















THE BRISTOL STOOL FORM SCALE

Please refer to this chart when completing a bowel history on the Inter-Health and Social Care Infection Control Transfer Form.

		Separate hard lumps, like nuts (hard to pass)
		Sausage-shaped but lumpy
		Like a sausage, but with cracks on its surface
		Like a sausage or snake, soft and smooth
		Soft blobs with clear-cut edges (passed easily)
		Fluffy pieces with ragged edges, a mushy stool
		Watery; no solid pieces ENTIRELY LIQUID

Definition of diarrhoea: an increased number (two or more) of watery or liquefied stools, i.e. types 5, 6 and 7 only, within a duration of 24 hours. Please remember, hands must be washed with liquid soap and warm water when caring for patients/clients with diarrhoea.

NB: Hands must be decontaminated after glove use.

