GEDSA is in a unique position with the support and collaboration of manufacturers, healthcare facilities, distributors, clinical organizations, Group Purchasing Organizations, Home Infusion Providers, and Regulatory bodies to communicate the ENFit transition and aid in adoption. With the California law mandated July 1st, 2016, it was expected that facilities would begin the transition to ENFit. Since there is currently no enforcement to meet the California mandate and a lack of legislation anywhere else around the world, only hospitals that have been closely engaged with this patient safety initiative have adopted ENFit.

After tracking the slow paced adoption and months of dialogue with our trusted group of advisors, we believed it was necessary to assemble a representative group of stakeholders for an ENFit Adoption Summit. The goal of the Summit was to work collaboratively to communicate what next steps were needed to accelerate the adoption to ENFit. During the Summit, we learned what more all stakeholders can do to assist in the adoption of ENFit. Overall, the Summit would open opportunities to learn how to aid future adoption of the ISO 80369 standard series.

On January 17th, we held the ENFit Adoption Summit at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles with over 100 key stakeholders in attendance in person and online. The day started off with reminders of why the healthcare community needed a harmonized ISO Standard to ultimately reduce the risk of medical device tubing misconnections. The group of stakeholders heard from the FDA, The Joint Commission, American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition, and clinical advisors of the importance of this patient safety initiative has support from many. Throughout the day GEDSA and its members heard from panels of subject matter experts from Home Infusion companies, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and stakeholders committed to the adoption of ENFit. We held cross-functional multi-organizational breakout sessions to identify potential solutions to aid stakeholders in to the adoption of ENFit.

After capturing feedback from stakeholders throughout the Summit, GEDSA has formalized an action plan to break the barriers impeding the transition to ENFit. Supply was the number one reoccurring theme holding hospitals from transitioning. We further broke the supply issue down into different categories and began to create ‘task forces’. Each task force will have different objectives, however the main goal of each one is to resolve supply concerns, provide additional support to facilities, and advocate for adoption. With the help of the facilities that have already transitioned, support of many organizations, regulatory bodies, and subject matter experts GEDSA is confident that we are all a step closer to reducing the risk of misconnections worldwide.

GEDSA and its members’ mission has always been to advance the interests of patient safety with the introduction of the ENFit connectors across the global clinical community. Conversion to enteral devices with ENFit connectors impacts the entire enteral feeding system across all healthcare settings. To avoid disruption of therapy, a careful and methodical transition is recommended over the course of 2017 throughout the world.