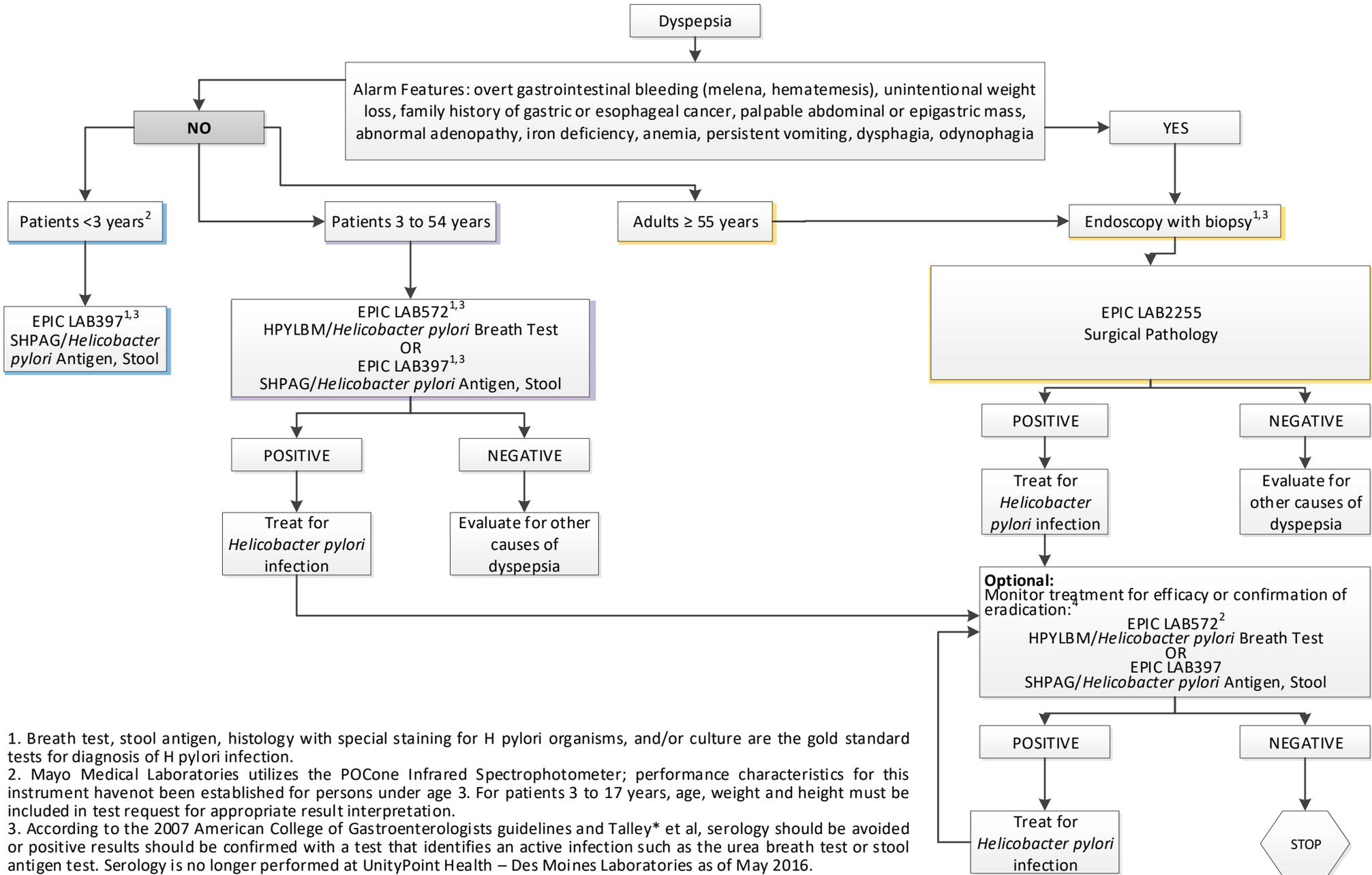


Helicobacter pylori Diagnostic Algorithm



1. Breath test, stool antigen, histology with special staining for H pylori organisms, and/or culture are the gold standard tests for diagnosis of H pylori infection.
2. Mayo Medical Laboratories utilizes the POcone Infrared Spectrophotometer; performance characteristics for this instrument havenot been established for persons under age 3. For patients 3 to 17 years, age, weight and height must be included in test request for appropriate result interpretation.
3. According to the 2007 American College of Gastroenterologists guidelines and Talley* et al, serology should be avoided or positive results should be confirmed with a test that identifies an active infection such as the urea breath test or stool antigen test. Serology is no longer performed at UnityPoint Health – Des Moines Laboratories as of May 2016.
4. Confirmation of eradication testing should not be ordered until 2 to 4 weeks after cessation of treatment. Proton pump inhibitors and antisecretory drugs should be discontinued for at least 1 week prior to assessment of H pylori eradication.