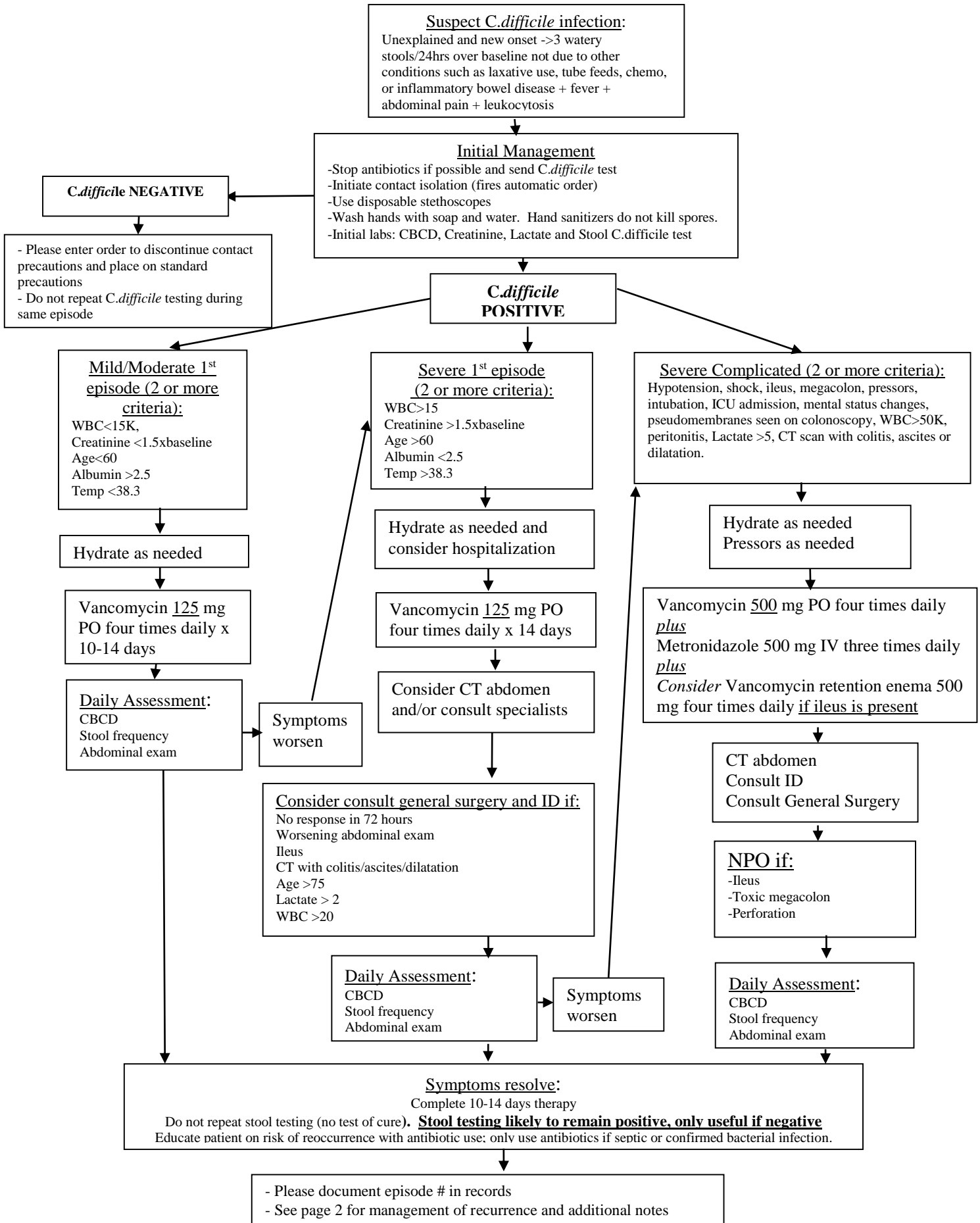
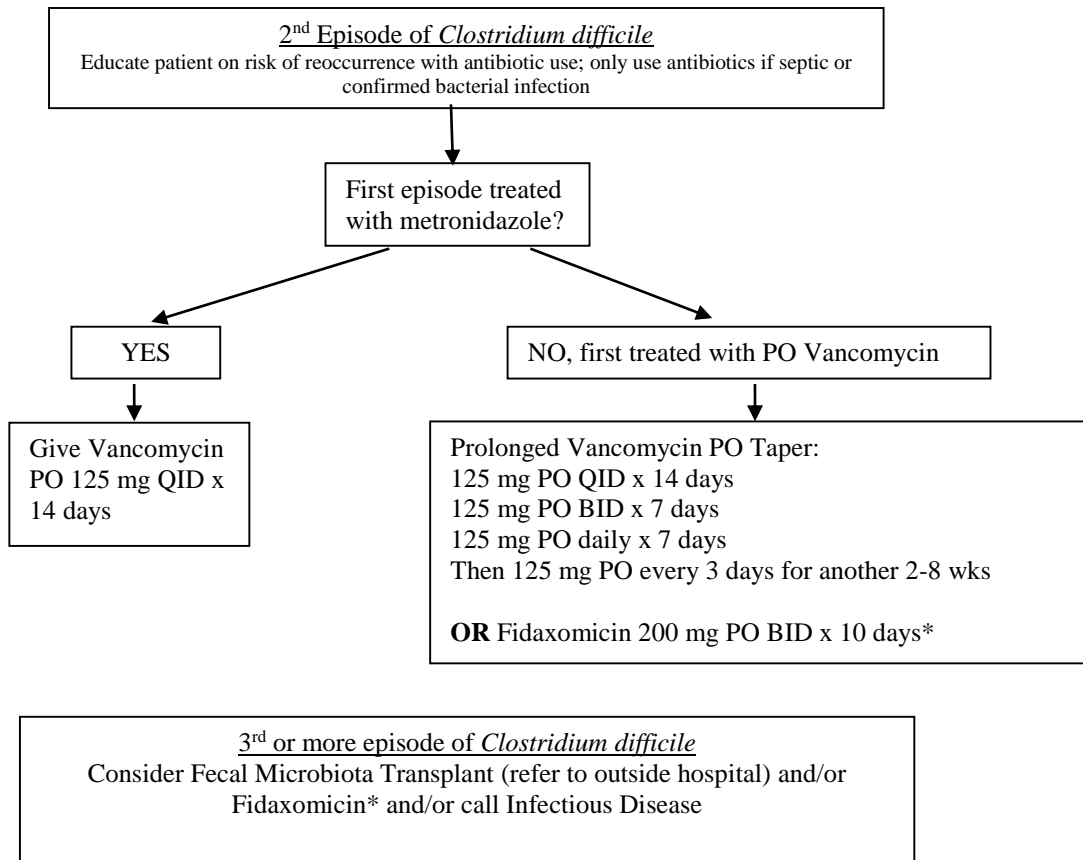


