

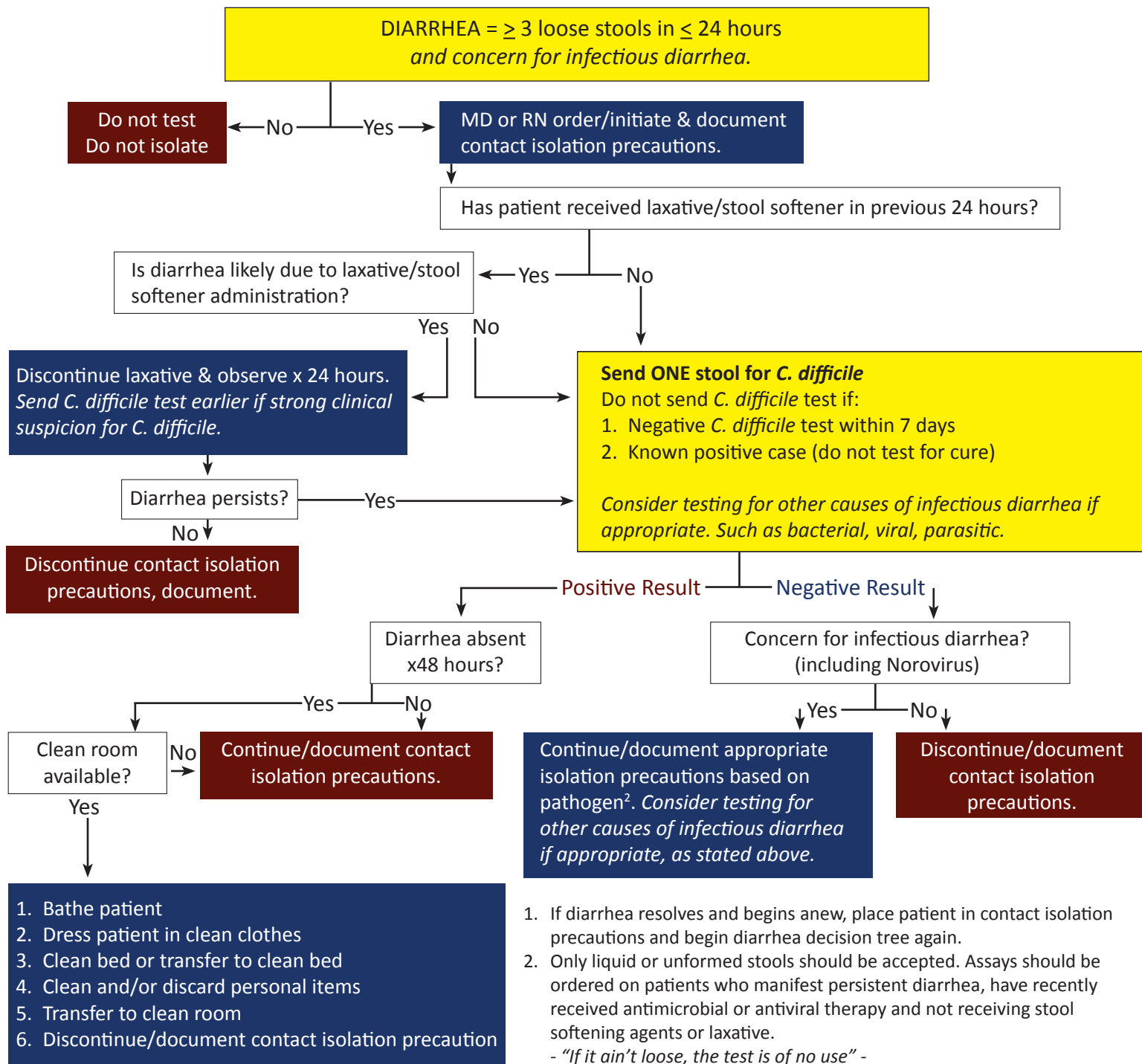
Diarrhea Decision-Tree










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This document does not substitute for clinical assessment and judgment.



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, mushy stool
Type 7		Watery, no solid pieces Entirely Liquid

* Bristol Stool Chart provided by The Rome Foundation, July 2018

See Guidelines for Isolation Precautions for complete details www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/isolation/index.html

C. difficile

- **Use Contact Precautions:**
 - ✓ Discontinue antibiotics, if appropriate
 - ✓ Do not share equipment
 - ✓ Handwashing with soap and water is preferred
- **Ensure appropriate patient placement:** In long-term and other residential settings, make room placement decisions balancing risks to other patients. In ambulatory settings, place patients requiring contact precautions in an exam room or cubicle as soon as possible.
- **Use personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriately,** including gloves and gown. Wear a gown and gloves for all interactions that may involve contact with the patient or the patient's environment. Donning PPE upon room entry and properly discarding before exiting the patient room is done to contain pathogens.
www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/ppe/PPE-Sequence.pdf
- **Limit transport and movement of patients** outside of the room to medically-necessary purposes. When transport or movement is necessary, cover or contain the infected or colonized areas of the patient's body.
- **Use disposable or dedicated patient-care equipment** (e.g., blood pressure cuffs). If common use of equipment for multiple patients is unavoidable, clean and disinfect such equipment before use on another patient.
- **Prioritize cleaning and disinfection of the rooms** of patients on contact precautions ensuring rooms are frequently cleaned and disinfected (e.g., at least daily). Routine cleaning should be performed prior to disinfection. EPA-registered disinfectants with a sporicidal claim have been used with success for environmental surface disinfection in those patient-care areas where surveillance and epidemiology indicate ongoing transmission of *C. difficile*.