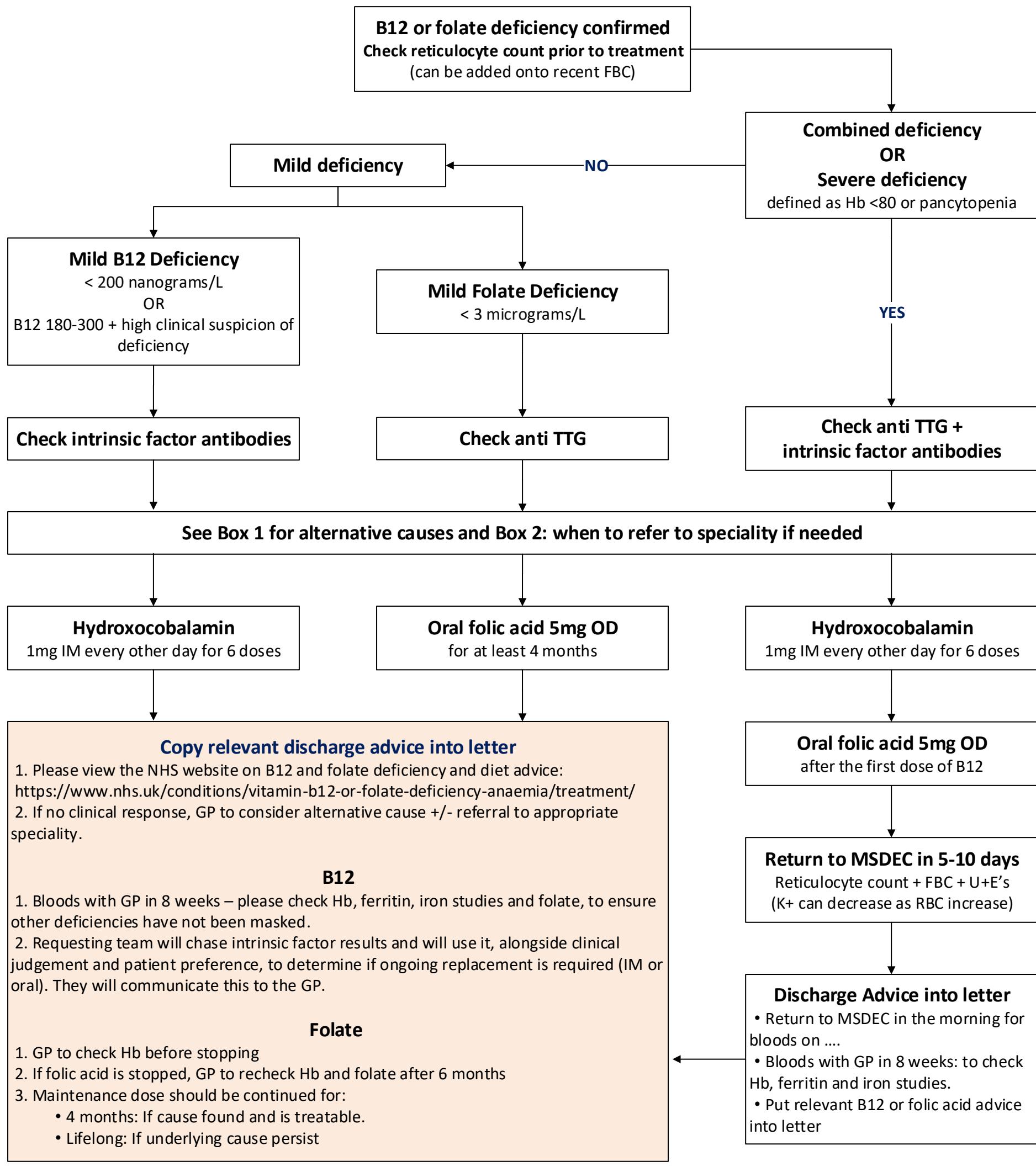


B12 and Folate Deficiency MSDEC Pathway



Box 1: Alternative causes

(this is not an exhaustive list)

Both B12 and folate: Chronic alcohol use; Vegan diet; Conditions affecting absorption e.g. IBD, gastric surgery, coeliac.

B12: Drugs: metformin, COCP, long-term PPI or H2 antagonist, nitrous oxide

Folate: Malignancy, Liver disease, Pregnancy, Haemolysis. Drugs: anticonvulsants, methotrexate, trimethoprim, nitrofurantoin

Box 2: Refer to Gastroenterology:

If history suggests deficiency is due to

1. A malabsorption condition that is not already known

2. Known malabsorptive condition with current severe symptoms