



Inclusion criteria:

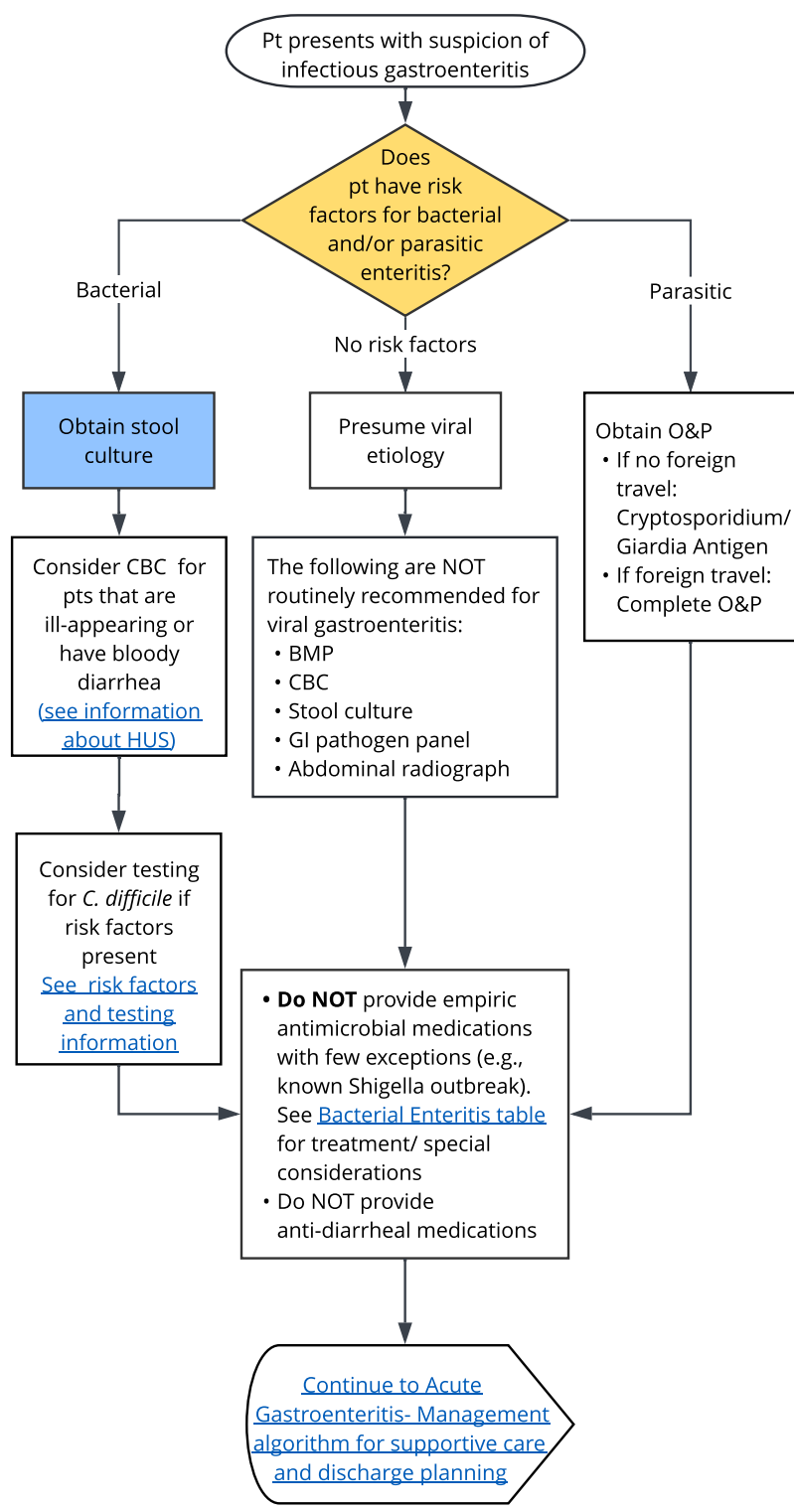
- Pt ≥ 3 months of age
- Diarrhea of recent onset < 7 days
- With or without vomiting, fever, nausea, or abdominal pain

Exclusion Criteria

- Pt < 3 months of age
- Immunocompromised
- Toxic appearance (consider sepsis and refer to [Sepsis pathway](#))
- Vomiting with no diarrhea for > 24 hours
- Billious emesis (consider bowel obstruction)
- Acute surgical abdomen
- Head injury
- Chronic disease (e.g., renal failure, inflammatory bowel disease, liver disease)
- Admission to intensive care unit

Routine stool culture includes:

- Culture for:
 - *Salmonella* sp.
 - *Shigella* sp.
 - *Yersinia* sp.
 - *Campylobacter* sp.
 - *E. coli* 0157:H7
- Shiga-toxin testing for enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* (Note: rectal swabs are not accepted for Shiga-toxin testing at CMH lab)



Risk factors for Bacterial Enteritis (excluding *C. difficile*):

- Bloody diarrhea
- Close contact to person with bacterial gastroenteritis (household, daycare)
- Animal exposure: farm animals, petting zoo, pet reptiles, new pets
- Undercooked meat or poultry, unpasteurized dairy products, raw shellfish
- Community outbreaks of specific bacterial gastroenteritis
- International travels in the past month
- Ingestion of potentially contaminated water (from pools, lakes, streams, ponds, etc.)

Risk factors for Parasitic Enteritis:

- Bloody diarrhea with international travel (*Entamoeba histolytica*)
- Close contact to a person with parasitic gastroenteritis
- Community outbreaks of specific parasitic gastroenteritis (especially Cryptosporidium)
- International travels in the last month
- Ingestion of potentially contaminated water (from pools, lakes, streams, ponds, etc.)



QR code for mobile view

Abbreviations:
HUS = hemolytic uremic syndrome
O&P = ova and parasites