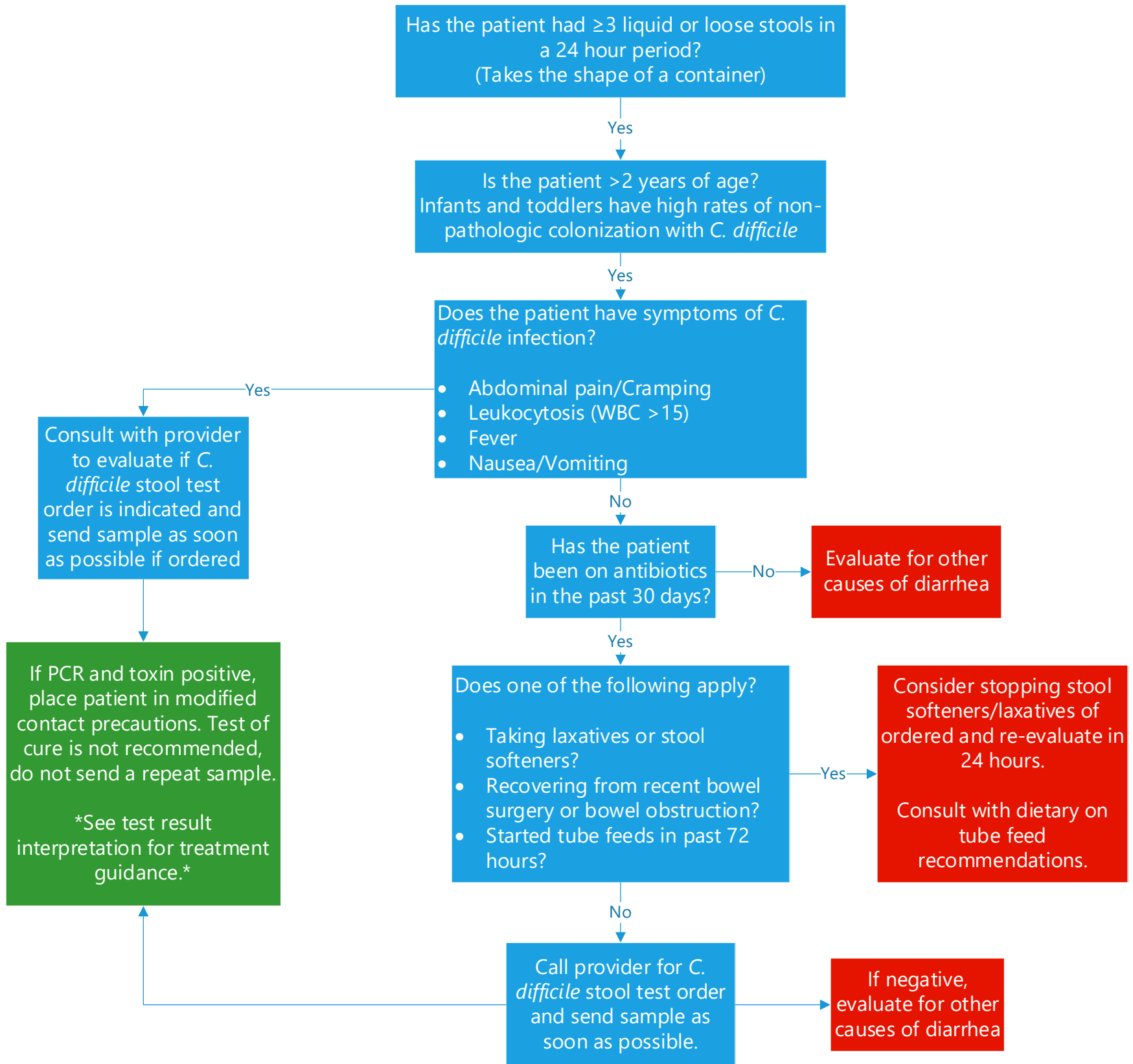


# ANMC *C. difficile* Testing Algorithm



PCR Result	Toxin Assay Result	Interpretation	Recommendation
Negative	Not performed	No CDI Present	Evaluate for other causes of diarrhea
Positive	Positive	CDI Present	Start Treatment for <i>C. difficile</i> . Modified contact isolation precautions per ANMC Infection Control.
Positive	Negative	CDI Unlikely	Clinical infection may not be present; patient may be colonized with <i>C. difficile</i> in the gut. Treatment should be individualized; consider treatment with severe, non-resolving, or otherwise unexplained diarrhea strongly suggestive of CDI.

CDI- *C. difficile* Infection; PCR- Polymerase Chain Reaction;

This does not replace clinical judgement, algorithm should be utilized as a guidance and can be overruled based on patient risk factors and physical exam.

See ANMC clinical guidelines for treatment recommendations for pediatric and adult populations with positive PCR and toxin assay results.

IDSA Clinical Practice Guidelines for *Clostridium difficile* Infection in Adults and Children: 2017 Update. CID. 2018;66(7):e1-e48.

Created 2018; MEC approved Jan 2019; Updated October 2023