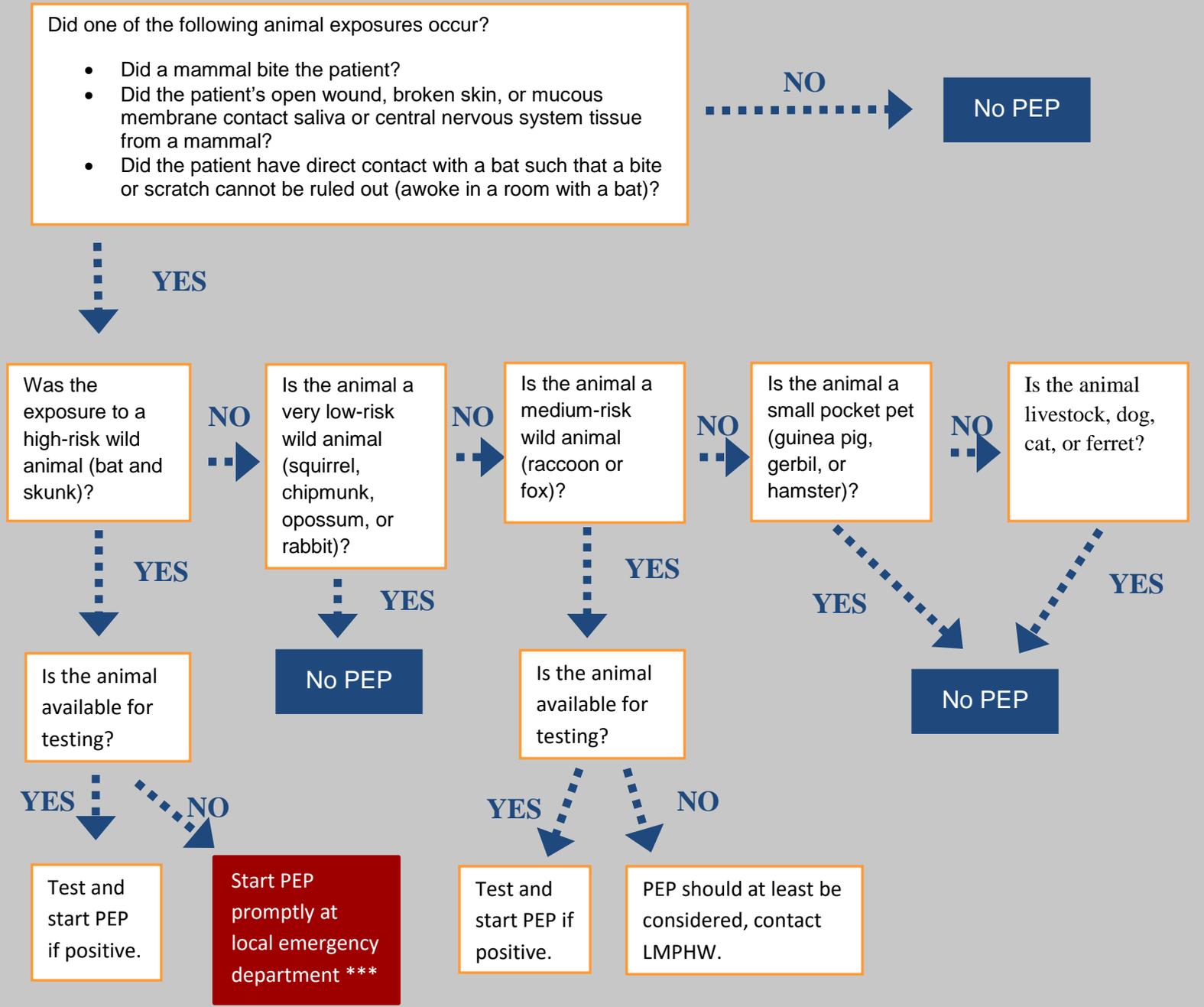




DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS:

Animal Bite Exposure Rating and Recommended Rabies Treatment Rationale

In Kentucky both animal bites and administering rabies PEP to an individual are reportable to the local health department.



- \*\*\*PEP = rabies immune globulin: total dose is 20 units/kg body weight; patient can then be referred to the Louisville Public Health & Wellness or their primary care provider for vaccine administration (1 ml, IM, 1 each on days 0, 3, 7, and 14). Some Walgreens and Kroger Little Clinics also offer these vaccines and accept private insurance.
  - If you are referring a patient to another facility to complete the series please provide the patient with a prescription for the remaining vaccinations (see addendum for example prescriptions). Also encourage the patient to check with their insurance company to find out where their insurance would be accepted for the treatment.
  - In Jefferson County, rabies testing results since 1989: 1 rabid skunk (1994) and 14 rabid bats. **There have been no rabid dogs, cats or livestock in Louisville/Jefferson County during the last 27 years.**
  - Because some bat bites are so tiny they are difficult to see, any time a bat is found in the room of a sleeping person, in the room with an unattended child or near a mentally impaired or intoxicated person, seek medical advice and have the bat tested for rabies.
  - Always administer a tetanus vaccine if no booster had been given in 10 years and perform appropriate wound cleaning. For additional information please visit: [http://www.cdc.gov/rabies/medical\\_care/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/rabies/medical_care/index.html)
- This document was last reviewed on July 19, 2016 by state and local health officials familiar with the epidemiology of rabies in Kentucky.