New or Worsening GI Symptoms or Signs
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Diarrhea (3 or more loose or liquid bowel movements per day)
- Constipation (no bowel movement in 3 days)
- Abdominal pain
- Distended abdomen

Take Vital Signs
- Temperature
- BP, pulse, apical HR (if pulse irregular)
- Respirations
- Oxygen saturation
- Finger stick glucose (diabetics)

Vital Sign Criteria (any met?)
- Temp > 100.5°F
- Apical heart rate > 100 or < 50
- Respiratory rate > 28/min or < 10/min
- BP < 90 or > 200 systolic
- Oxygen saturation < 90%
- Finger stick glucose < 70 or > 300

Evaluate Symptoms and Signs for Immediate Notification*
- Abdominal tenderness or distention
- Absent or hyperactive bowel sounds
- Jaundice
- Blood in stool or vomitus
- Recurrent diarrhea after treatment for C. difficile
- Other residents with similar symptoms suggesting outbreak of a GI virus
- Recent initiation or adjustment of enteral tube feeding (diabetes)
- Recent initiation or adjustment of narcotic medication (constipation)

Consider Contacting MD/NP/PA for orders (for further evaluation and management)
- Abdominal X-ray or ultrasound (if available)
- Stool specimen for occult blood
- Stool specimen for culture and C. difficile toxin assay
- Blood work
  - CBC, comprehensive metabolic panel (including liver function tests)
  - Amylase, lipase, thyroid function
  - Digoxin blood level (if relevant, for nausea/vomiting)

Tests Ordered

Evaluate Results
- Results of abdominal X-ray/ultrasound suggests ileus, obstruction, mass, or perforation
- Critical values in blood work
- Stool analysis suggests infection

Monitor Response
- Vital signs criteria met
- Worsening condition and/or immediate notification criteria met

Manage in Facility
- Monitor vital signs and abdominal exam findings every 4-8 hrs
- Monitor intake and urine output (and number of episodes for vomiting and diarrhea)
- Initiate medications for nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation as appropriate
- Consider IV or subcutaneous fluids if needed for hydration
- Update advance care plan and directives if appropriate

Notify MD / NP / PA

* Refer also to other INTERACT Care Paths as indicated by symptoms and signs