

## Exposure

### Exposure to someone who is known to be colonized, or known or suspected to have *Clostridium difficile* infection

- Data has shown that infection is transmitted person to person through the fecal-oral route, and outbreaks have occurred in hospital settings
- Data has also shown that the *C. difficile* organism can be transmitted by asymptomatic carriers, such as other hospitalized patients and/or healthcare workers, causing subsequent infection in those newly infected with *C. difficile*

*These guidelines do not establish a standard of care to be followed in every case. It is recognized that each case is different and those individuals involved in providing health care are expected to use their judgment in determining what is in the best interests of the patient based on the circumstances existing at the time. It is impossible to anticipate all possible situations that may exist and to prepare guidelines for each. Accordingly these guidelines should guide care with the understanding that departures from them may be required at times.*