



February 9, 2026

To: Newborn Screening (NBS) Community

From: Public Health Laboratory (PHL), South Carolina Department of Public Health (SC DPH)

Subject: Newborn Screening Cystic Fibrosis Testing Algorithm

We are pleased to share the updated **Newborn Screening Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Testing Algorithm**, attached for your reference. This flowchart outlines the process our public health newborn screening program uses to determine when a specimen is considered abnormal and when it reflexes to in-house CF DNA testing.

The algorithm also provides guidance on:

- When sweat chloride testing is recommended
- When consultation with a Cystic Fibrosis Care Center is advised
- Appropriate follow-up steps based on screening and reflex testing results

To support easy access, a QR code linking the online version of the algorithm will be placed below. The algorithm is also available on our **Public Health Laboratory (PHL) Forms, Documents, & Resource Materials webpage**.

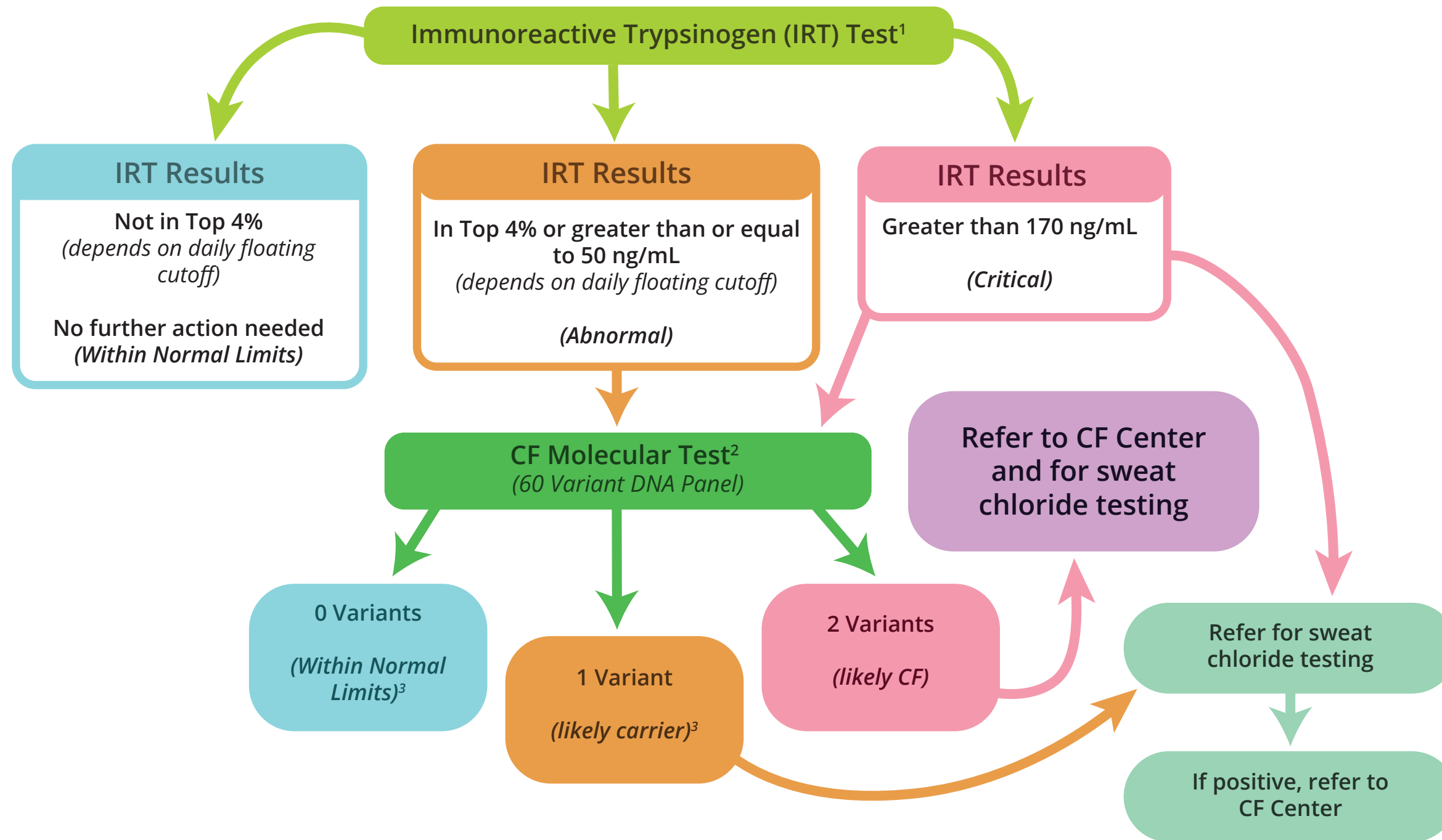


We encourage you to review the attached flowchart and integrate it into your clinical workflows. If you have any questions or need additional clarification regarding the algorithm or follow-up recommendations, please contact our team at (803) 896-0795.

Thank you to all our providers and partners for your attention to this service update.