Algorithm for Management of Adults with *Clostridium difficile* Infection



Algorithm for Management of Adults with *Clostridium difficile* Infection



*Restricted medication. See restricted medication policy at <http://www.venturafamilymed.org/rotations/infectious-disease>

What is the definition of diarrhea? – 3 or more watery stools within 24 hrs.

When to test for *C. difficile*? Our NAAT Cdiff testing is very sensitive, it will pick up colonized patients without disease. Therefore, we need pre-agreed institutional criteria for patient stool submission which are as follows:

Only submit stool for *C. difficile* if:

- Bristol Type 6 or 7 (see Attachment A - Bristol Stool Chart)
- Off stool softeners for at least 24 hrs
- Reviewed alternative causes of diarrhea such as tube feeds, inflammatory bowel disease, or recent chemotherapy.

Additional Notes:

Use of PPI associated with increased risk of recurrence

The data on probiotics is not conclusive, but reasonable to use in patients who are not immunocompromised

Please direct all questions about contact precautions to the Infection Prevention Department

Opioids may worsen severity

Adapted from Clinical Practice Guidelines for *Clostridium difficile* Infection in Adults and Children: 2017 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA)
VCMC/SPH Infectious Disease Department

Approvals: Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee 5/2018

Medicine: 4/2018, Family Medicine: 5/2018



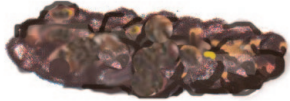

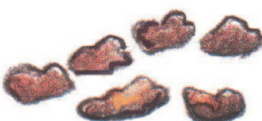

MEC: 6/2018, Oversight Committee: 6/2018

Revised: 6/2018

LET'S TALK

about Bowel Control



Bristol Stool Form Scale		
Type	Description	Image
Type 1	Separate hard lumps, like nuts	
Type 2	Sausage-shaped but lumpy	
Type 3	Like a sausage or snake but with cracks on its 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	