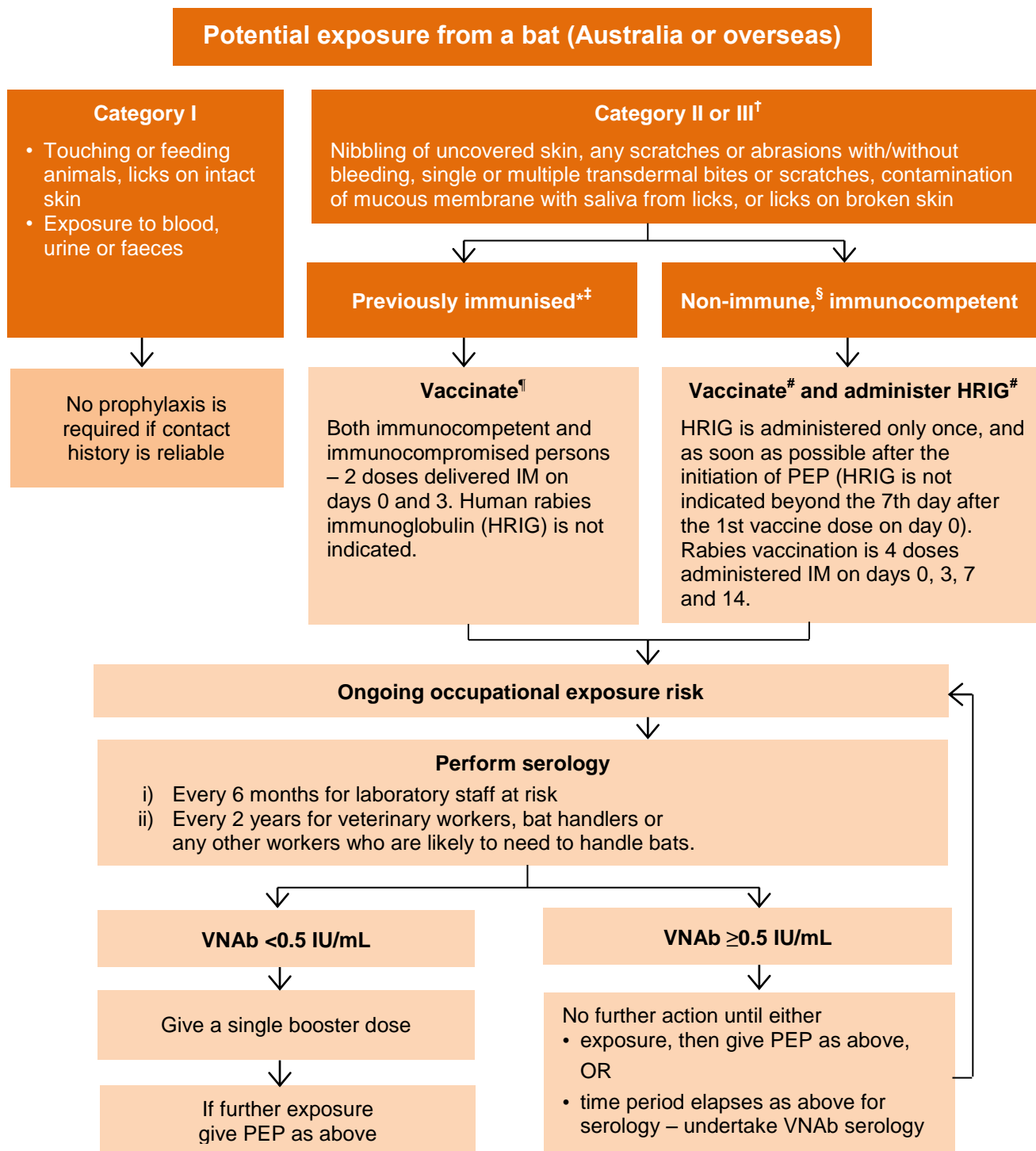


Figure 4.16.2: Post-exposure prophylaxis algorithm for potential exposure to lyssaviruses from bats in Australia or overseas



* If in doubt, treat as non-immune.

† Includes situations where the exposure may be difficult to categorise because a person is unaware or unable to communicate that an exposure has occurred when in close proximity to a bat.

‡ Previously immunised – documentation of a completed recommended PreP or PEP rabies vaccine regimen. This is irrespective of the time period since the last dose was administered. This may either be a completed primary pre-exposure course or post-exposure course and includes those where subsequent boosting has occurred, or documented rabies antibody (VNAbs) titres of ≥ 0.5 IU/mL.

§ Non-immune – person who has never received pre- or post-exposure immunisation with rabies vaccine or has had incomplete/inadequate primary vaccination course.

¶ Immunocompromised persons, previously immunised, should have serological testing 14 to 21 days after the 2nd dose to confirm acceptable VNAbs levels. If the result is < 0.5 IU/mL, expert advice should be sought regarding the total number of doses required for PEP.

Immunocompromised persons, not previously vaccinated, should receive 5 doses of vaccine on days 0, 3, 7, 14 and 28. Serology should be checked 14 to 21 days post dose 5 and a further dose offered if the result is < 0.5 IU/mL. In immunocompromised persons, HRIG should be administered if a Category II or III exposure.