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Diarrhea in adults: Symptom Checker

**DocID**

No DocID – not contained in FarCry

**Title**

Diarrhea

**Feature Title**

Diarrhea

**List Title**

Diarrhea

**Content is Contracted**

No

**Licensable**

No

**Searchable**

No

**Target pub date**

01/19/2010

**Review in months?**

24

**MCV Main tag**

**MCV Other tag(s)**

Content Packages > Symptom checker mobile > Adult > Digestive and urinary problems

**MCV Related tag(s)**

**Primary Location**

Diseases and Conditions

**Tease**

Diarrhea in adults is common and only rarely due to a serious problem. Identify possible common causes based on symptoms you’re experiencing.

**Abstract**

Find possible causes of diarrhea in adults. See our Symptom Checker.

**Benefit Summary**

**Editor**

Gregory Turosak

**Content Producer**

Jay Lenn

**Content Lead**

MayoClinic Com

**Product Lead**

**WPS**

Becky Hynes

**Medical Reviewers**

John Wilkinson, M.D.|Carl Anderson, M.D.

**Source**

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diarrhea

**SEO Description**

N/A

**Billboard**

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**Alternate Titles**

**FeatureID**

**Gender**

**Age**

Adult

**ENTER IN FARCRY:**

**When to get medical help** (1, 2, 17)

Consult your doctor if diarrhea lasts longer or is more severe than usual, or if you experience any of the following signs or symptoms:

Severe abdominal or rectal pain

Blood in your stool or black, tarry stools

A fever of 102 F (38.9 C) or higher

Signs of dehydration, such as thirst, infrequent urination, dry skin, lightheadedness or dark urine

**Self-care strategies** (1, 3)

Most cases of diarrhea resolve without treatment within a couple of days. In the meantime:

Drink plenty of clear liquids — water, clear broth or tea.

As your bowel movements return to normal, eat bland foods — bananas, soda crackers, toast, rice, boiled potatoes or boiled carrots.

Avoid dairy products.

Avoid fatty, greasy, high-fiber, sweet or spicy foods.

Avoid caffeine and alcohol.

**More Information**

Diarrhea MY00149

**END OF FARCRY TEXT**

Find possible causes of diarrhea based on specific factors. Check one or more factors on this page that apply to your symptom.

**Problem is**

Ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Preceded by eating suspect food

Preceded by recent antibiotic use

Recent (days to weeks)

Sudden (hours to days)

**Triggered by**

Eating certain foods

**Relieved by**

Avoiding certain foods

**Accompanied by**

Abdominal pain or cramping

Bloating or abdominal swelling

Bloody stools

Constipation

Fever

Mucus in your stool

Muscle aches or joint pain

Nausea or vomiting

Passing gas

Unintended weight loss

Urgency to have a bowel movement

**Possible causes**

These diseases and conditions match at least one of the factors you selected. Those with the most matches are listed first.

DS00454 Antibiotic-associated diarrhea (4, p. 115; 5; 17)

Problem is preceded by recent antibiotic use

Problem is recent (days to weeks)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloody stools

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by mucus in your stool

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

DS00319 Celiac disease (6, 17)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Triggered by eating certain foods

Relieved by avoiding certain foods

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloating or abdominal swelling

Accompanied by muscle aches or joint pain

Accompanied by unintended weight loss

DS00104 Crohn's disease (7, 17)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloody stools

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by muscle aches or joint pain

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

Accompanied by unintended weight loss

DS00981 Food poisoning (8, 17)

Problem is preceded by eating suspect food

Problem is sudden (hours to days)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

DS00823 Intestinal obstruction (9, 17)

Problem is recent (days to weeks)

Problem is sudden (hours to days)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloating or abdominal swelling

Accompanied by constipation

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

DS00106 Irritable bowel syndrome (10)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Triggered by eating certain foods

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by constipation

Accompanied by mucus in your stool

Accompanied by passing gas

DS00794 Ischemic colitis (11, 17)

Problem is recent (days to weeks)

Problem is sudden (hours to days)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloody stools

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

Accompanied by urgency to have a bowel movement

DS00530 Lactose intolerance (12, 17)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Triggered by eating certain foods

Relieved by avoiding certain foods

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloating or abdominal swelling

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

Accompanied by passing gas

DS00797 Pseudomembranous colitis (4, p. 115; 13; 17; 18)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Problem is preceded by recent antibiotic use

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by mucus in your stool

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

Accompanied by urgency to have a bowel movement

DS00318 Traveler's diarrhea (14, 17)

Problem is preceded by eating suspect food

Problem is recent (days to weeks)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloating or abdominal swelling

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

DS00598 Ulcerative colitis (15, 17)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloody stools

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by muscle aches or joint pain

Accompanied by unintended weight loss

Accompanied by urgency to have a bowel movement

DS00085 Viral gastroenteritis (stomach flu) (16, 17)

Problem is recent (days to weeks)

Problem is sudden (hours to days)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by muscle aches or joint pain

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

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