SC Cystic Fibrosis NBS Testing Algorithm

For infants less than 30 days old



Notes

1. If meconium ileus is present, refer for sweat chloride testing.
2. If the patient has received a blood transfusion within the last 120 days; the CF molecular test may yield a false positive or false negative result. If a satisfactory 120-day post-transfusion specimen is submitted, the CF molecular test will be performed.
3. Not all genetic variants may be detected by this DNA panel. If there is ongoing clinical concern, consider referral for additional or more comprehensive genetic testing.

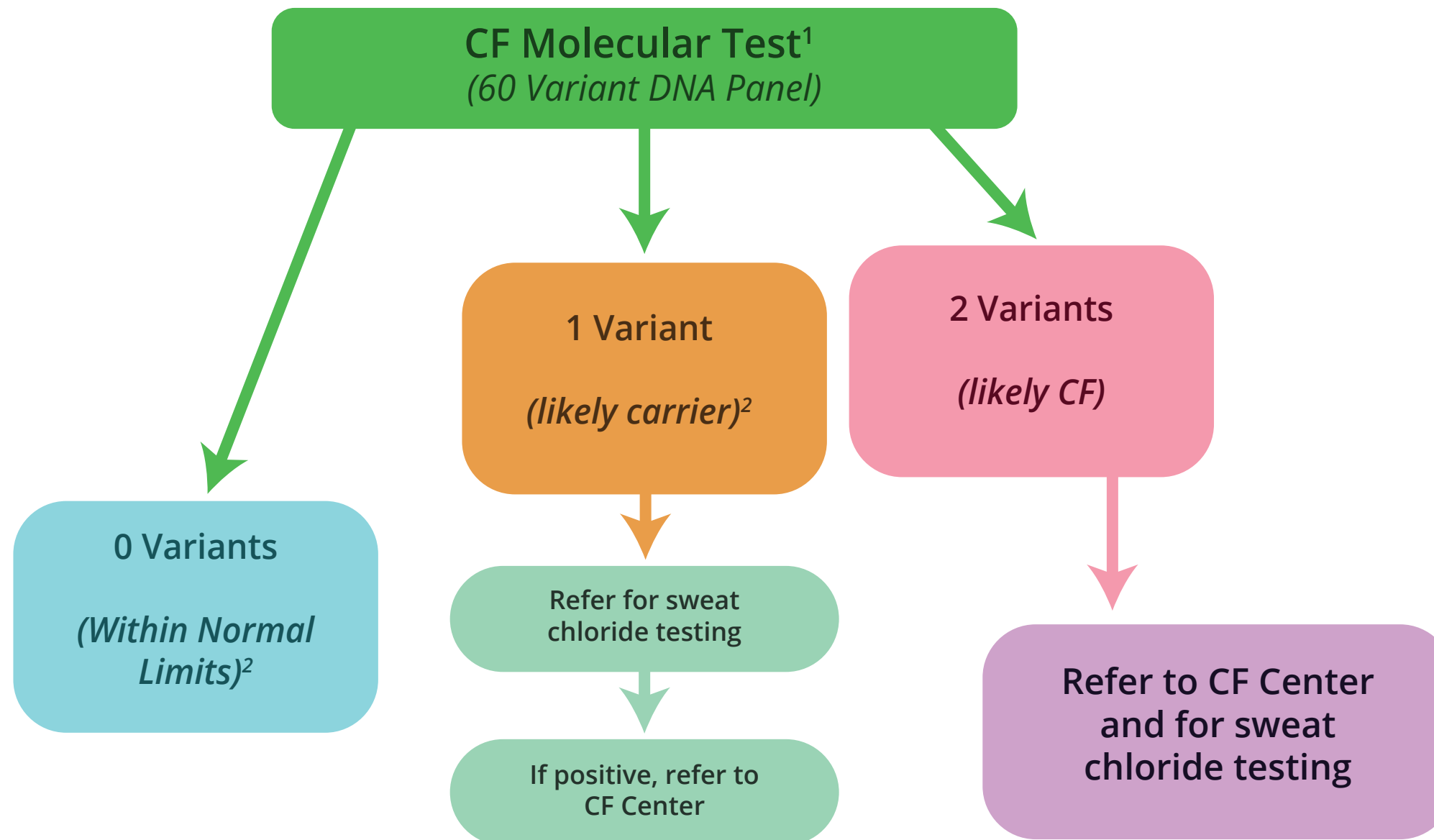
Questions?

Contact: NBSQI@dph.sc.gov

SC Cystic Fibrosis NBS Testing Algorithm

For infants greater than 30 days old

Immunoreactive Trypsinogen (IRT) Test is Not Performed



Notes

1. If the patient has received a blood transfusion within the last 120 days; the CF molecular test may yield a false positive or false negative result. If a satisfactory 120-day post-transfusion specimen is submitted, the CF molecular test will be performed.
2. Not all genetic variants may be detected by this DNA panel. If there is ongoing clinical concern, consider referral for additional or more comprehensive genetic testing.

Questions?

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