



# IBSnet

THE FUNCTIONAL BOWEL NETWORK

- ✓ *Platform to bring together medical professionals dedicated to functional bowel disease (CH and AU)*
- ✓ *Know-how exchange about research ideas, practice and knowledge*
- ✓ *Excellent interdisciplinary networking opportunities*
- ✓ *Homepage of **SwissNGM** (official country representative of the European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility (ESNM))*

Find us here: [www.IBSnet.ch](http://www.IBSnet.ch)

# IBS – How can we reduce the time to diagnosis?

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# Path to diagnosis

## Direct way

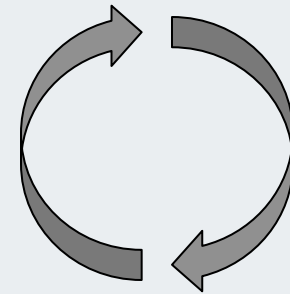


The usual suspects...

Organic disease: cancer...

High clinical relevance

## Diagnostic „roundabouts“



?

Functional disease

High prevalence

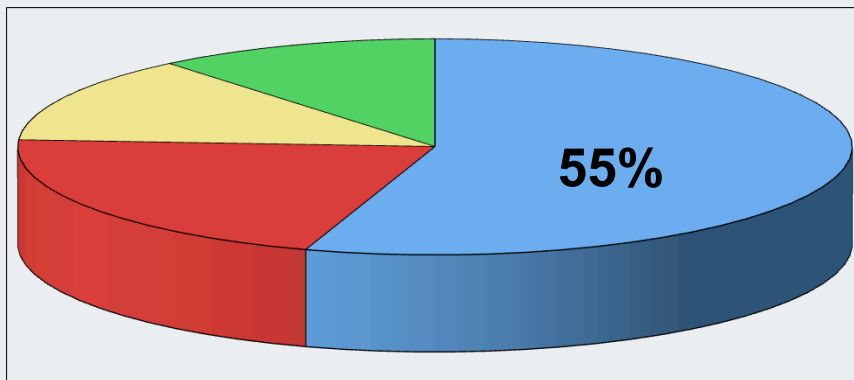
# Epidemiology IBS

- Frequent chronic GI-disease
- Incidence 2-70 / 1000 patient years
- Prevalence variable depending on criteria of diagnosis  
→ 7% pooled
- IBS-D and IBS-M > IBS-C, change of sub-groups frequent
- W:M = approx. 1.5-2:1, most frequent during 3. decade, with age less distinctive gender differences
- High percentage of psychiatric comorbidity (e.g. somatoform disorders (15-48%) and/or anxiety disorders, depression)
- Clearly reduced quality of life, high costs

