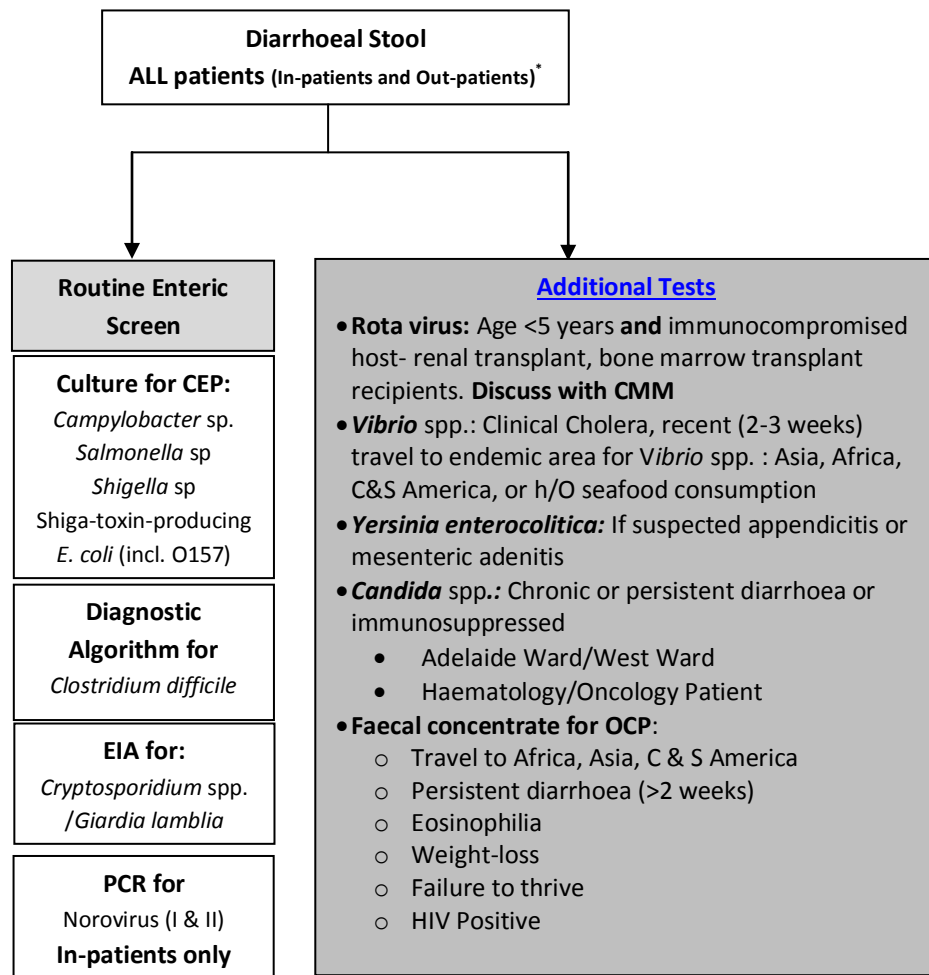


Algorithm for Laboratory Investigation of Infectious Intestinal Disease (IID)

Specimen type:

- ONLY **diarrhoeal stool specimens** (i.e., that take the shape of its container) will routinely be tested.
- **Non-diarrhoeal stools** may be tested for:
 - ✓ Rotavirus
 - ✓ Investigation of PUO e.g., Typhoid and Paratyphoid fever
 - ✓ Food handler or food poisoning 'contact' case on request of EHO as part of outbreak/incident investigation for specific conventional enteric pathogens (CEP) *Salmonella* spp., *Shigella* spp., *Campylobacter* spp., *E. coli* O157, coordinated by the community IP&CT and local (PHE) health protection team (HPT)
 - ✓ For ova/cysts and parasite (OCP)
 - ✓ *Clostridium difficile* from patients with ileus or potential toxic megacolon
 - ✓ 'Test of cure' for *Clostridium difficile* following treatment with Fidaxomicin ('difficlr')



*: '3-day rule' for CEP testing in hospital patients, based on specimen collection location as proxy for duration of symptoms and clinical details, is no longer recommended. ¹

References:

S 7: UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations: Gastroenteritis and Diarrhoea.
http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1317131949271