

# Fecal Microbiota Transplant (FMT)

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Thank you for your interest in fecal microbiota transplant (FMT) at Michigan Medicine.

## **What is fecal microbiota transplant (FMT)?**

Fecal microbiota transplant, or stool transplant, is an investigational treatment for people who have had a more than two *Clostridioides difficile* (*C. diff*) infections that did not get better with antibiotic medications. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) considers FMT to be an “investigational new drug” and allows doctors to use this treatment for patients under certain conditions.

## **What happens during the procedure?**

During an FMT procedure, we use a stool sample mixed with liquid from a healthy donor to introduce healthy bacteria into your bowel. We do this by putting the sample fluid into your bowel during an **endoscopy** (a procedure where a tube is inserted into your colon), or by asking you to swallow a pill containing the sample.

We buy the sample for transplant from a not-for-profit company called OpenBiome. OpenBiome is used by hundreds of hospitals around the country. Information about OpenBiome, and on the FMT procedure, is available online at <https://www.openbiome.org>.

## **Can I have a fecal microbiota transplant (FMT)?**

Your doctor referred you to our team in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Michigan Medicine to determine if you can have this procedure. **You will not receive FMT at your first visit.**

At first visit, we will review your medical history to see if other *C. difficile* therapies may be right for you before considering FMT. We will tell you if you can have FMT and which procedure you will need (endoscopy or capsule). We will give you more information about the benefits and risks of FMT.

If you are interested in having the procedure, we will schedule two appointments for you:

1. The endoscopy or capsule procedure.
2. A follow-up visit in our clinic or over the phone 8 weeks after the transplant.

### **What is the cost?**

Most insurance companies do not pay for the OpenBiome sample that we use for FMT. The cost is between \$1,700 and \$2,050. We will give you a detailed cost estimate at your first visit, and you will be asked to make a full payment before the procedure. If you need help with the payment, please talk to your doctor at your appointment.

Please call our clinic at (734) 647-5899 or (888) 229-7409 if you have questions. We are open Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

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