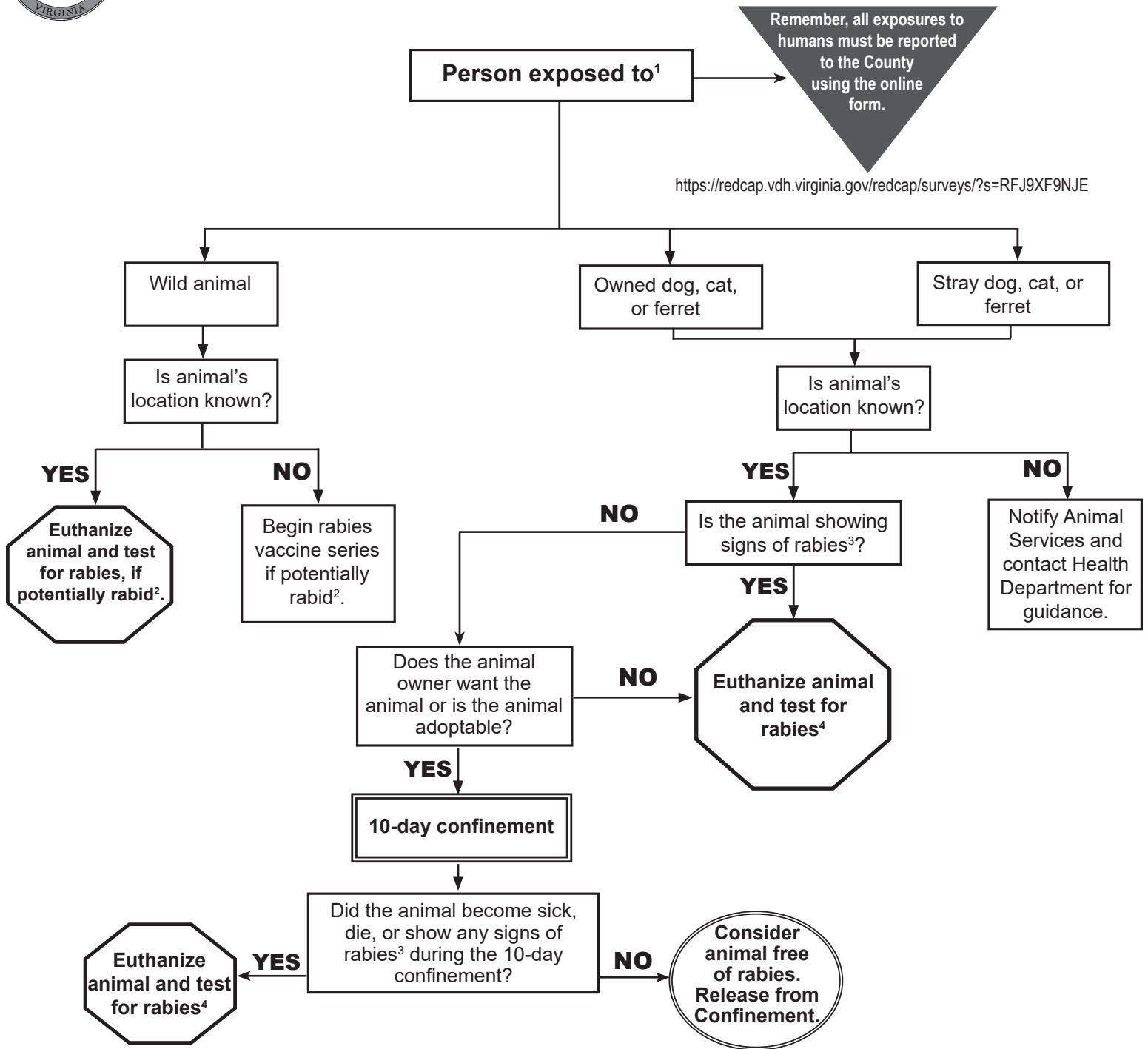




Rabies Prevention Guide for Veterinarians Management of Animals That Have Potentially Exposed Humans to Rabies



1. Exposure definition: A bite or any other circumstance where saliva or central nervous system tissue from a rabid or potentially rabid animal did have or could have had direct contact with mucous membranes or breaks in the skin of a human.

2. Potentially rabid animals include high risk animals and low risk animals that are behaving as if rabid. High risk animals include bats, raccoons, foxes, skunks, bobcats, coyotes, bears, groundhogs, beavers, otters and opossums.

3. Any change in an animal's behavior can be suggestive of rabies. These changes can include depression, hiding, partial paralysis (abnormal facial expressions, drooping head, sagging jaw, paralyzed hind limbs), episodes of extreme aggression and excitement, indiscriminate aggression, excessive drooling, and/or problems swallowing.

4. For rabies testing, contact Fairfax County Animal Services or the Health Department for instructions on postmortem head submission.