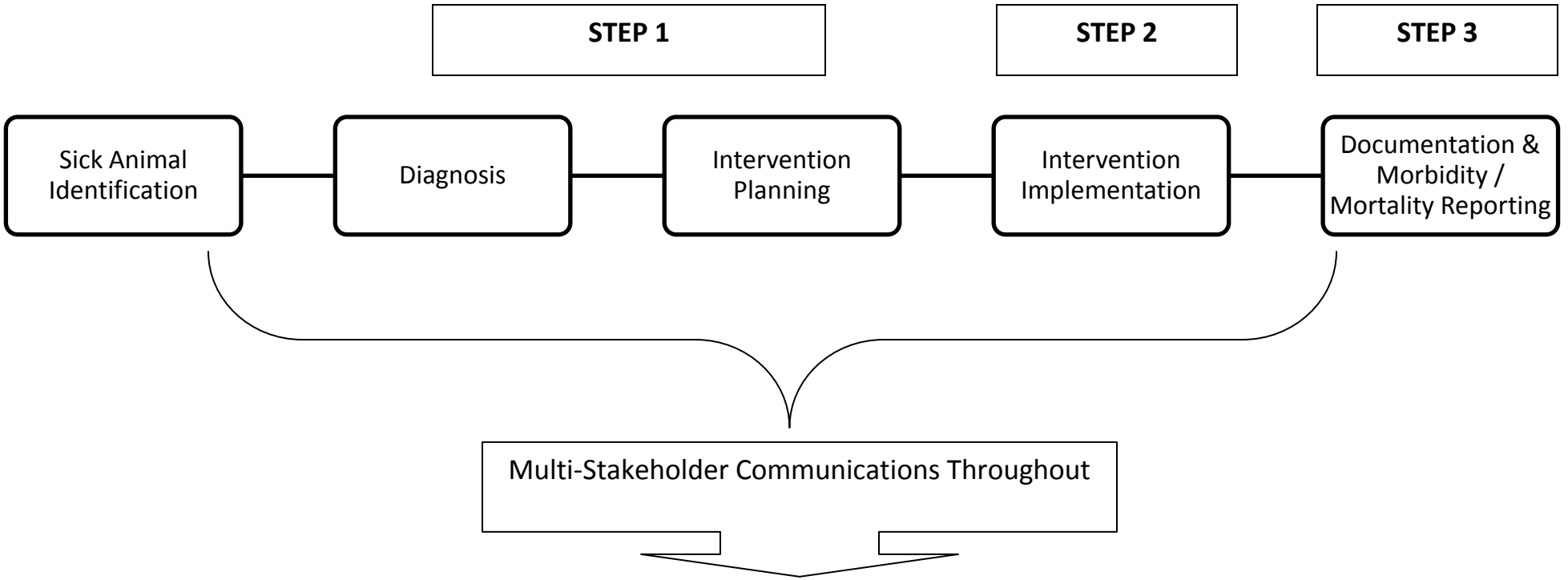
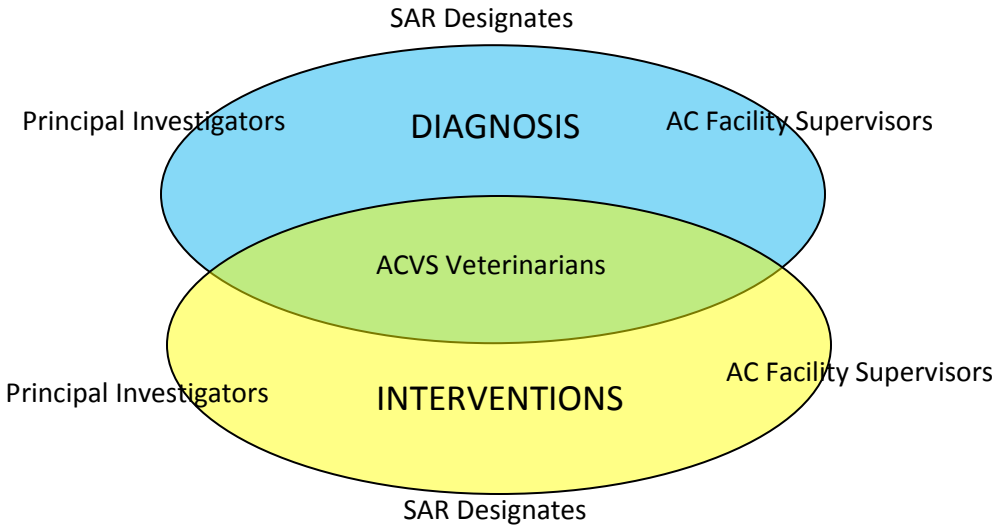
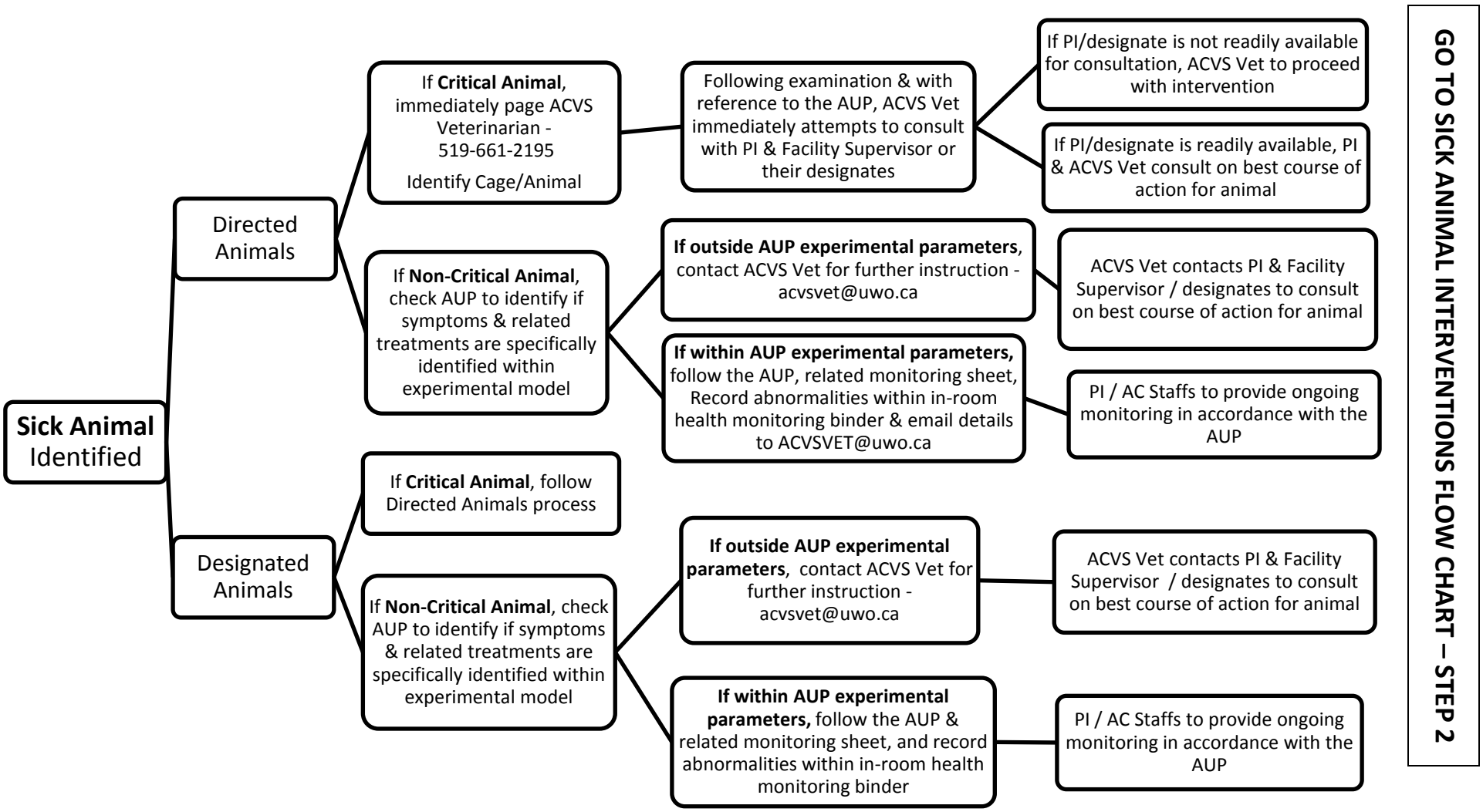
Sick Animal Response – Processes Overview





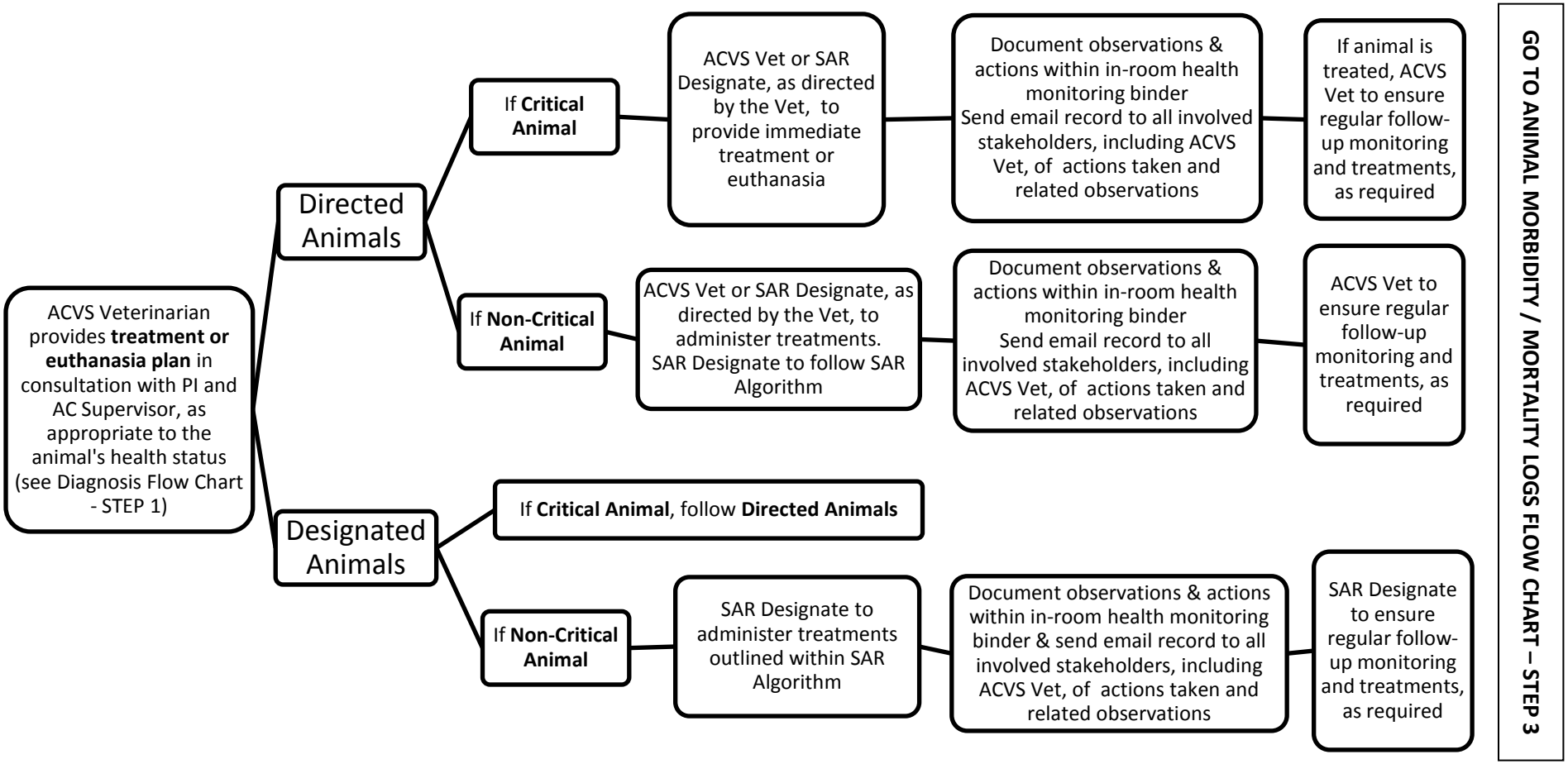
Sick Animal Response – Process for Sick Animal Diagnosis – STEP 1



Sick Animal Response – Process for Sick Animal Diagnosis – STEP 1

- **Sick Animal –** Any animal that presents clinical signs reflecting a health and welfare concern – physiological, psychological, and/or behavioural - related or unrelated to experimental design
- **Critical Animal –** A *sick animal* having serious to severe health concerns, as determined by an ACVS Veterinarian, that requires immediate intervention in order to relieve unnecessary or unacceptable pain or suffering
- **Directed Animals –**
