### Helicobacter pylori Testing

**INDICATIONS FOR TESTING**
- Persistent dyspepsia, abdominal pain

- **Obvious cause**
  - Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) use
  - Known gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD)

- **Remove cause if possible**
  - OR
  - Treat based on etiology

- **<18 or ≥60 yrs of age**
  - OR
  - Alarm symptoms
    - Gastrointestinal bleeding
    - Unexplained iron deficiency anemia
    - Early satiety
    - Unexplained weight loss
    - Progressive dysphagia
    - Odynophagia
    - Recurrent vomiting
    - Family history of upper gastrointestinal cancer
    - Previous esophagogastric malignancy

- **No**
  - Order
    - H. pylori breath test

- **Positive**
  - Treat to eradicate H. pylori
  - Evaluate for eradication at least 4 wks after completion of therapy
  - ORDER
    - One of the following:
      - H. pylori breath test
      - H. pylori antigen, fecal by immunoassay
      - H. pylori rapid urease
      - H. pylori by immunohistochemistry
      - H. pylori culture

- **Negative**
  - No further therapy required

- **Yes**
  - Esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD) and biopsy
  - ORDER
    - H. pylori rapid urease testing
    - H. pylori by immunohistochemistry
    - H. pylori culture

- **Positive**
  - Consider salvage therapy