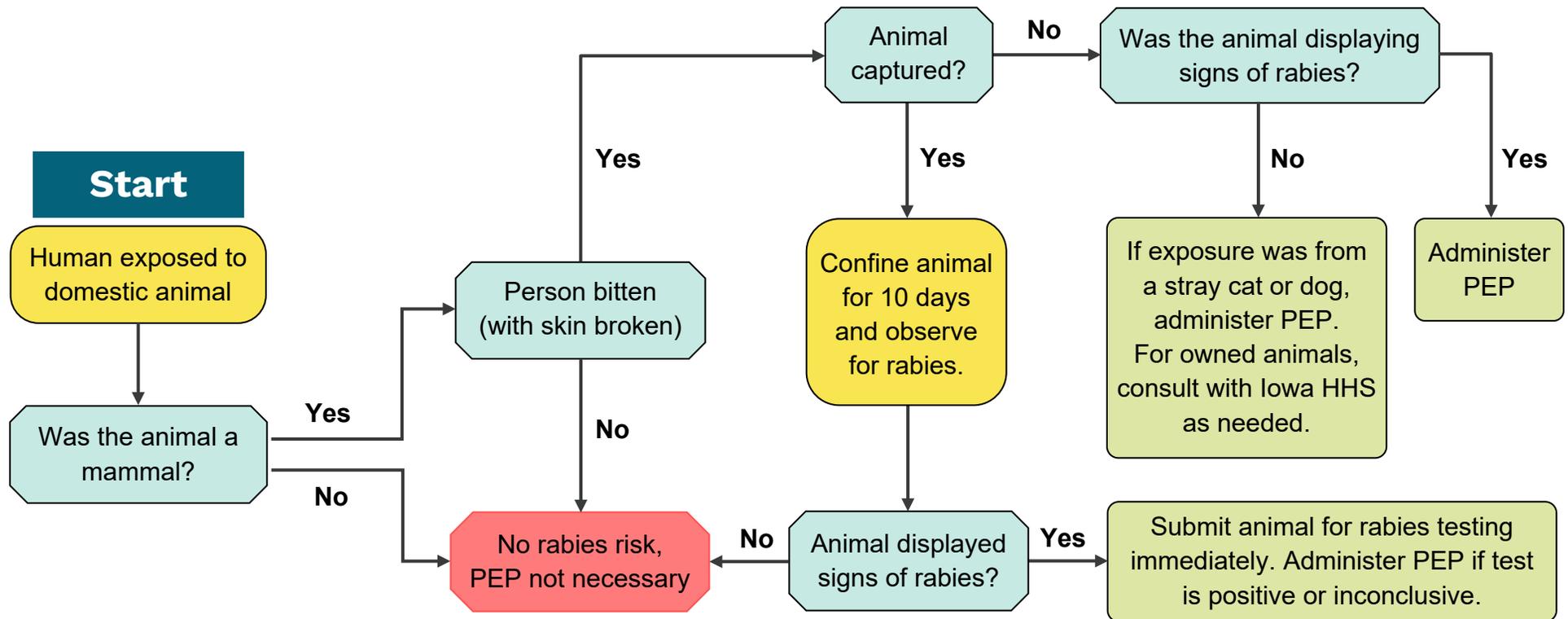


Guidelines for Administering Rabies Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Human exposed to Domestic Animal (dog, cat, or ferret)



Attention: Rabies is fatal.

- The **only ways** to determine there is **no risk of rabies** from the biting dog, cat, or ferret are to **successfully complete a 10-day confinement period or to test negative for rabies**.
- **Vaccination status of the animal alone cannot completely rule out risk.** A vaccinated dog, cat, or ferret that bites a person should undergo a 10-day confinement.
- Depending on the severity of the attack and your clinical judgement, PEP can be postponed until the outcome of the confinement, or test result, is known.
- If a dog, cat, or ferret is not located within 3 days of the exposure, consider administering PEP.
- PEP is effective if administered before symptoms start even if the exposure occurred more than 7 days ago.

For guidance on administering PEP or information on contacting Iowa HHS for a rabies consultation:



See the Iowa HHS Epi Manual rabies chapter by scanning the QR code or visiting:
hhs.iowa.gov/epi-rabies