Table 2. Rome III Diagnostic Criteria: Functional Constipation and IBS-C

Symptoms ≥3 mo; onset ≥6 mo prior to diagnosis

Functional Constipation	IBS-C
 Must include ≥2 of the following: Straining* Lumpy or hard stools* Sensation of incomplete evacuation* Sensation of anorectal obstruction/blockage* Manual maneuvers to facilitate defecation (eg, digital evacuation, support of the pelvic floor)* <3 defecations/wk Loose stool rarely present w/o use of laxatives Insufficient criteria for IBS-C 	 IBS: Recurrent abdominal pain/discomfort ≥3 d/mo for the past 3 mo, associated with ≥2 of the following: Improvement with defecation Onset associated with change in stool frequency Onset associated with change in stool form IBS is subtyped by predominant stool pattern IBS-C: hard or lumpy stools† ≥25% of defecations; loose or watery stools‡ <25% of defecations§

^{*≥25%} of defecations. †Bristol Stool Form Scale 1–2: separate, hard lumps like nuts (difficult to pass); or lumpy, sausage-shaped stool. ‡Bristol Stool Form Scale 6–7: fluffy pieces of stool with ragged edges; mushy stool; or watery w/out solid pieces (entirely liquid). §In the absence of use of antidiarrheals or laxatives.

Based on: Longstreth GF et al. Gastroenterology. 2006;130:1480-1491.