

clinell®

C. difficile awareness Keep it in SIGHT



S	I	G	H	T
<p>Suspect that a patient may be infected where there is no clear alternative cause for diarrhoea.</p>	<p>Isolate the patient and consult with the Infection, Prevention & Control Team while determining the cause of diarrhoea.</p>	<p>Gloves and aprons must be used for all contact with the patient and their environment.</p>	<p>Hand-washing with soap and water must be carried out before and after each contact with the patient's environment – this also includes visitors.</p>	<p>Test the stool for toxin by sending a specimen immediately.</p>
				

On admission, complete **Patient Assessment**

Activities of Daily Living: Elimination, including bowel habit, frequency and consistency (Bristol Stool Chart)

Risk factors for *C. difficile* may include:

- ! PPIs (proton pump inhibitors)
- ! Altered immune system
- ! Antibiotic use
- ! Liver disease
- ! Bowel disease or recent bowel surgery/procedure

Those most at risk for *C. difficile* may include:

- ! Over 65 years of age
- ! Care Home residents or recurrent admission to hospital

Isolation required if two or more of the above risk factors and/or the patient has a type 5-7 stool (Bristol Stool Chart)

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