

SPECIALTY
Pediatric
Gastroenterology



Response from eConsult Specialist

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NPI: 1002013006

CHIEF COMPLAINT

Diarrhea

COMMENTS TO SPECIALIST

A 2.5-year-old with suspect C. diff (Clostridioides difficile)

- Stool frequency increased to 3-4 times/day for 4 days, green in color. Foul smelling.
- Mom was recently hospitalized for confirmed C. diff and has underlying Crohn's disease.

MAIN QUESTION

Do I start treatment pending confirmatory culture? Is treatment empiric due to clinical history regardless of culture results? What is the current treatment guidelines for this age group?

SUMMARY

Treatment options are available at the primary care level.

DETAILS

Given the patient's symptoms and since his mother recently had C. difficile colitis, I'd prescribe a 10-day course of oral vancomycin for him. If his stool tests are positive for C. difficile toxins.

Although the stool of children his age can test positive for C. difficile toxins without these children requiring treatment, the patient is having diarrhea and has a household contact who recently had C. difficile colitis.

The turnaround time on a C. difficile toxin assay is typically within 24 hours, so unless he's becoming dehydrated or is otherwise very ill, I'd await laboratory confirmation of him having C. difficile colitis before starting him on vancomycin.

Thank you for consulting me.

Luis Narvaez, MD

Luis Narvaez, MD - Pediatric Gastroenterologist

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Response Date Stamp

For reference only. This eConsult is based on an actual request for specialist consultation. The primary care provider, specialist, and patient are de-identified to protect private health information (PHI).