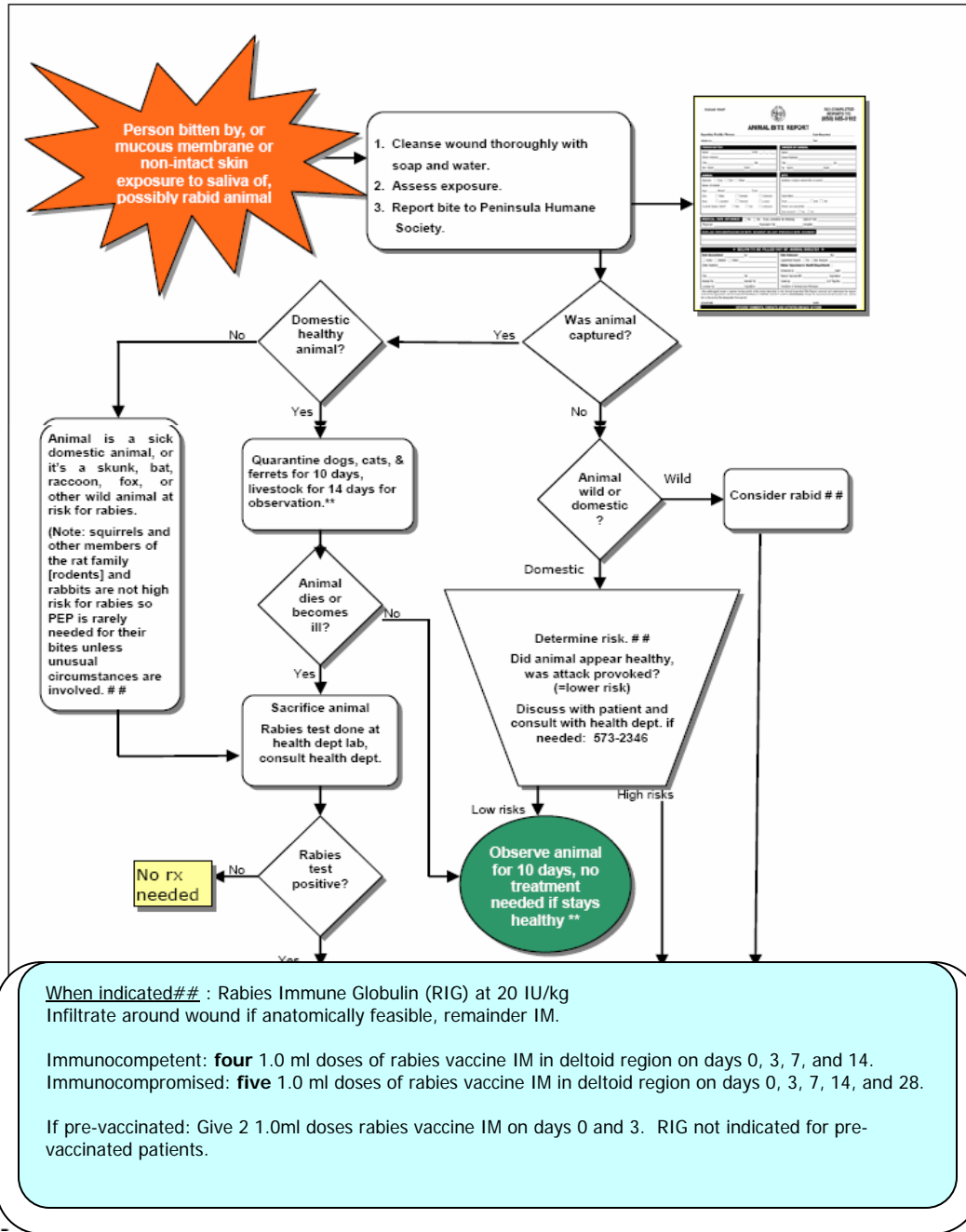


Rabies Post-exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Guide



**Detain and clinically observe for 10 days any healthy-appearing dog, cat, or ferret known to have bitten a person (unwanted dogs and cats may be euthanized immediately and examined for rabies by fluorescent microscopy). Dogs and cats showing signs suspicious for rabies should be sacrificed and tested for rabies. If the biting animal was infective at the time of the bite, rabies will usually develop within 4-7 days, followed by death. All wild mammals that have bitten a person should be sacrificed immediately so the brain can be examined for evidence of rabies.

Bites from squirrels, rats, mice, chipmunk, gophers, other rodents, hamsters, guinea pigs, gerbils, rabbits and hares almost never call for rabies prophylaxis. However, each case should be reviewed to ensure that abnormal behavior or unusual circumstances are not involved with the animal, as any mammal can develop rabies. Bats should be considered rabid unless captured, tested, and results are negative.