## Natural History of Disease

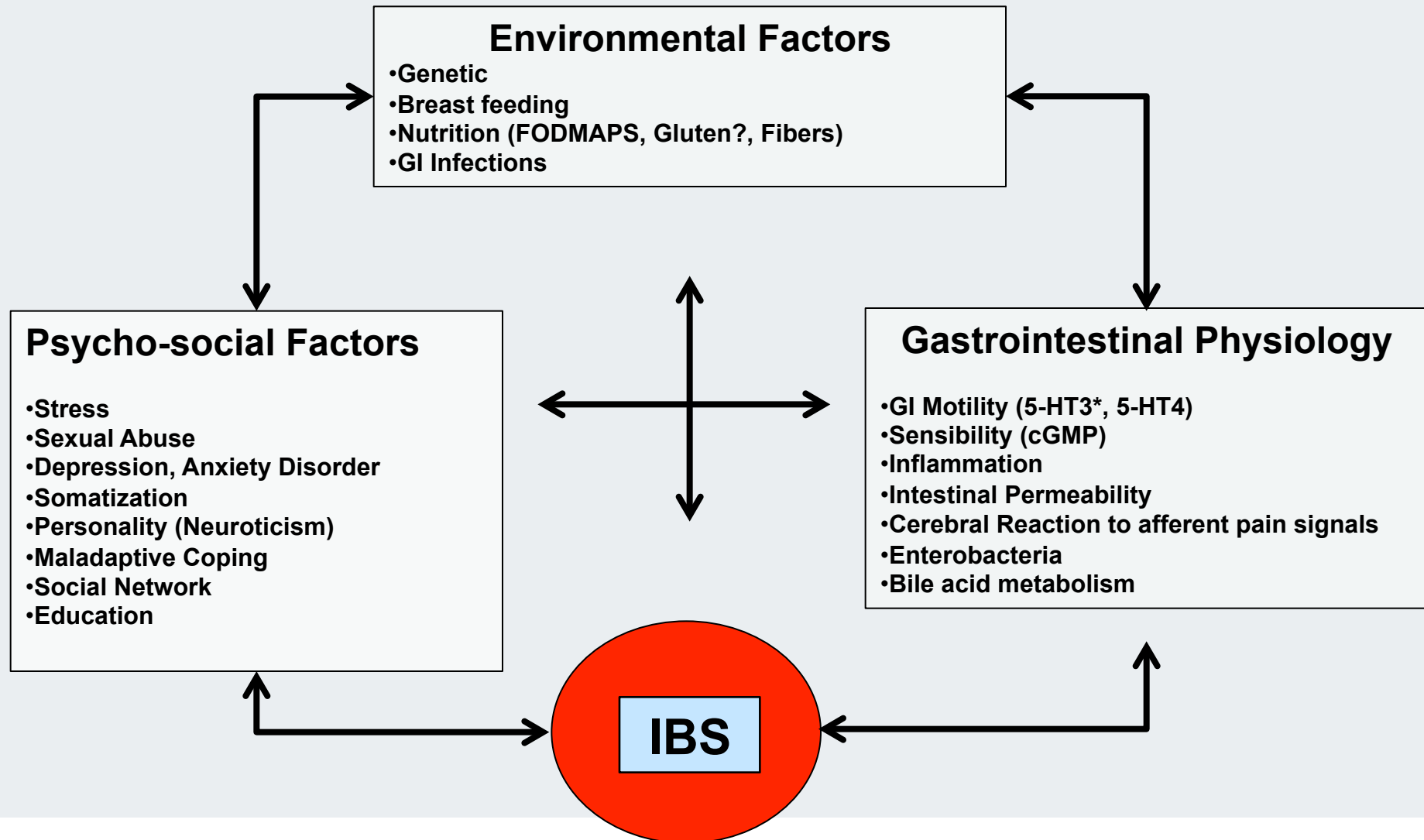
- After diagnosis waxing/waning symptoms over several years
- Change of symptoms possible over time
  - e.g. changes of stool consistency

### Prognosis after 7 years?



- still IBS
- less symptoms
- no symptoms
- FD, GER

# Pathogenesis IBS



# IBS-Definition

## CI. Irritable Bowel Syndrome

### *Diagnostic criterion\**

Recurrent abdominal pain or discomfort\*\* at least 3 days/month in the last 3 months associated with *two or more* of the following:

