1. The animal should be clean and well groomed within 24 hours of visit.
2. Allow pets to walk outside prior to visiting. Animal excrement shall be collected and properly disposed of by the volunteer.
3. Sign in on Volunteer Touch Screen (or log hours online).
4. Pets will visit in approved areas and will be contained by leash at all times. Visits are not permitted in NICU, CICU, SICU, MICU or CSR inpatient rooms. Nor are they permitted in isolated or immunocompromised patient rooms, such as 2A (Oncology rooms 2101-2140).

In addition, formal eating and food preparation areas are excluded.

Inpatient Units (room numbers)

1A Neuroscience (1102-1140)

1B Women’s Health (1201-1223)

1C Family Birth Place (1302-1347)

2B Urology (2222-2240)

2C Peri. Dialysis & AFB (2301-2332)

3C Pulmonary (3301-3332)

4D TCU (4401-4436)

5D TCU (5401-5436)

6D TCU (6401-6436)

7D Orthopedics (7401-7436)

Hospice

Approved Visit Locations are:

Waiting Rooms

Cardiology (1)

CICU (5)

CSR (2)

Emergency (1)

MICU (3)

Outpatient Services (G)

Radiology (1)

Registration (G)

SICU (2)

Surgery (2)

1. All participating patients and volunteers are encouraged to perform hand hygiene with soap and water or with hand sanitizer before and after the visit. Animals should not contact medical devices, tubes, lines, dressing, wounds, etc. They should not visit with patients during times of eating or drinking.
2. When Therapy pets arrive on a nursing unit, please check in with a staff member to inform them of their presence on the unit and identify both patients who would benefit from a visit and those whom the Therapy pet should refrain from seeing.
3. If a pet is placed on a bed, per patient request, a barrier such as a blanket or sheet must be placed on the bed and laundered after use. New blankets and sheets can be obtained from staff.
4. Any adverse occurrences during the visit must be reported to the charge nurse by the animal attendant, and documented on the “Patient/Visitor Occurrence Report” by hospital staff. Animal bites are reported to infection Control.
5. Sign out on Volunteer Touch Screen (or log hours online).