Abacavir Hypersensitivity Testing and Initial Patient Management Algorithm

Before initiating or reinitiating abacavir therapy, screen patients for HLA-B*57:01 allele to decrease the risk of hypersensitivity reaction.

Order HLA57 / HLA-B 5701 Genotype, Abacavir Hypersensitivity, Blood

**HLA-B*57:01**

**POSITIVE**

Do not initiate abacavir therapy¹

**NEGATIVE**

Initiate abacavir therapy

Monitor patient every 2 weeks for the first 6 weeks of treatment for symptoms of hypersensitivity reaction that may include:
- Fever
- Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea
- Malaise/fatigue
- Headache
- Myalgia/arthralgia
- Skin rash
- Shortness of breath, cough, pharyngitis

Patient has ≥2 symptoms within 6 weeks of starting abacavir

Stop abacavir therapy and provide supportive therapy as needed²

Patient has ≤1 symptom within 6 weeks of starting abacavir

Continue abacavir and monitor progress

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¹ Do not initiate abacavir therapy unless the potential benefits outweigh the risks of giving it