

Sending a Stool Sample?

Please challenge the sending of inappropriate stool specimens!

**IF PATIENT ADMITTED
WITH DIARRHOEA
Send Sample Immediately**

DO NOT SEND SAMPLES IF:

- Patient had laxatives or enemas in the last 48 hours
- Patient has been confirmed *C. difficile* positive during this current admission
- Patient only passed one or two grade 6 or 7 stools in the last 24 hours

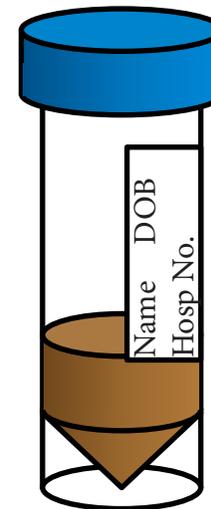


Still concerned?

Discuss patient with consultant and send sample if clinically indicated

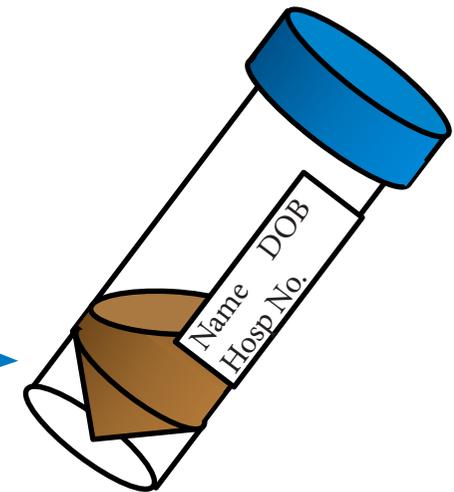


Send stool for *C. difficile* and M,C&S...



bottle must be at least
 $\frac{1}{4}$ filled (5ml MINIMUM) ...

... and take the shape
of the container
(i.e. type 6 or 7)



Insufficient (<5ml) samples will be rejected by the laboratory
Formed stools will not be tested for *C. difficile*

If there is difficulty in obtaining sufficient sample contact infection control for advice