

# Rabies Risk Assessment Algorithm For Domestic Animals (Dogs & Cats)

Does the animal have clear signs consistent with rabies that cannot be explained by another condition, as determined by a veterinarian?

No

Yes

Can the animal be placed in a 10-day animal control quarantine or observed?

Obtain rabies risk assessment from the appropriate health department.

*If the animal is able to be quarantined, but is instead immediately euthanized, the head can be submitted to an alternative laboratory for a fee.*

No

Yes

**DO NOT SUBMIT\***

- Quarantine or observe. If the animal dies or becomes ill during the 10-day quarantine, contact the appropriate health department.
- Obtain rabies risk assessment.

Is the animal currently vaccinated for rabies?

No/Unknown

Yes

Obtain rabies risk assessment from the appropriate health department.

- No rabies risk assessment needed
- Do not submit for testing\*

*All domestic animal specimens must have approval by the appropriate public health agency after a rabies risk assessment has been conducted. This is usually done at ADHS, however, first review of specimens may be delegated to the epidemiology staff at a local health department after they have been given training by ADHS. At present, only Maricopa County Department of Public Health has received this training. Please contact Maricopa County Epidemiology at (602)747-7111 if your specimen was collected in that jurisdiction, otherwise contact ADHS at (602)364-4562. Final authority to approve submission for testing rests with the ADHS Vector-borne & Zoonotic Disease Program.*

*\*If you have completed this algorithm and feel that the specimen still needs to be submitted for rabies testing, please contact the appropriate agency for authorization.*