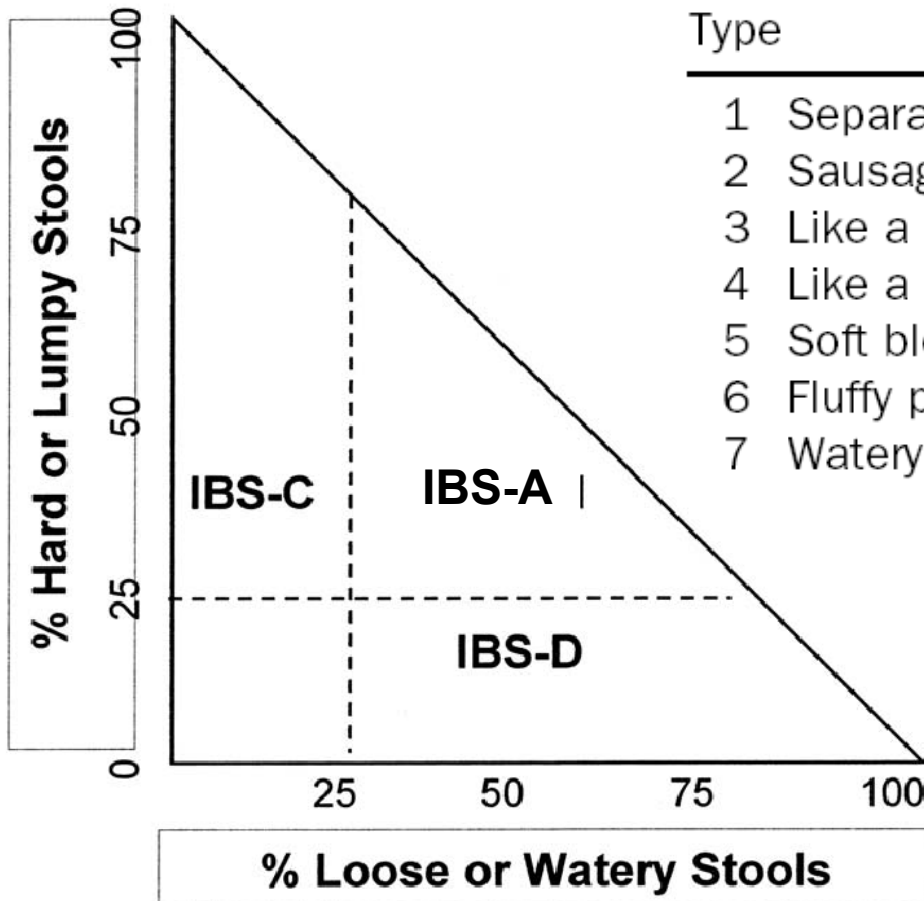
1. Improvement with defecation
2. Onset associated with a change in frequency of stool
3. Onset associated with a change in form (appearance) of stool

\* Criterion fulfilled for the last 3 months with symptom onset at least 6 months prior to diagnosis

\*\* “Discomfort” means an uncomfortable sensation not described as pain.

In pathophysiology research and clinical trials, a pain/discomfort frequency of at least 2 days a week during screening evaluation is recommended for subject eligibility.

## IBS-Subtypes Rome III



### Type

### Description

- 1 Separate hard lumps like nuts (difficult to pass)
- 2 Sausage shaped but lumpy
- 3 Like a sausage but with cracks on its surface
- 4 Like a sausage or snake, smooth and soft
- 5 Soft blobs with clear-cut edges (passed easily)
- 6 Fluffy pieces with ragged edges, a mushy stool
- 7 Watery, no solid pieces, entirely liquid

### The Bristol Stool Form Scale





# Diagnostic IBS

## ACG Taskforce 2009:

- „No diagnosis of exclusion; Diagnosis is not recommended in case of missing alarm symptoms and in young patients“
- „The probability to find an organic disease, when lacking alarm symptoms, is equally as high as in the common population“

## DGVS 2011:

- „Still: Important differential diagnoses have to be excluded“

### Statement 3-1-1

Für die Diagnosestellung sollen grundsätzlich 2 Komponenten erfüllt sein:

- a) **Anamnese**, Muster und Ausmaß der Beschwerden sind mit einem Reizdarmsyndrom vereinbar.
- b) Die „Sicherung“ des Reizdarmsyndroms erfordert den – symptomabhängig gezielten – **Ausschluss relevanter Differenzialdiagnosen** (insbesondere bei Vorliegen von Alarmsymptomen)  
[Evidenzgrad B, Empfehlungsstärke ↑ ↑, starker Konsens]

