VETERINARIAN GUIDANCE ALGORITHM

**DOG OR CAT EXPOSED TO A POTENTIALLY RABID ANIMAL**

**Do you suspect an animal has rabies?**

- **Yes**
  - If the suspected rabid animal is unable to be tested, contact the ADS epi-on-call at (405) 271-4060 to discuss recommendations.

- **No**
  - Are you able to send in the head/brain of the suspected rabid animal to the OSDH Public Health Lab for testing?
    - **Yes**
      - Contact the ADS epi-on-call at (405) 271-4060 to discuss recommendations.
    - **No**
      - Did the animal expose a dog or cat?
        - **Yes**
          - Submit the animal for rabies testing.
        - **No**
          - **Has the dog or cat ever been vaccinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian in its lifetime?**
            - **No**
              - **If the rabies result for the suspected rabid animal is positive and the dog or cat was exposed:**
                1. The dog or cat may be euthanized immediately either by a veterinarian or the local animal control officer; OR
                2. Immediately (within 96 hours from the time of exposure) be given a USDA-licensed booster rabies vaccination and be placed in quarantine for 4 months under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.
            - **Yes**
              - **Does the owner or veterinarian have documentation showing the dog or cat was vaccinated for rabies by a licensed veterinarian in its lifetime?**
                - **No**
                  - **If the rabies result is positive and the dog or cat was exposed:**
                    1. Booster with USDA-licensed rabies vaccine. The vaccine must be administered by or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.
                    2. The dog or cat should then be isolated by leashing or confinement under the owner’s supervision, for a period of at least 45 days from the date of exposure to the rabid animal.
                - **Yes**
                  - An ADS epidemiologist will work with the owner and veterinarian to complete the follow-up.
                    1. The dog or cat shall receive a rabies vaccine booster administered by or under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.
                    2. The dog or cat shall then be placed in home quarantine by leashing or confinement under the owner’s supervision, for a period of at least 45 days from the date of exposure to the rabid animal.
                    3. A health assessment will need to be completed by a licensed veterinarian at the end of the 45-day quarantine.

  - **No**
    - **If more than 96 hours will pass between the date of exposure and nal rabies lab result, proceed by collecting 1-2 mL of serum from the dog or cat for possible PSM. Label the serum appropriately and keep refrigerated. After serum collection, administer USDA-licensed rabies vaccine.
    - **If the rabies result is positive and the dog or cat was exposed:**
      1. The dog or cat may be euthanized immediately either by a veterinarian or the local animal control officer; OR
      2. Immediately be given a booster rabies vaccination and be place into quarantine for 4 months under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian; OR
      3. Prior to administering a booster vaccination, the owner may work with the licensed veterinarian to conduct PSM. Please refer to the Prospective Serologic Monitoring document.