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

**START**
Animal exposed to domestic animal

1. **Exposed animal** bitten or an open wound/mucous membrane exposed to the saliva or neural tissue of the **exposing animal**?
   - **YES**
     - **Exposed animal** has documentation of receiving at least one USDA-licensed rabies vaccine in the past 3 years
       - **YES**
         - Quarantine exposed animal for a minimum of 45 days if vaccinated against rabies within 96 hours (or it is proven the exposing animal does not have Rabies)
       - **NO**
         - **Exposing animal** captured?
           - **YES**
             - Quarantine exposed animal for 45 days (or until exposing animal successfully completes a 10 day quarantine)
           - **NO**
             - **Exposing animal** displaying signs of rabies
               - **YES**
                 - Quarantine exposed animal for a minimum of 45 days if vaccinated against rabies within 96 hours (or it is proven the exposing animal does not have Rabies)
               - **NO**
                 - Quarantine exposed animal for 4 months* under strict isolation or euthanize and submit for testing

   - **NO**
     - **Exposed animal** has documentation of receiving at least one USDA-licensed rabies vaccine in the past 3 years
       - **YES**
         - Quarantine exposed animal for 4 months* if vaccinated against rabies within 96 hours (or until exposing animal successfully completes a 10 day quarantine)
       - **NO**
         - Quarantine exposed animal for 4 months* under strict isolation or euthanize and submit for testing

2. **Exposed animal** has documentation of receiving at least one USDA-licensed rabies vaccine in the past 3 years
   - **YES**
     - Quarantine exposed animal for a minimum of 45 days if vaccinated against rabies on the first day of the quarantine
   - **NO**
     - Exposing animal captured?
       - **YES**
         - Quarantine exposed animal for 4 months (or until exposing animal successfully completes a 10 day quarantine)
       - **NO**
         - **Exposing animal** displaying signs of rabies
           - **YES**
             - Quarantine exposed animal for a minimum of 45 days if vaccinated against rabies within 96 hours (or it is proven the exposing animal does not have Rabies)
           - **NO**
             - Quarantine exposed animal for 4 months* under strict isolation or euthanize and submit for testing

3. **Exposed animal** has documentation of receiving at least one USDA-licensed rabies vaccine in the past 3 years
   - **YES**
     - Quarantine exposed animal for 4 months* if vaccinated against rabies within 96 hours (or until exposing animal successfully completes a 10 day quarantine)
   - **NO**
     - Quarantine exposed animal for 4 months* under strict isolation or euthanize and submit for testing

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**Exposed animal**: The animal that is bitten, scratched, or exposed to the saliva or neural tissue of the exposing animal.

**Exposing animal**: The animal that bites, scratches, or transfers its saliva or neural tissue to another animal.

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

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