

Ulcerative colitis: Truelove-witts severity grading

- The aim of this grading system is to score the severity of ulcerative colitis
- The truelove-witts grading gives a global estimate of disease activity in a mild/moderate/severe category
- The grading is useful in identifying patients who require cyclosporine treatment or emergency surgery
- The criteria for severe colitis were modified by the oxford group (chapman) as six or more bloody bowel motions daily, in addition to one or more of the following criteria; temperature greater than 37.8 °C, pulse greater than 90 per minute, hemoglobin less than 10 g/dL or ESR greater than 30 mm per hour

Grading according to truelove and witts		
	Mild	Severe
Diarrhea	Four or less motions a day with no more than small amounts of macroscopic blood	Six or more motions a day, with macroscopic blood in stool
Fever	No fever	Mean evening temperature more than 37.5 °C, or a temperature of 37.8 °C or more on at least two days out of four
Tachycardia	No tachycardia	Mean pulse rate more than 90 per minute
Anemia	Anemia not severe	Hemoglobin 75 % or less or < 10.5 g/dL allowance made for recent transfusion
Sedimentation rate	Less than 30 mm/hr	More than 30 mm/hr

Reference:

Chapman RW, Selby WS, Jewell DP. Controlled trial of intravenous metronidazole as an adjunct to corticosteroids in severe ulcerative colitis. *Gut*. 1986;27:1210-1212.

Edwards FC, Truelove SC. The course and prognosis of ulcerative colitis. *Gut*. 1963;4:299-315.

Truelove SC, Witts LJ. Cortisone in ulcerative colitis, final report on a therapeutic trial. *Br Med J*. 1955;2:1041-1048.