C. difficile Infection Patient Journey

Testing

stool tests

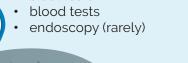
Negative Results If symptoms persist, but

 further investigations referral to other

it is not CDI:

healthcare

practitioner





Physician provides diagnosis; often refers patient to a specialist (gastroenterologist, infectious disease specialist).



Treatment

May include:

cessation of certain medications

badgut.org
Gastrointestinal Society

- antibiotics
- medications to control symptoms

Monitor & Support

team and community.

regular doctor visits

· lab tests as required

mental health care

support groups

Support from both healthcare

dietitian for nutrition support

- · fecal microbiota transfer
- hygiene (wash hands, clean surfaces)
- nutrition and hydration
- surgery (rare)

Symptoms Appear

What is C. difficile infection?

C. difficile infection, or CDI for short, occurs when the Clostridioides difficile bacterium

in hospitals and long-term care facilities.

grows out of control in the gut. It is the most common cause of infectious diarrhea

Risk factors include:

older age (65+)

· long-term care

recent antibiotic use

hospitalization (e.g., surgery)

severe underlying illness

immunocompromised

receiving chemotherapy

• prior *C. difficile* infection

· contact in a healthcare facility

- diarrhea
- abdominal pain
- · weight loss
- loss of appetite
- nausea/vomiting
- fatique
- dehydration





Physician Visit

Some patients are already in hospital or a long-term care facility. Others will go to a family doctor, clinic, or specialist.

- · review medical history
- review symptoms
- order tests



Symptoms Persist

Return to physician for a new treatment and/or further investigations.





Symptoms Resolve

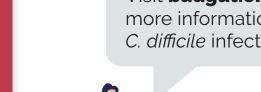
Resume normal day-to-day life, but be cautious of chance of recurrence in the next few weeks.



Return to physician.



















Symptom-Free

Resume normal

day-to-day life.





