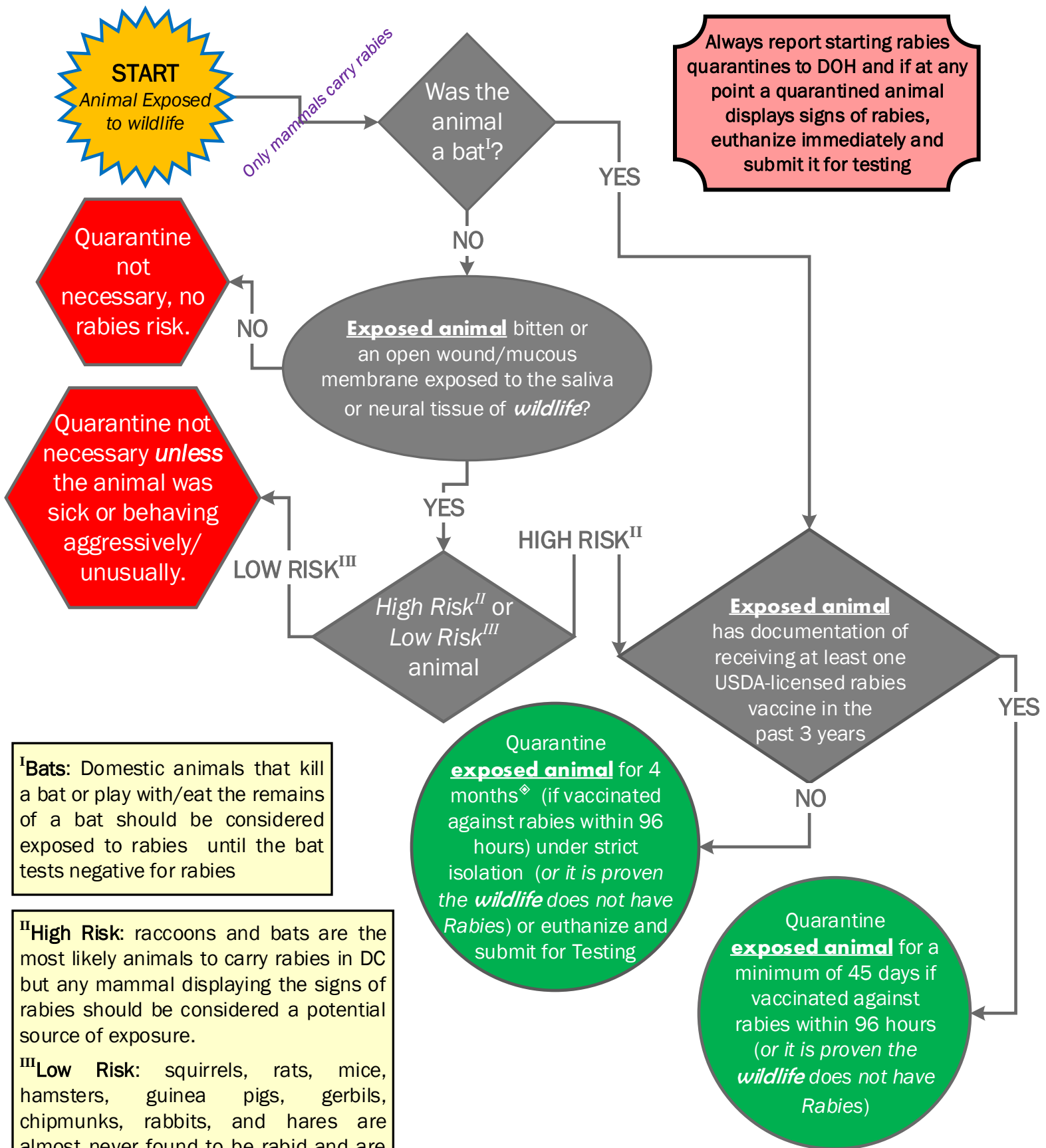


# DC Department of Health Guidelines for Quarantining Domestic Animals for Rabies: Animal Exposed to Wildlife



Always report starting rabies quarantines to DOH and if at any point a quarantined animal displays signs of rabies, euthanize immediately and submit it for testing

<sup>I</sup>**Bats:** Domestic animals that kill a bat or play with/eat the remains of a bat should be considered exposed to rabies until the bat tests negative for rabies

<sup>II</sup>**High Risk:** raccoons and bats are the most likely animals to carry rabies in DC but any mammal displaying the signs of rabies should be considered a potential source of exposure.

<sup>III</sup>**Low Risk:** squirrels, rats, mice, hamsters, guinea pigs, gerbils, chipmunks, rabbits, and hares are almost never found to be rabid and are considered low risk.

Note: For any exposure involving an opossum contact DOH for consultation at [rabies.info@dc.gov](mailto:rabies.info@dc.gov)

If not vaccinated within the recommended time in each respective end point, a longer quarantine period is required and DOH should be consulted

◊ Quarantine ferrets for 6 months where 4 month quarantine periods are indicated