

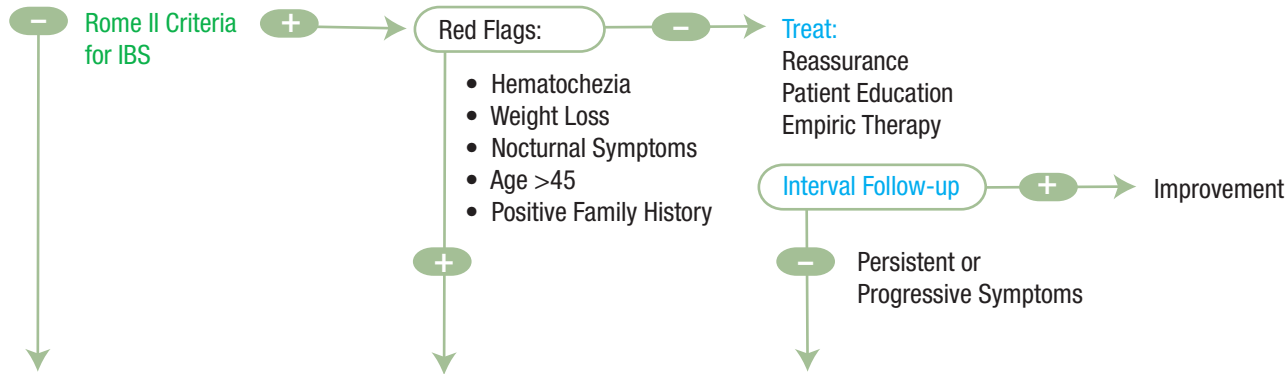
# Diagnostic Algorithm for Chronic Diarrhea

## Patient Presentation

### CHRONIC DIARRHEA

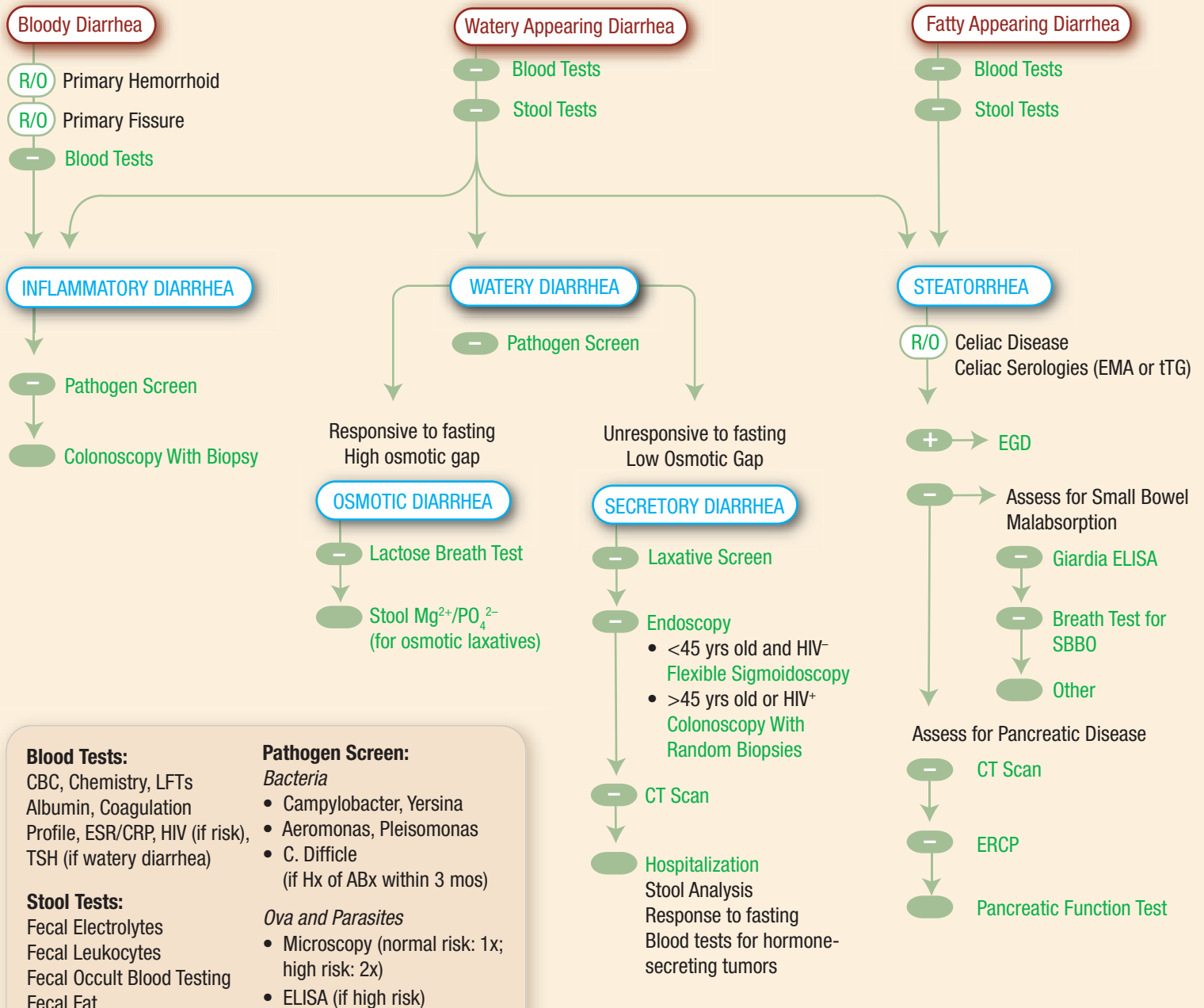
History  
Physical Examination

#### 1 FREQUENT SMALL VOLUME STOOLS



#### 2 PRIMARY FECAL INCONTINENCE + → Evaluate and Treat

## Gross Appearance of Stool



#### Blood Tests:

CBC, Chemistry, LFTs  
Albumin, Coagulation  
Profile, ESR/CRP, HIV (if risk),  
TSH (if watery diarrhea)

#### Stool Tests:

Fecal Electrolytes  
Fecal Leukocytes  
Fecal Occult Blood Testing  
Fecal Fat

#### Pathogen Screen:

##### Bacteria

- Campylobacter, Yersinia
- Aeromonas, Pleisomonas
- C. Difficile  
(if Hx of ABx within 3 mos)

##### Ova and Parasites

- Microscopy (normal risk: 1x;  
high risk: 2x)
- ELISA (if high risk)