

Requirements	Met	Not Met	Comments
<b>INITIAL PROCESS</b>			
Obtain regulations your local Board of Health has regarding animals in healthcare facilities and have available onsite.			
There is evidence of communication with Infection Control Preventionist, Patient Care Services, Rehabilitation Services, Housekeeping and Risk Management that ensure a robust assessment for having animals in the care setting from every angle.			
A risk assessment is performed prior to implementing the program.			
<b>ORGANIZATION'S RESPONSIBILITIES</b>			
Obtain the handler's background check.			
Obtain the pet health records.			
Ensure all vaccinations are up to date for the animal and that the animal is in good health.			
Maintain records on each animal permitted to enter the organization.			
Provide orientation to the facility for the handlers.			
Review all appropriate infection control policies with the handlers. Ensure they also understand their responsibility regarding privacy and confidentiality of patient information.			
Determine who is responsible for cleaning up after the animal.			
Determine who is responsible for providing/cleaning water/food bowl for the animal.			
<b>HANDLER'S RESPONSIBILITIES (EDUCATION TO BE PROVIDED BY THE ORGANIZATION)</b>			
Clean all surfaces that the animals may have licked or put into their mouth.			
Obtain permission for pet therapy from patient.			
Ensure that the patient is not allergic to the pet therapy animal.			
Educate patients regarding handwashing before and after touching the animal.			
What are the responsibilities of the pet owner/handler?			
Provide evidence that all vaccinations are up-to-date and that the animal is in good health. <b>Never bring a sick animal into the organization.</b>			
Ensure that the animal is clean including their collar, leash, and harness. Leashes should be cleaned/disinfected before arriving to the			

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organization as well as after the animal leaves for the day.			
Before and after every contact, the handler and anyone petting or having contact with the animal need to wash their hands.			
Do not allow animals to lick or “kiss” those that they come in contact with.			
Keep the animal at least 6 feet away from those not participating in the visit.			
Handler should follow all infection control policies of the organization, i.e., handwashing, masking, etc.			
Ensure that the handler always maintains control of the animal.			