

## ***Clostridioides difficile (CDI) – AT-A-GLANCE***

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |   |                                                                                              |   |                                                                                                                                                                      |   |                                                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                 |
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| DEFINITION           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 or more episodes of loose stool within 24 hrs i.e. Bristol stool chart types 5-7</li> <li>Diarrhoea that is not attributable to any other cause or therapy, including medicines</li> <li>The presence of GDH positive and toxin positive assay, GDH positive but toxin negative assay and toxin PCR positive and/or endoscopic evidence of pseudo membranous colitis.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |   |                                                                                              |   |                                                                                                                                                                      |   |                                                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                 |
| SEVERITY             | <p><b>Always assess the severity of CDI:</b></p> <p><b>Life-threatening CDI</b> includes hypotension non-responsive to fluid filling, partial or complete ileus or toxic megacolon, or CT evidence of severe disease including colitis or bowel perforation.</p> <p><b>Severe CDI</b> is associated with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acute abdomen: Ileus, peritonitis, perforation</li> <li>Temperature over 38.5°C</li> <li>White Cell Count (WCC) of 15 x10<sup>9</sup>/L or greater</li> <li>Acutely rising serum creatinine (more than 50% increase above baseline)</li> <li>Imaging: megacolon, colonic wall thickening, peri-colonic fat stranding</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderate CDI</b> is associated with a raised WCC that is less than 15x10<sup>9</sup>/L. Typically associated with 3–5 stools per day.</p> <p><b>Mild CDI</b> is not associated with a raised WCC. Typically associated with less than 3 stools of type 5–7 on the Bristol Stool Chart per day.</p>      |   |                                                                                              |   |                                                                                                                                                                      |   |                                                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                 |
| MANAGEMENT           | <p>Patients should be monitored daily for frequency and severity of diarrhoea using the Bristol Stool Chart – <u><a href="#">please document stool chart on EPR</a></u></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>S</td><td>Suspect that a case may be infective where there is no clear alternative cause for diarrhoea</td></tr> <tr> <td>I</td><td>Isolate the patient and consult with Micro/ID while determining the cause of the diarrhoea – Refer to <u><a href="#">antimicrobial guide</a></u> on the OUH intranet</td></tr> <tr> <td>G</td><td>Gloves and aprons must be used for all contacts with the patient and their environment – <b>Apply contact precautions signage and keep door to side room closed</b></td></tr> <tr> <td>H</td><td>Hand washing with soap and water should be carried out before and after each contact with the patient and the patient's environment</td></tr> <tr> <td>T</td><td>Test the stool for CDI toxin, by sending a specimen immediately</td></tr> </table> | S | Suspect that a case may be infective where there is no clear alternative cause for diarrhoea | I | Isolate the patient and consult with Micro/ID while determining the cause of the diarrhoea – Refer to <u><a href="#">antimicrobial guide</a></u> on the OUH intranet | G | Gloves and aprons must be used for all contacts with the patient and their environment – <b>Apply contact precautions signage and keep door to side room closed</b> | H | Hand washing with soap and water should be carried out before and after each contact with the patient and the patient's environment | T | Test the stool for CDI toxin, by sending a specimen immediately |
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| CLEANING             | <p><u><b>First line treatment is Oral Vancomycin 125mg QDS</b></u></p> <p>Request an <b>additional daily enhanced clean whilst the patient has diarrhoea</b>. Equipment must be dedicated for that patient only and should be thoroughly cleaned with <b>CLINELL RED SPORICIDAL WIPES</b> after each use.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |   |                                                                                              |   |                                                                                                                                                                      |   |                                                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                 |
| STOP ISOLATION WHEN? | <p>Isolation must continue until the diarrhoea has stopped for 48 hours and the patient has returned to their normal bowel habit.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |   |                                                                                              |   |                                                                                                                                                                      |   |                                                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                                                                                     |   |                                                                 |

