








Instructions for filling out the tracking sheet:

For each shift;

1. Following the stool chart record type of stool under the TYPE column
2. Under the OBSERVE BY column
 - a. Record R = if resident reported
 - b. Record S = if SEEN by staff
 - c. Record O = if no BM
3. Follow-up notes may include:
 - a. Interventions
 - b. Bowel management protocol

*full documentation will be in the resident's progress notes

Bristol Stool Chart

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 the surface
Type 4		Like a sausage or snake, smooth and soft
Type 5		Soft blobs with clear-cut edges
Type 6		Fluffy pieces with ragged edges, a mushy stool
Type 7		Watery, no solid pieces. Entirely Liquid

BOWEL TRACKING PROCESS FLOW

Part of each shift routine is to monitor if the resident had a bowel movement (BM)



If resident is not able to report BM, check for signs and symptoms of constipation (loss of appetite, abdominal distention, nausea, vomiting, increased flatulence, etc.)



Using the BM tracking sheet note the consistency of BM, using the Bristol Stool Chart



LPN will review physician's orders for bowel management and routine intervention



If NO bowel routine ordered notify physician through the communication binder



If resident is deemed constipated (No BM x3 days). Or if resident is deemed having diarrhea



Follow bowel management routine orders for constipation. Encourage ambulation and increased fluid intake. Or follow bowel management orders for diarrhea, or review Gastro-intestinal illness case definition



Document interventions and evaluations in the appropriate records.