

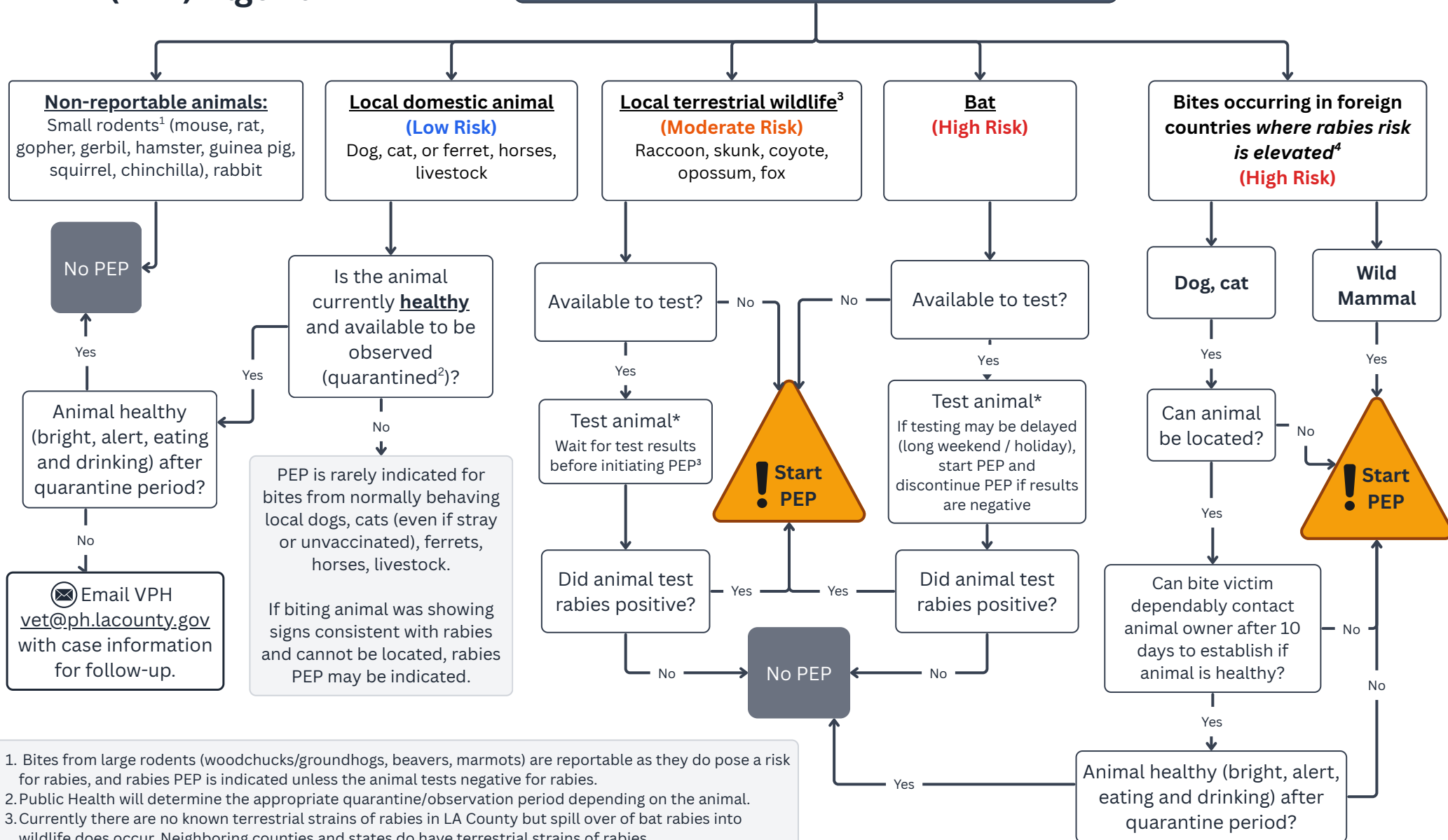
RABIES

Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Algorithm

Did an exposure to rabies potentially occur?

- Patient bitten by a mammal (animal with fur)?
- Patient's open wound, broken skin, or mucous membrane contacted saliva or central nervous system tissue from a mammal?
- Patient had an encounter with a bat such that a bite cannot be ruled out (e.g: sleeping in a room with a bat)?

No → No PEP



1. Bites from large rodents (woodchucks/groundhogs, beavers, marmots) are reportable as they do pose a risk for rabies, and rabies PEP is indicated unless the animal tests negative for rabies.

2. Public Health will determine the appropriate quarantine/observation period depending on the animal.

3. Currently there are no known terrestrial strains of rabies in LA County but spill over of bat rabies into wildlife does occur. Neighboring counties and states do have terrestrial strains of rabies.

4. High risk canine rabies countries: <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/dogs/high-risk-countries.html>

*In situations where a bat or wildlife animal is available for testing, animal control should be contacted to pick up the specimen and arrange for rabies testing with VPH.