



Constipation/Colonic Impaction

Diagnostic Plan

History
Physical examination
Rectal palpation
Abdominal palpation
Abdominal x-rays

Therapeutic Plan

Fluid therapy
Laxatives
Enemas
Manual removal of impacted stool
Surgery
Treat primary cause, if possible
Stool softeners
Pro-motility medication

Dietary Plan

A moderate- to high-fiber diet if no neurologic or obstructive lesions; chronic cases may benefit from low residue food
Ensure adequate water intake

