

# TOP TIPS FOR IMPROVING

# Bowel Habits



#### DON'T PUT IT OFF

Holding in your poo can lead to unnecessary constipation. The longer you hold it in, the more water is absorbed and the harder it becomes.



### KEEP HYDRATED

When your body is properly hydrated, less water will be withdrawn from the colon. This will keep your poo soft and easy to pass.



#### FOOD CHOICES

Junk foods containing high trans/saturated fat can make constipation much worse.



#### FIBRE

Don't worry — you don't have to survive on a diet of prune juice and bran flakes. But you can ease constipation by trying eat a little more fibre.



# **SQUAT**

Put your feet up on a stool or a stack of books when you poo, then hinge forward at the hip. This helps bring your knees up and puts you into a squatting position, which aids in the passing of poo.



#### GET MOVING

The more you move, the more likely you are to move your bowels. A leisurely walk can work wonders. Get into the habit of going for a short, light walk after your lunch time or evening meals.



#### RELAX

Try to relax when nature calls. Not only will relaxing promote results, but straining leads to or aggravates haemorrhoids — plus, it hurts!



## GET HELP

If you are still really struggling to pass poo, speak to your GP.