



LAUDERDALE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

PATIENT CARE POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Effective Date: 3/2018 Header Revision: 3/2018	PATIENT OWN PET VISITATION
Last Revision/Rev:	
Reference #: PC.0001.00.PETVISTATION	

PURPOSE: To provide guidelines for a patient's own pet to visit in the hospital setting

Policy:

1. Patients may have their own pets visit them while they are in the hospital – as long as they meet certain requirements outlined in this policy.
2. The pet must be healthy and hold a current annual immunization record. This will become part of the patient's medical record along with the "Owned per Visitation Conditions and Agreement". The charge nurse will ensure this is complete and present on the patient's medical record.
3. The pet must not have any draining or open wounds.
4. The pet must be clean and free of fleas and ticks.
5. The pet may ONLY visit the owner/patient. The pet may not visit other patients.
6. The pet must stay in the room with the patient, or with the patient in other designated areas.
7. The pet must be on a leash at all times and be brought into the hospital by someone who will be responsible for them during the entire visit.
8. Pets may not spend the night.
9. Pets must relieve themselves before coming into the hospital. The person responsible for the pet will also be responsible for cleaning up any pet elimination inside of the hospital.
10. Pets must be able to come into the hospital and leave the hospital without exhibiting any aggressive behavior.
11. Any pet that exhibits aggressive behavior toward staff, patients, or visitors will have to leave the building and hospital grounds.
12. Pets that bark or are loud and bothersome to other patients will have to leave the building but may be visited outside.
13. No pets will be permitted in Radiology, Central Supply, Purchasing, Laboratory, Dining Room, Outpatient Department, HIM, RT, Cardiac Rehab, Admissions, or the Emergency Department.
14. Nursing staff members may end a pet visit at any time per their discretion.
15. All pet visits are at the discretion of the Nursing Staff.