomach and administer solution.