    - Species - Pigs, sheep, dogs, cats, non-human primates, and rabbits
    - Conditions as determined by the ACC or an ACVS Veterinarian
    - Any sick animal with critical (serious to severe) health concerns
    - Any sick animals associated with experimental groups experiencing increased morbidity
    - Any animal identified by an ACVS veterinarian or the ACC to require his/her direct involvement on a case-by-case basis
- **Designated Animals –** All other animals than those identified as *Directed Animals* whose initial diagnosis and treatment have been designated to SAR *Designates*, e.g. Animal Care Supervisors, PIs, and their staffs.
    - Includes all species not listed as directed, e.g. rodents, birds and fish
    - Non-critical health concerns
    - Non-critical sick animal associated with experimental groups with no known history of increased morbidity
    - Non-critical animal not identified by an ACVS veterinarian or the ACC to require his/her direct involvement
- **Experimental Parameters –** ACC pre-approved (via AUP) experimental conditions, procedures or research models directly attributable to the research purpose that may alter an animal's normal physical, psychological and/or behavioural state, e.g. spinal cord injury model: lower limb paralysis

Sick Animal Response – Process for Sick Animal Interventions – STEP 2



Sick Animal Response – Process for Sick Animal Interventions – STEP 2

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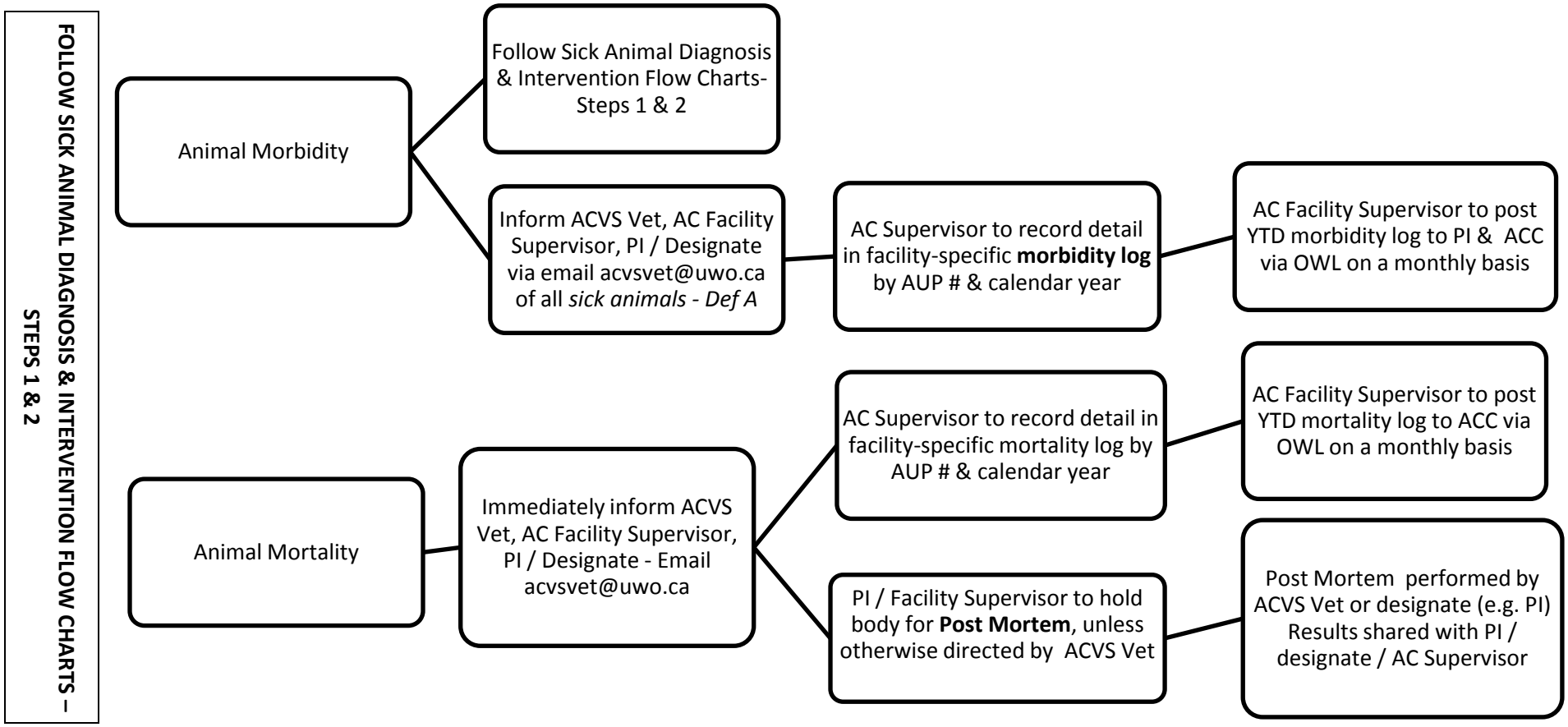
    - Non-critical health concerns
    - Non-critical sick animal associated with experimental groups with no known history of increased morbidity
