

# Management of Residents with Diarrhea in Continuing Care Central Zone

**Does the resident have loose or watery stool?**  
(Type 6 or 7 on the Bristol Stool Chart) – see reverse for complete chart

## Suspect Gastrointestinal Illness (GI)

**2 or more episodes** of loose or watery stool in a **24 hour** period, which is new or unusual for the resident  
**OR**  
**1 episode** of bloody diarrhea

Place resident on Contact Precautions  
If actively vomiting place on Contact Droplet Precautions

- Send stool sample and document frequency and consistency of bowel movements
- Refer to AHS IPC online Continuing Care Resource Manual



Type 6  Fluffy pieces with ragged edges, a mushy stool

Type 7  Watery, no solid pieces. Entirely Liquid

## Suspect *Clostridium difficile* Infection (CDI)

**3 or more episodes** of loose or watery stools in a **24 hour** period, which is new or unusual for the patient  
**OR**  
**6 or more** loose or watery stools in a **36 hour** period, which is new or unusual for the resident

Place resident on Contact Precautions Sporicidal Clean

- Send stool sample and document frequency and consistency of bowel movements
- Refer to AHS IPC Central Zone online CDI Toolkit for further information
- Initiate Pre-printed Care Order (PPCO) for CDI form # 19867
- Refer to AHS IPC online Continuing Care Resource Manual

## Do you need to consider a GI/CDI outbreak?







**2 or more people** with onset of similar symptoms in a **48 hour** period

Refer to the resources found on the AHS IPC Central Zone Tab under Outbreak Management



**Discontinue precautions** when resident has been without symptoms for **48 hours** and has had at least **1** normal or formed bowel movement

## Bristol Stool Chart

Type 1		Separate hard lumps, like nuts (hard to pass)
Type 2		Sausage-shaped but lumpy
Type 3		Like a sausage but with cracks on its surface
Type 4		Like a sausage or snake, smooth and soft
Type 5		Soft blobs with clear-cut edges (passed easily)
Type 6		Fluffy pieces with ragged edges, a mushy stool
Type 7		Watery, no solid pieces. <b>Entirely Liquid</b>

Dr. KW Heaton, Reader in Medicine at the U of Bristol © 2001 Norgine Ltd