## Organic disease symptom (+) for IBS

ORGANIC DISEASE	IBS PATIENTS (%)	GENERAL POPULATION (%)
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Inflammatory bowel disease	0.51-0.98	0.3-1.2
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Colorectal cancer	0-0.51	0-6 (varies with age)
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Celiac disease	4.7	0.25-0.5
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Gastrointestinal infection	0-1.5	NA
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Thyroid dysfunction	6	5-9
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## 1. Visit (patients not managed beforehand)

- Patient History
- Exam
- Laboratory
- Abdominal Ultrasound

*The plan for further procedures of clarification has to be adjusted to the individual results of the patient (consider personal history, physical exam, lab values)*



## Patient History

- *Duration of Symptoms?*
- *Frequency of Symptoms?*
- *Change of Stool habits?*
- *Improvement with Defecation?*
- Medication?
- Symptoms stress related?
- Travel history?
- (History of) Infectious Disease?
- Intake of Antibiotics?
- Allergies?
- Food Intolerance?

## Medication to look for

- Opioids (Fentanyl, Morphine, Tramal, Codeine, ...)
- Tricycle antidepressant (Amitriptyline)
- SSRI
- Oral iron supplement
- Anti-epileptic drugs (Chlorpromazine, etc.)
- Chemotherapy (Sorafenib, Cladribine, ...)
- Antihypertensive (calcium channel inhibitor)
- Antibiotics
- Bile-acid binders
- Ondansetron
- And many many more...

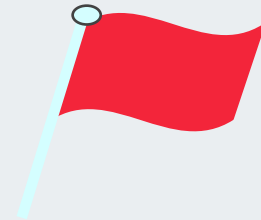
# Red Flags

## Anamnesis

- Beginning of symptoms >50 years
- Weight loss
- Family history for colorectal carcinoma / IBD / ovarian carcinoma
- Blood per rectum
- Nightly symptoms

## Indications

- Fever
- Abnormity in status
- Pos. FOBT



## Laboratory

- Anemia
- Leukocytosis
- CRP
- Abnormal chemistry



# 1. Laboratory Examination / Diagnostic IBS

## All IBS patients

Age-depending Colorectal Cancer  
Prevention

## IBS-D

Calprotectine  
Celiac serology)  
Colon biopsies

## IBS-M

Calprotectine  
Celiac serology  
Stool Diary

## IBS-C

Therapy-refractory: Functional Diagnostics  
(anorectal manometry, MRI defecography)  
(celiac serology)

## TSH

(always, no hard evidence)

## Pancreatic elastasis Stool

(6.1% of IBS-D, IBS-A)

## Parasitology Stool (3x)

(for IBS-D, IBS-A, travel history, no  
evidence)

