Recognizing *C. diff* at Home

People are **7 to 10 times more likely** to get *C. diff* while on antibiotics and during the month after.

**Risk factors include:**
- Older age (65 and older)
- Recent hospitalization
- Weakened immune system
- Previous *C. diff* infection

**Symptoms to watch for:**
- Fever
- Stomach pain or tenderness
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea
- Severe diarrhea*

Talk with your healthcare professional about your risk for developing *C. diff*.

If you experience any of the symptoms listed above, tell your healthcare professional immediately.

*The stool types pictured on the other side of this page can help you describe your stool to your healthcare professional.*

www.cdc.gov/cdiff
Can you **C.** the **D**ifference?

### Bristol Stool Form Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Image</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type 1</td>
<td>Separate hard lumps, like nuts</td>
<td><img src="https://www.cdc.gov/cdiff" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 2</td>
<td>Sausage-shaped, but lumpy</td>
<td><img src="https://www.cdc.gov/cdiff" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 3</td>
<td>Like a sausage or snake, but with cracks on its surface</td>
<td><img src="https://www.cdc.gov/cdiff" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 4</td>
<td>Like a sausage or snake, smooth and soft</td>
<td><img src="https://www.cdc.gov/cdiff" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 5</td>
<td>Soft blobs with clear-cut edges</td>
<td><img src="https://www.cdc.gov/cdiff" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 6</td>
<td>Fluffy pieces with ragged edges, a mushy stool</td>
<td><img src="https://www.cdc.gov/cdiff" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type 7</td>
<td>Watery, no solid pieces</td>
<td><img src="https://www.cdc.gov/cdiff" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tell your health care provider if you suddenly develop diarrhea that looks like **Type 6** or **Type 7**.

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