    - Non-critical animal not identified by an ACVS veterinarian or the ACC to require his/her direct involvement
- **SAR Algorithms –** *Sick animal* diagnosis and treatment decision trees/plans developed by ACVS Veterinarians in conjunction with SAR Designates and PIs and followed by *SAR Designates*
- **SAR Designate –** An ACVS-veterinarian-approved competent individual who is designated to follow ACVS veterinary *SAR Algorithms* and act under the instruction of an ACVS Veterinarian in sick animal interventions

Sick Animal Response – Animal Morbidity / Mortality Logs – STEP 3



- **Animal Morbidity –**
  - **A.** *For Purposes of Veterinary Interventions & Post Mortems* **-** Any *sick animal*'s condition that is beyond the experimental parameters identified in the related AUP
  - **B.** *For Purposes of Morbidity Log Record-Keeping*– All *sick animals*
- **Animal Mortality –** Any animal that has died under any circumstance or condition, with the exception of one that has reached its experimental endpoint as outlined within the related AUP. Includes animals found dead and morbid animals requiring early euthanasia
- **Experimental Parameters –** ACC pre-approved (via AUP) experimental conditions, procedures or research models directly attributable to the research purpose that may alter an animal's normal physical, psychological and/or behavioural state, e.g. spinal cord injury model: lower limb paralysis
- **Sick Animal –** Any animal that presents clinical signs reflecting a health and welfare concern – physiological, psychological, and/or behavioural - related or unrelated to experimental design