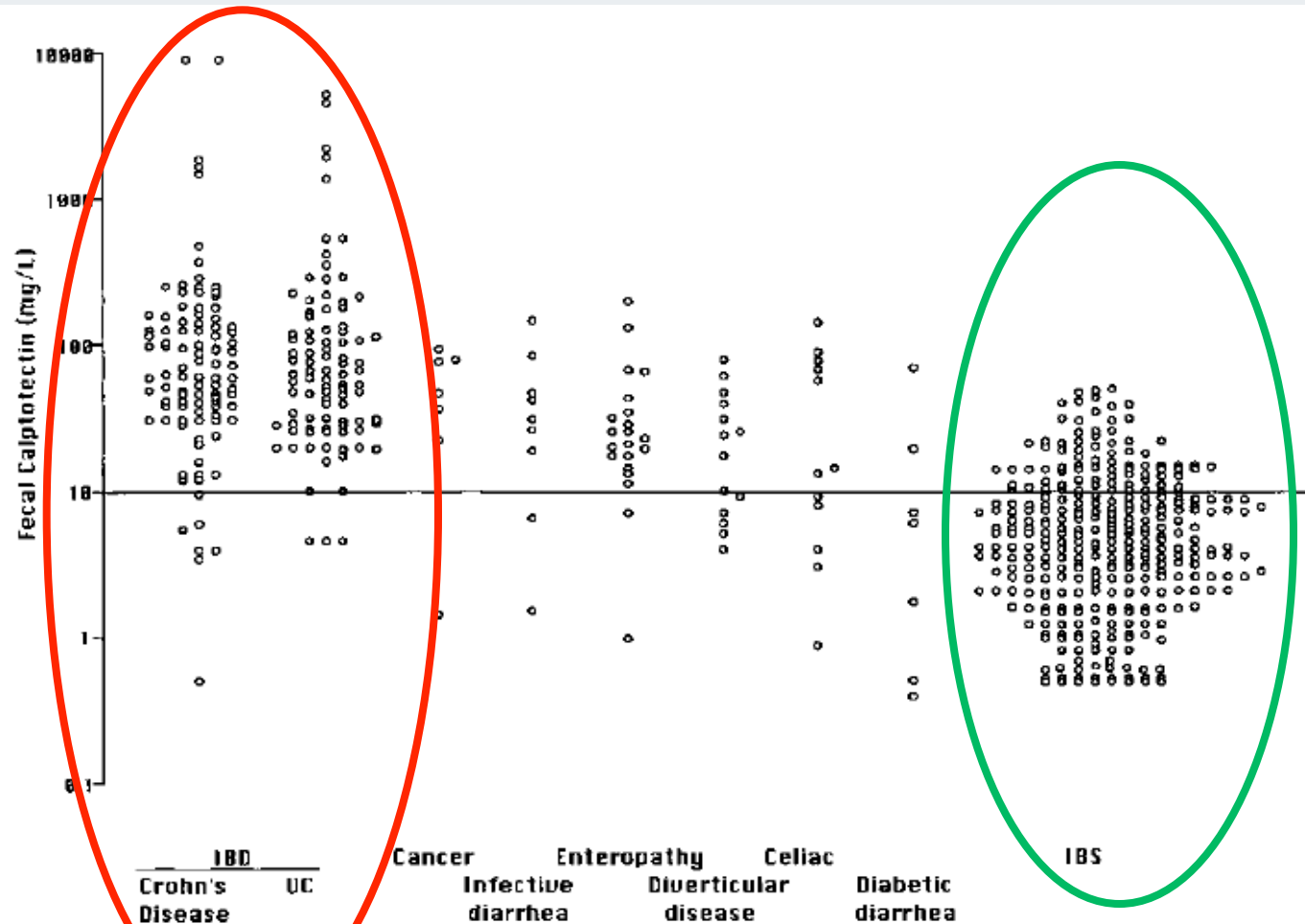
## (Lactase deficiency)

(LCT-13910, for IBS-D, IBS-A)

## (Bile acid malabsorption (IBS-D, IBS-A))

Testing complex, we provide empirical therapy)

# Fecal Calprotectin



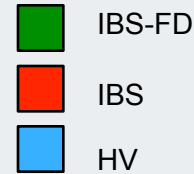
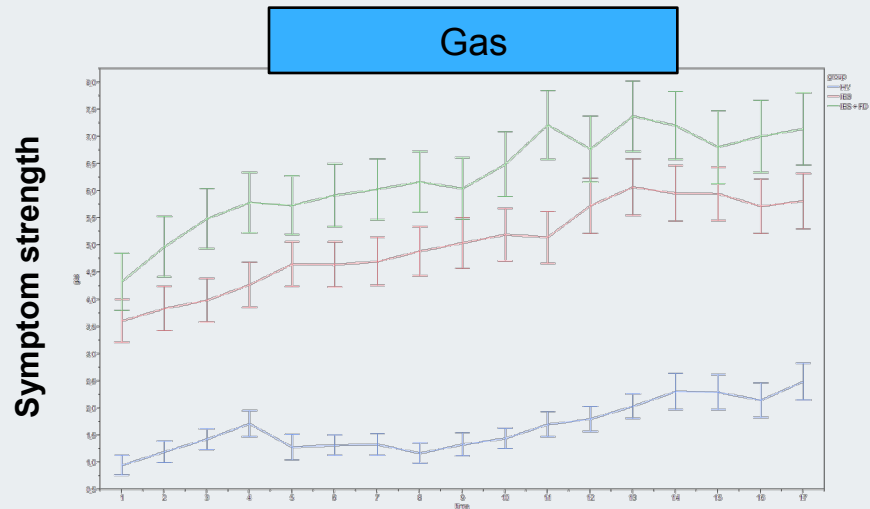


