

Sherwood Park Manor

Subject: Pet Therapy and Visiting Pets	Issue Date: Oct. 4, 2010 Revisal Date: December 11, 2014	Location: Employee Handbook Pages: 2
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Policy: To offer the residents a home like atmosphere and to provide joy, happiness and memories of the pleasant times they spent with their pets, Sherwood Park Manor encourages Pet Therapy Life Enrichment programs. Visits from family or friends pets will also be allowed as long as they meet Infection Control guidelines and provide a copy of current vaccination.

Procedure:

1. Only cats and dogs will be permitted access to SPM.
2. The owner must sign a visit log on entering the facility.
3. The owner must verify the animal has current and up to date vaccinations. A file will be maintained in the Life Enrichment department.
4. The animal must be examined by a veterinarian yearly and found to be free from communicable diseases and parasites and be on a flea control program. The animal must not show emaciation, lesions of the skin, nervous system disturbances, jaundice or diarrhea.
5. Animals must be clean and well groomed. Nails must be short with no rough edges.
6. Animals must be house trained, good tempered, obedient and under control of the owner at all times. They are to be kept on a short leash or in a carrier or basket.
7. Animals are excluded from food prep areas, dining areas, laundry, supply areas, medication prep areas, bathrooms, tubrooms and should not be on a resident's bed.
8. Animals are allowed in common areas of the home such as sitting areas and resident rooms as long as there is no isolation precaution signage outside the room.
9. Animals are not to lick or be in contact with a resident's open wound.

10. Hand hygiene must be performed before and after handling animals. Soap and water is to be used if hands are visibly soiled. Alcohol based hand rub may be used if hands are not visibly soiled.
11. Owners must report any scratches, bites, or other inappropriate animal behaviour to registered nursing staff.
12. Owners are responsible for their pets and must ensure they clean up after the animal both inside and outside the facility.
13. Resident and Family Services Manager is the designated animal visit liaison. She will provide support and facilitate animal handlers visiting the facility. If there are questions about the appropriateness of an animal at SPM (behaviour, cleanliness etc) the Resident and Family Services Manager will be responsible for intervening and assessing the situation. In her absence the charge nurse will fulfill this responsibility.

Reference: APIC text of Infection Control and Epidemiology 2005