

202.PET THERAPY.

01. Policies and Procedures. Policies and procedures shall be developed by the facility concerning the admission of pets through a visitation program or on a permanent basis. (1-1-88)

02. Type of Pet Allowed. Types of pets allowed shall be as follows: (1-1-88)

a. Only domesticated household pets (dogs, cats, birds, fish, hamsters, etc.) are permitted. Exotic pets and wild animals, even though trained, shall not be permitted due to the high potential for spread of disease and injury to patients/residents or staff. These include, but are not limited to, iguanas, snakes and other reptiles, monkeys, racoons and skunks. Turtles are not permitted in the facility. (1-1-88)

b. If animals that are prohibited as designated in Subsection 202.02.a. of these rules are brought in for visitation, they shall be kept on a leash and under the control of the trainer at all times. (1-1-88)

03. Examination of Pets. Pets shall receive an examination by a veterinarian prior to admission to the facility. Appropriate vaccinations shall be given. Birds subject to transmission of psittacosis are included. (1-1-88)

04. Enclosures. Small animals such as hamsters and birds shall be kept in enclosures. (1-1-88)

05. Permitted Areas. Pets shall not be allowed in food preparation or storage areas or any other area if their presence would pose a significant risk to patients/residents, staff or visitors. (1-1-88)

06. Interference. The presence of pets shall not interfere with the health and rights of other individuals, i.e., noise, odor, allergies and interference with the free movement of individuals about the facility. (1-1-88)