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Diarrhea in children: Symptom Checker

**DocID**

No DocID – not contained in FarCry

**Title**

Diarrhea

**Feature Title**

Diarrhea

**List Title**

Diarrhea

**Content is Contracted**

No

**Licensable**

No

**Searchable**

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**MCV Main tag**

**MCV Other tag(s)**

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

**MCV Related tag(s)**

**Primary Location**

Symptom Checker

**Tease**

Diarrhea in children is common and is only rarely due to a serious problem. Identify possible common causes based on symptoms your child is experiencing.

**Abstract**

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

**Benefit Summary**

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**FeatureID**

**Gender**

**Age**

Child

**ENTER IN FARCRY:**

**When to get medical help** (1-3)

Seek medical care if your child's diarrhea lasts more than 24 hours or if it's accompanied by:

Fever higher than 102 F (38.9 C)

Bloody or black stools

Severe abdominal or rectal pain

No wet diapers or urine production in eight hours

Dry skin

Dry mouth

Crying without tears

Unusual sleepiness or irritability

A sunken appearance to the abdomen, eyes or cheeks

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

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

Offer your child plenty of clear liquids — water, clear broth or beverages specifically intended for preventing dehydration in children.

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

Avoid dairy products.

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

**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 child's symptoms.

**Problem is**

Ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Recent (days to weeks)

Sudden (hours to days)

**Preceded by**

Eating suspect food

Recent antibiotic use

**Triggered or worsened by**

Eating certain foods

**Relieved by**

Avoiding certain foods

**Accompanied by**

Abdominal pain or cramping

Bloating or abdominal swelling

Bloody stools

Constipation

Cough or wheezing

Decreased energy or fatigue

Delayed growth

Delayed puberty

Enlargement or rounding of fingertips or toes

Failure to thrive (infants and toddlers)

Fever

Foul-smelling stools

Frequent respiratory infections

Hallucinations

Lump in abdomen

Mucus in stools

Muscle aches or joint pain

Nausea or vomiting

Passing gas

Stomach growling or rumbling

Urgency to have a bowel movement

Weight loss

**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)

Problem is recent (days to weeks)

Preceded by recent antibiotic use

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloody stools

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by mucus in stools

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

DS00319 Celiac disease (5; 6, p. 61; 19)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Triggered or worsened by eating certain foods

Relieved by avoiding certain foods

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloating or abdominal swelling

Accompanied by decreased energy or fatigue

Accompanied by delayed growth

Accompanied by failure to thrive (infants and toddlers)

Accompanied by foul-smelling stools

Accompanied by muscle aches or joint pain

Accompanied by weight loss

DS00104 Crohn's disease (6, p. 68; 7; 19)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloody stools

Accompanied by delayed growth

Accompanied by delayed puberty

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by muscle aches or joint pain

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

Accompanied by weight loss

DS00287 Cystic fibrosis (6, p. 6; 8)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Accompanied by cough or wheezing

Accompanied by delayed growth

Accompanied by enlargement or rounding of fingertips or toes

Accompanied by failure to thrive (infants and toddlers)

Accompanied by foul-smelling stools

Accompanied by frequent respiratory infections

DS00981 Food poisoning (9, 19)

Problem is sudden (hours to days)

Preceded by eating suspect food

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

DS00739 Giardia infection (giardiasis) (6, p. 474; 10)

Problem is sudden (hours to days)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloating or abdominal swelling

Accompanied by decreased energy or fatigue

Accompanied by foul-smelling stools

Accompanied by passing gas

Accompanied by weight loss

DS00823 Intestinal obstruction (11, 19)

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

DS00798 Intussusception (6, p. 55; 12; 19)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Problem is sudden (hours to days)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloating or abdominal swelling

Accompanied by bloody stools

Accompanied by constipation

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by lump in abdomen

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

DS00530 Lactose intolerance (13, 19)

Problem is ongoing or recurrent (weeks to years)

Triggered or worsened by eating certain foods

Relieved by avoiding certain foods

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

Accompanied by passing gas

Accompanied by stomach growling or rumbling

DS00783 Rotavirus (6, p. 455; 14)

Problem is sudden (hours to days)

Accompanied by bloody stools

Accompanied by decreased energy or fatigue

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

DS00719 Shigella infection (6, p. 434; 15)

Problem is sudden (hours to days)

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloody stools

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by hallucinations

DS00318 Traveler's diarrhea (16, 19)

Problem is recent (days to weeks)

Preceded by eating suspect food

Accompanied by abdominal pain or cramping

Accompanied by bloating or abdominal swelling

Accompanied by fever

Accompanied by nausea or vomiting

DS00598 Ulcerative colitis (6, 69; 17, 19)

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 urgency to have a bowel movement

DS00085 Viral gastroenteritis (stomach flu) (18, 19)

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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