

PET VISITING IN THE HOSPITAL

Although Providence Care recognizes that a visit from a pet is therapeutic, the hospital has a responsibility to protect its clients' and staffs' health and safety.

Some people are allergic to dogs and cats. There are diseases such as rabies and salmonella that are transmitted from animals to humans. This potential disease transmission is a particular risk to persons with compromised medical conditions. Some animals are nervous and irritable in strange environments and may act unpredictably.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP EVERYONE SAFE BY RESPECTING THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS

- ◆ The visit must be approved in advance by the Program Manager to ensure the client is well enough for a visit. (If the client has a roommate, that roommate must also be able and willing for the visit to occur.)
- ◆ The visit is restricted to a visit by a single dog or cat. The animal must belong to the client, not to a friend or family member.
- ◆ The pet owner is responsible for providing proof of up-to-date vaccinations and ensuring that the animal is over one (1) year of age, free of skin lesions, diarrhea, fleas, ticks and other parasites, and is good tempered, house trained and obedient.
- ◆ Visits will occur in the client's room and during regular visiting hours (11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.).
- ◆ Visits will not occur in public spaces such as a main lobby.
- ◆ Pets must be on a leash or caged when being walked through the facility or on Providence Care grounds. Pets are to remain accompanied and under control at all times.
- ◆ The pet owner is responsible for bringing their own receptacle for pet drinking water and for cleaning up any messes.

If you have questions, please contact the Program Manager of the unit.