

CADTH RAPID RESPONSE REPORT: REFERENCE LIST

Interventions Used to Screen for Clostridioides Difficile: Clinical Effectiveness and Guidelines

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Research Questions

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of interventions used to screen individuals for *Clostridioides difficile*?
2. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding interventions used to screen individuals for *Clostridioides difficile*?

Key Findings

Three evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding interventions used to screen individuals for *Clostridioides difficile*.

Methods

A limited literature search was conducted by an information specialist on key resources including Medline via OVID, the Cochrane Library, the University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, the websites of Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. The search strategy was comprised of both controlled vocabulary, such as the National Library of Medicine's MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), and keywords. The main search concepts were *Clostridioides difficile* and screening. Search filters were applied to limit retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, or network meta-analyses, and guidelines. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2014 and July 24, 2019. Internet links were provided, where available.

Selection Criteria

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Selection Criteria

Population	Any individual requiring screening for <i>C. difficile</i>
Intervention	Any intervention used to screen individuals for <i>C. difficile</i>
Comparator	Q1: Any other intervention used screen individuals for <i>C. difficile</i> Q2: No comparator
Outcomes	Q1: Clinical effectiveness, safety Q2: Evidence-based guidelines
Study Designs	Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, evidence-based guidelines

Results

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by evidence-based guidelines.

Three evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding interventions used to screen individuals for *Clostridioides difficile*. No relevant health technology assessments, systematic reviews, or meta-analyses were identified.

Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Health Technology Assessments

No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

No literature identified.

Guidelines and Recommendations

1. Tschudin-Sutter S, Kuijper EJ, Durovic A, et al. Guidance document for prevention of Clostridium difficile infection in acute healthcare settings. *Clin Microbiol Infect.* 2018;24(10):1051-105
[PubMed: PM29505879](#)
2. McDonald LC, Gerding DN, Johnson S, et al. 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). *Clin Infect Dis.* 2018;66(7):987-994.
[PubMed: PM29562266](#)
See: Section XXIV
3. Guidance on prevention and control of Clostridium difficile infection (CDI) in health and social care settings in Scotland. Glasgow (UK): Health Protection Scotland; 2017: https://hpspubsrepo.blob.core.windows.net/hps-website/nss/2060/documents/1_shpn-6-cdi-in-scotland%202017.pdf. Accessed 2019 Jul 26.
See: Asymptomatic carriage, page 3; Testing for C. difficile and diagnosis of CDI, page 10

Appendix — Further Information

Guidelines and Recommendations – Methodology Not Specified

4. Clostridioides difficile infection (CDI). Winnipeg (MB): Manitoba Public Health Branch; 2019: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/protocol/cdi.pdf>. Accessed 2019 Jul 26.
See: Section 6
5. Sartelli M, Di Bella S, McFarland LV, et al. 2019 update of the WSES guidelines for management of Clostridioides (Clostridium) difficile infection in surgical patients. *World J Emerg Surg.* 2019;14:8.
[PubMed: PM30858872](#)
See: Infection prevention and control
6. Dubberke ER, Carling P, Carrico R, et al. Strategies to prevent Clostridium difficile infections in acute care hospitals: 2014 update. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol.* 2014;35(6):628-45.
[PubMed: PM24799639](#)
See: Section 4-III-d
7. Clostridium difficile infection: infection prevention and control guidance for management in acute care settings. Ottawa (ON): Public Health Agency of Canada; 2013: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/infectious-diseases/nosocomial-occupational-infections/clostridium-difficile-infection-prevention-control-guidance-management-acute-care-settings.html>. Accessed 2019 Jul 26.
See: Recommendations 3c and 3d
8. Clostridium difficile infection: infection prevention and control guidance for management in long-term care facilities. Ottawa (ON): Public Health Agency of Canada; 2013: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/infectious-diseases/nosocomial-occupational-infections/clostridium-difficile-infection-prevention-control-guidance-management-long-term-care-facilities.html>. Accessed 2019 Jul 26.
See: Recommendation 2d