Symptom-based criteria such as the Manning Criteria or Rome III Diagnostic Criteria for irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) have been used to enhance the precision of evaluating and diagnosing IBS.

**THE MANNING CRITERIA FOR IBS**

Chronic or recurrent abdominal pain for at least 6 months and two or more of the following:
- Abdominal pain relieved with defecation
- Abdominal pain associated with more frequent stools
- Abdominal pain associated with looser stools
- Abdominal distention
- Feeling of incomplete evacuation after defecation
- Mucus in stools

**ROME III DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA FOR IBS**

Diagnostic criterion:

Recurrent abdominal pain or discomfort† at least 3 days/month in the last 3 months associated with two or more of the following:
- Improvement with defecation
- Onset associated with a change in frequency of stool
- Onset associated with a change in form (appearance) of stool

In pathophysiology research and clinical trials, a pain/discomfort frequency of at least 2 days a week during screening evaluation is recommended for subject eligibility.

**NOTES**

*Criterion fulfilled for the last 3 months with symptom onset at least 6 months prior to diagnosis
†“Discomfort” means an uncomfortable sensation not described as pain.

**REFERENCES**