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Chapter 411@ DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, AGING AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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Division 86@ NURSING FACILITIES/LICENSING - ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES

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Section 411-086-0340@ Pets

411-086-0340 Pets

(1)

Pets Allowed. Household pets (dogs, cats, birds, fish, hamsters, etc.) are permitted in the nursing facility under the following conditions: (a) Pets must be clean and disease-free; (b) Immediate environment of pets must be kept clean; (c) Small pets (e.g., birds, hamsters) must be kept in appropriate enclosures; (d) Pets not confined in enclosures must be hand held, under leash control, or under voice control; and (e) Pets that are kept at the facility (or are frequent visitors) shall have current vaccinations as recommended by a designated licensed veterinarian (including, but not limited to, rabies).

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(e)

Pets that are kept at the facility (or are frequent visitors) shall have current vaccinations

as recommended by a designated licensed veterinarian (including, but not limited to, rabies).

(2)

Areas Pets Prohibited. Pets are not permitted in food preparation or storage areas. Pets shall not be permitted in any area where their presence would create a significant risk or annoyance to residents.

(3)

Administrative Control. The administrator or his/her designee shall determine which pets may be brought into the facility. Family members may bring resident's pets to visit provided they have approval from the administrator and offer reasonable assurance that the pets are clean, disease-free, and vaccinated as appropriate.

(4)

Overnight Stay. Facilities with pets that are kept overnight shall have written policies and procedures for the care, feeding, and housing of such pets and for the proper storage of pet food and supplies.

(5)

Birds. Facilities with birds shall have procedures which protect residents, staff, and visitors from psittacosis. Procedures should ensure minimum handling of droppings. Droppings shall be placed in a plastic bag for disposal. Persons caring for the bird(s) shall not have nursing care or food handling responsibilities.

(6)

Exotic Pets Prohibited. Exotic pets (i.e., iguanas, snakes, other reptiles, monkeys, ferrets) shall not be kept at the facility. If exotic pets are brought in for a visit, they must be attended at all times by their owners. Skunks, foxes, and raccoons are not permitted in nursing facilities.