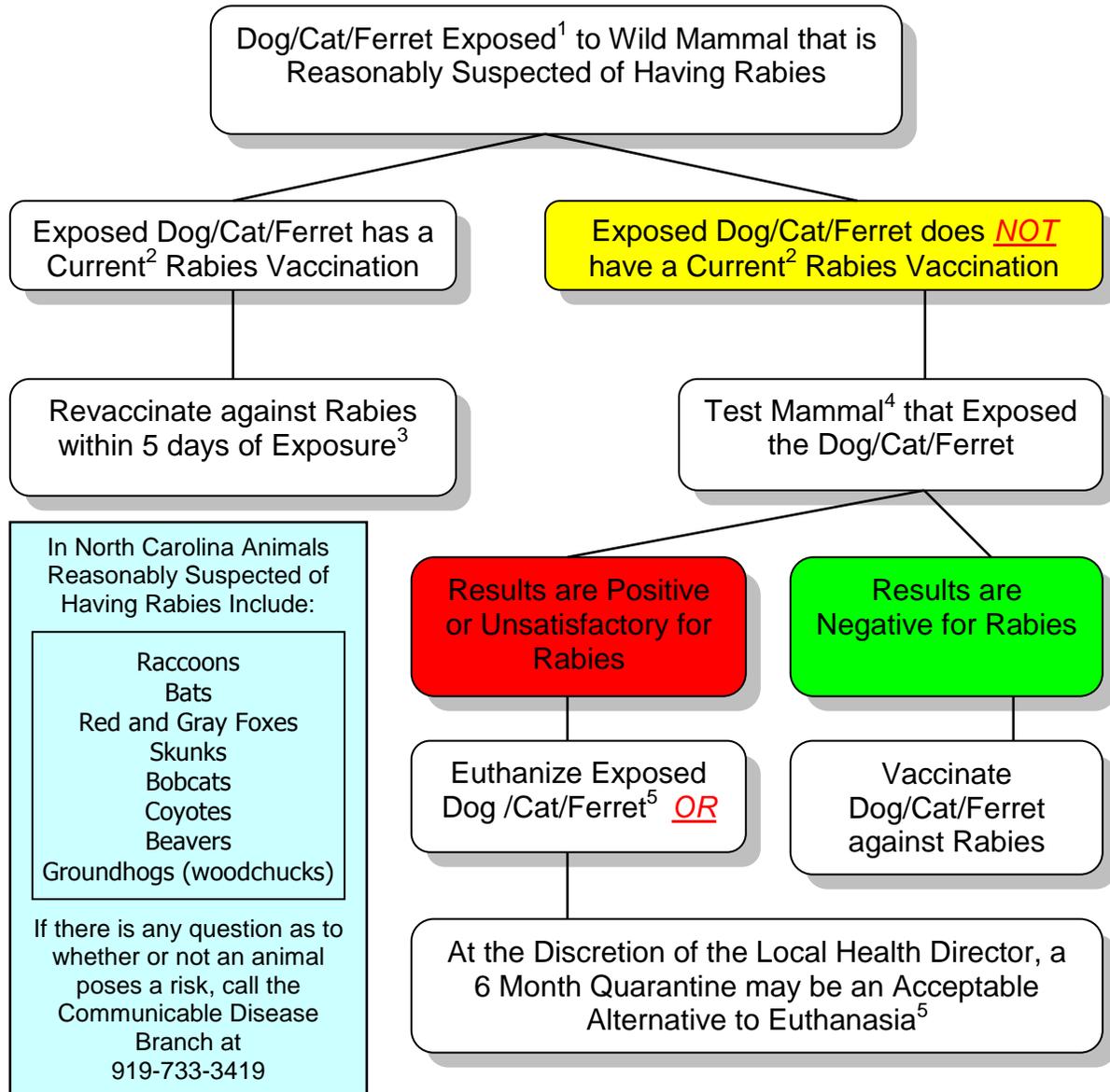


North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

**PROTOCOL FOR DOGS, CATS & FERRETS EXPOSED TO RABIES**

Pursuant to G.S. 130A-197 (October 2016)



1. Dog, cat or ferret bites, is bitten by, or is otherwise exposed to an animal reasonably suspected of being rabid. An exposure occurs when saliva or neural tissue from a rabid animal is introduced into a fresh open wound, scratch or onto a mucous membrane.
2. Current rabies vaccination means the dog, cat or ferret was vaccinated more than 28 days prior to the exposure, if it was the animal's initial rabies vaccination (NC GS 130A-197), or for subsequent rabies vaccinations current means the animal was vaccinated according to vaccine manufacturer's recommendations and has a valid current rabies certificate.
3. If the exposed dog, cat or ferret is not revaccinated within 5 days, per NC GS 130A-197 the animal is not currently vaccinated.
4. If the mammal is unavailable for testing, proceed as if the results were positive for rabies.
5. In accordance with NC General Statute 130A-197.