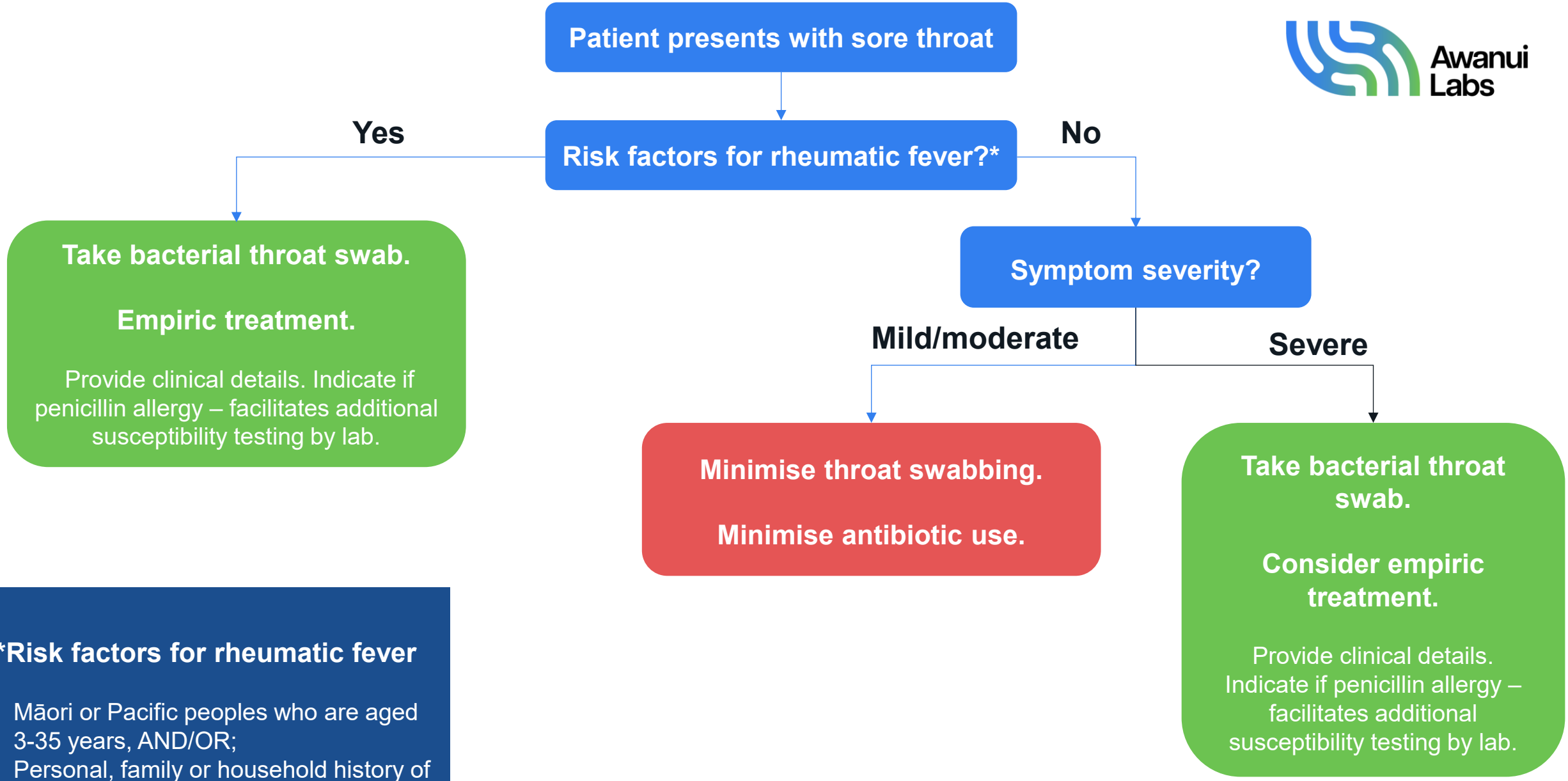

Patient presents with sore throat
Risk factors for rheumatic fever?*
Yes
No
Take bacterial throat swab.
Empiric treatment.
Provide clinical details. Indicate if penicillin allergy – facilitates additional susceptibility testing by lab.
Symptom severity?
Mild/moderate
Severe
Minimise throat swabbing.
Minimise antibiotic use.
Take bacterial throat swab.
Consider empiric treatment.
Provide clinical details. Indicate if penicillin allergy – facilitates additional susceptibility testing by lab.
*Risk factors for rheumatic fever
- Māori or Pacific peoples who are aged 3-35 years, AND/OR;
- Personal, family or household history of rheumatic fever/rheumatic heart disease