

FAST FACTS: FECAL INCONTINENCE...



CROUSE
Pelvic Health Partnership

What it is

An uncontrolled loss of bowel material, liquid or solid

Causes

There are four reasons which can lead to loss of control

- Advancing Age (over 50)
- After pregnancy or childbirth
- A history of anorectal surgery
- Certain chronic medical conditions such as Diabetes, MS, etc.

Symptoms

- Sudden or strong urge to go to the bathroom
- Sometimes unable to get to the bathroom in time
- No warning and /or while asleep
- Frequent loose, watery stool
- Bowel accidents when passing gas
- Leakage or smearing into undergarment

Tests

- Colonoscopy
- Ultrasound

Treatment

- Medical management with dietary changes and/or medication
- Physical therapy
- Sphincter muscle repair
- InterStim therapy to improve the nerves to the bowel

