










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' or when documenting a service user's 'Stool chart record'.

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.

THE BRISTOL STOOL FORM SCALE

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