

Bristol stool form scale

Please refer to this chart when completing a bowel history, i.e. stool chart record or transfer documentation, e.g. a patient passport or an 'Inter-health and social care infection control transfer Form'.

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, after removing gloves, hands must be washed with liquid soap and warm running water when caring for service users with diarrhoea.

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Type 1		Separate hard lumps, like nuts (hard to pass)
Type 2		Sausage-shaped, but lumpy
Type 3		Like a sausage, but with cracks on its surface
Type 4		Like a sausage or snake, smooth and soft
Type 5		Soft blobs with clear-cut edges (passed easily)
Type 6		Fluffy pieces with ragged edges, a mushy stool
Type 7		Watery, no solid pieces, ENTIRELY LIQUID