

# Faecal Accident Response Plan Loose Stool in a Pool

*(Diarrhoea –high risk of disease transmission)*

- 1. Request all people to leave the pool immediately.** Pools sharing the same circulation system must also be closed to patrons.
- 2. Remove as much of the faecal matter as possible and dispose into a toilet.** (Wear appropriate protective equipment – e.g. disposable gloves and disinfect the net, bucket, or scoop used to collect the faecal matter).
- 3. Shock-dose the pool to a concentration of 20mg/L free chlorine (pH 7.2-7.5) for 8 hours** (or to an equivalent *CT* of 9600). A pool specialist should be consulted for assurance. Spa pools and small toddler's pools should be immediately emptied and refilled.
- 4. Backwash the filter thoroughly and replace the filter media** (where appropriate). Do not return the backwash through the filter. Good coagulation and slow filtration (<14m/h) aids removal of *Cryptosporidium*.
- 5. Patrons may then use the pool following its return to normal recommended minimum chemical levels.** (Free chlorine should not exceed 5mg/L).
- 6. Re-test, log the incident and action taken.**

Contact your local Public Health Unit or council for further information about swimming pools and public health or visit: [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)