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/arthritis
  - 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

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