Does patient have significant diarrhea?

(Diarrhea is defined as >3 loose and watery bowel movements in <24 hours)

In the last 48 hours, has the patient received any laxatives or other medications that could cause diarrhea?

Has the patient had a previous negative C. diff test in the last 7 days?

Has the patient had a previous positive C. diff test in the last 14 days?

In the last 48 hours, has the patient received any laxatives or other medications that could cause diarrhea?

Recommend deferring test until consulting with nutrition and re-evaluate in 24 hours

Has the patient had a previous negative C. diff test in the last 7 days?

Has the patient had a previous positive C. diff test in the last 14 days?

Does the patient have unexplained elevation in WBC or a fever with diarrhea?

Does patient have new onset abdominal pain and/or distention with diarrhea?

Does patient have Severe diarrhea (>7 bowel movements or >1.5L over 24 hours)

Does patient have persistent diarrhea? (Significant diarrhea for >24 hours which is not resolved with conservative treatment and does not have another explanation)

Does patient have significant diarrhea? (Diarrhea is defined as >3 loose and watery bowel movements in <24 hours)

Recommend deferring test and re-evaluate 24 hours after stopping laxative

Have tube feeds been initiated in the last 48 hours?

Does patient have persistent diarrhea? (Significant diarrhea for >24 hours which is not resolved with conservative treatment and does not have another explanation)

Testing for C. diff is NOT recommended

Does patient have persistent diarrhea? (Significant diarrhea for >24 hours which is not resolved with conservative treatment and does not have another explanation)

Testing for C. diff is NOT recommended

Recommend Testing

Recommend Testing

Does the patient have unexplained elevation in WBC or a fever with diarrhea?

Recommended testing algorithm:

- **Testing for C. diff is NOT recommended** (unless new significant symptoms have developed)
- **Testing is NOT recommended** if there is a previous negative C. diff test in the last 7 days.
- **Testing is NOT recommended** if there is a previous positive C. diff test in the last 14 days.
- **Recommend deferring test until consulting with nutrition and re-evaluate in 24 hours** if diarrheal illness is due to laxatives or other medications.
- **Recommend Testing** if diarrheal illness is unexplained.
- **Testing for C. diff is NOT recommended** if diarrheal illness is persistent.

Note: Testing for C. diff is NOT recommended unless new significant symptoms have developed.