## 2. Visit (referral)

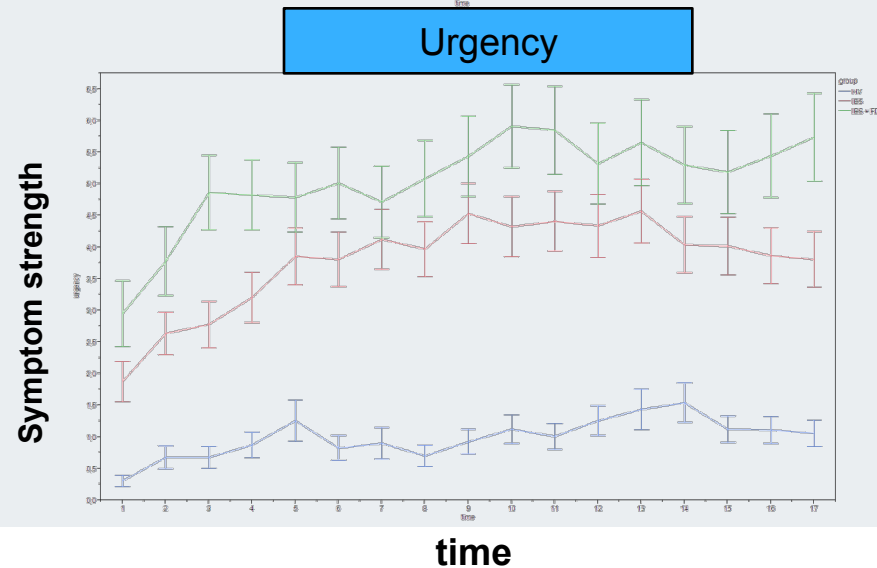
*IN WOMEN GYNECOLOGICAL EXAM NECESSARY*

- Gynecological council with endovaginal ultrasound (no recommended age limit)
  - DD Ovarian-CA, Endometriosis, Ovarian Cyst, Pelvic Inflammatory Disease

# Nutrient Challenge testing



	group	FD_17	FD_20	FD_21
time	<.0001	<.0001	.016	.0032
FD	<.0001	0.001	<.0001	.001
FD*time	.066	.064	.55	.29



	group	FD_17	FD_20	FD_21
time	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001	<.0001
FD	<.0001	.0019	<.0001	.0062
FD*time	.019	.24	.027	.0495

## Not recommended tests

### **Stool Flora Analysis**

- Not validated
- At the moment no prediction possible

### **Measurement of Visceral Hypersensitivity**

- No routine procedure

### **Blood Biomarker**

- approved in USS (IBS-D versus IBD)

