



# Feces

## Reference Books:


- **Text Book of Medical physiology** (Guyton and Hall)  
Eleventh edition

## **Absorption in the Large Intestine: Formation of Feces**

About 1500 milliliters of chyme normally pass through the ileocecal valve into the large intestine each day. Most of the water and electrolytes in this chyme are absorbed in the colon, usually leaving less than 100 milliliters of fluid to be excreted in the feces. Also, essentially all the ions are absorbed, leaving only 1 to 5 ml equivalents each of sodium and chloride ions to be lost in the feces.








## **Composition of the Feces.**

The feces normally are about 75% water and 25% solid matter that itself is composed of about 30 % dead bacteria, 10-20% fat, 10-20% inorganic matter, 2-3% protein, and 30% undigested roughage from the food and dried constituents of digestive juices, such as bile pigment and sloughed epithelial cells.



The brown color of feces is caused by stercobilin principally by products of bacterial action; these products vary from one person to another, depending on each person's colonic bacterial flora and on the type of food eaten. The actual odoriferous products include indole, skatole, mercaptans, and hydrogen sulfide.

# Bristol Stool Chart

Type 1		Separate hard lumps, like nuts (hard to pass)
Type 2		Sausage-shaped but lumpy
Type 3		Like a sausage but with cracks on the 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. <b>Entirely Liquid</b>