

## Request & Response

1. Does the Trust have a formal written policy for digital rectal examination/check, digital rectal stimulation and the digital removal of faeces (manual bowel evacuation) in spinal cord injured and other patients with neurogenic bowel dysfunction? **No**
2. If the Trust does, please supply a copy of this document. **N/A**
3. If the Trust does not, how is bowel care managed in the above patient groups who present with this care need? **We use the Royal Marsden Manual of Clinical Nursing procedures, Spinal cord Injury guidelines, NICE guidelines for the management of Neurogenic bladder and Bowel and RCN guidelines for Bowel Care.**
4. Does the Trust employ a specialist continence nurse(s)? **Yes, the continence team consist of 2 nurses, Band 7 Advanced Nurse Practitioner and Band 6 Clinical Specialist Nurse.**
5. If the Trust employs a specialist continence nurse(s) can they (a) undertake digital rectal checks, digital rectal stimulation and digital removal of faeces (manual bowel evacuation), otherwise known as 'intimate digital bowel care procedures' (b) provide instruction to other nurses to enable them to perform intimate digital bowel care procedures'? **Yes, both a&b.**
6. If the Trust does not employ a specialist continence nurse, is there another health care professional who undertakes intimate digital bowel care procedures including manual bowel evacuation? If yes, who does this? **N/A.**
7. Does your Trust have a policy in place that will allow your staff to do trans-anal irrigation (TAI) of the bowel as a method of bowel care management for spinal cord injured patients? Do you train your staff to do TAI/ bowel irrigation? **We use the Spinal Injury guidelines for the management of spinal injury and neurogenic patients.**
8. Do you run bowel care courses for your staff that allows them to deliver the full range of bowel care required by spinal cord injured patients or others with a neurogenic bowel? **Yes the continence service holds 2 days a year for general/trauma clinical staff and there is a programme for the neuroscience department which includes bowel care.**
9. If yes, please provide details. If no, does the Trust have a policy which allows for the personal care assistants (PAs) of spinal cord injured patients to assist with this element of the patient's care? **The continence service course includes:- A&P, conservative management, digital rectal exam, stimulation and evacuation of faeces, anal irrigation and faecal management systems. These session are run by the continence service but include presentations from the MS ANP and the ano-rectal (pelvic floor) ANP. The Neuroscience session include the same information.**