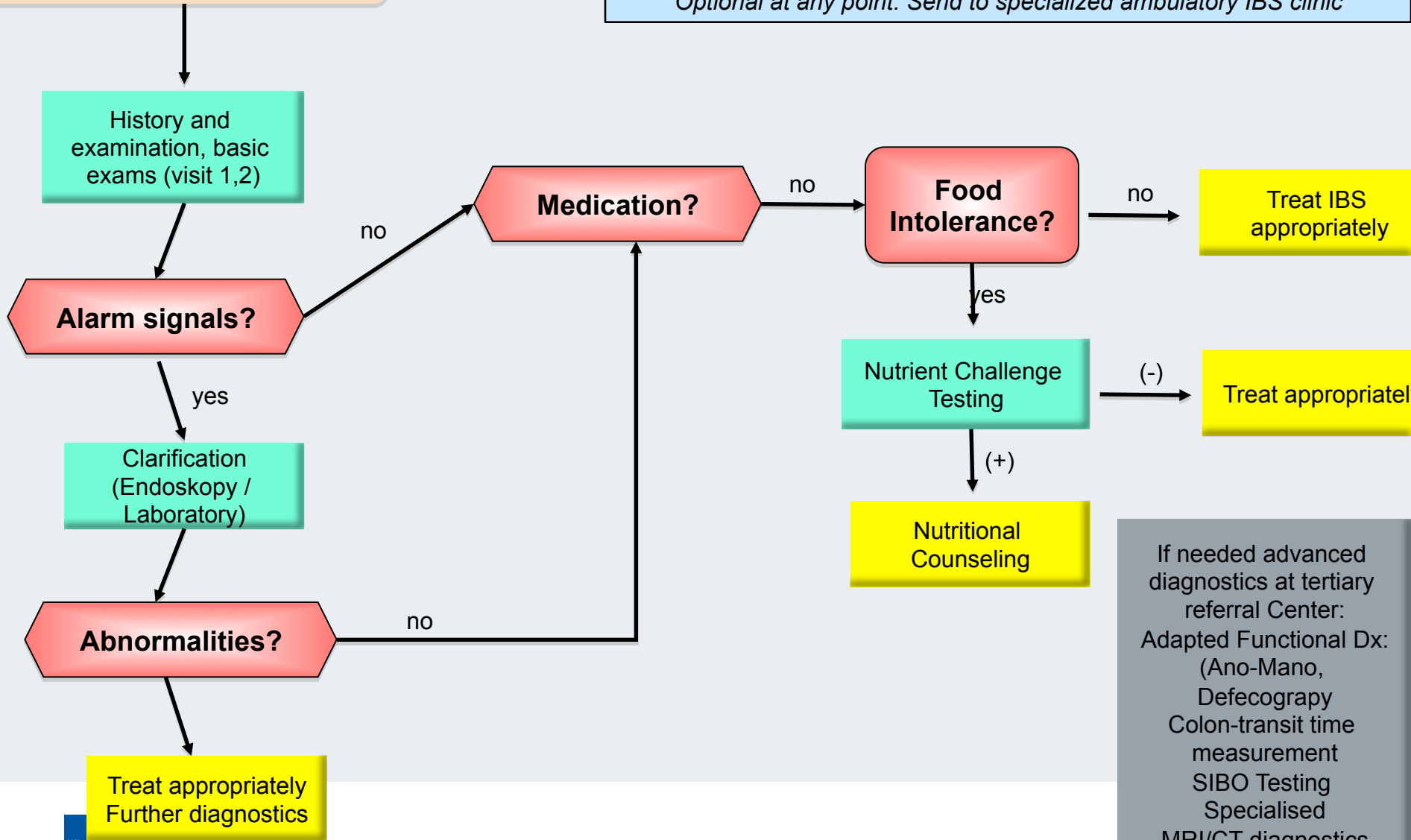
### **Food Intolerance / Allergies**

- Fructose Breath Test
- IgG Food Allergens

**Tests with names you cannot spell or that sound made up**

# Diagnostic Algorithm– IBS

*Optional at any point: Send to specialized ambulatory IBS clinic*



If needed advanced diagnostics at tertiary referral Center:  
Adapted Functional Dx:  
(Ano-Mano,  
Defecography  
Colon-transit time measurement  
SIBO Testing  
Specialised  
MRI/CT diagnostics

## General IBS diagnosis advice

Diagnosis with appropriate, following patient information

- Do not stigmatize the patient as “psychologic” or “mental”

No unneeded diagnostic measurements

- Analysis of stool flora
- IgG Titer of food allergens

No further diagnostic measurements for established diagnosis of IBS

- Do not repeat endoscopy
- Restrict to appropriate therapy of patients

**Thank you for your attention**

