



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB BRANCH VETERINARY SERVICES
OHIO DISTRICT VALLEY VETERINARY COMMAND
DAYTON, OH 45433-5734

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

MCVS-ATA-KW

21 October 2009

VETERINARY TREATMENT FACILITY (VTF) CHILDREN POLICY-WPAFB

1. The VTF is not an environment conducive to children and can present a number of hazards to their health and welfare. Possible hazards include: injury from an animal bite or scratch, zoonotic disease agent such as bacteria and parasites that can be transmitted to children and may cause serious or even life-threatening illnesses, injury from implements integral for the practice of veterinary medicine to include needles, blades, scissors, and other sharp objects or from the chemicals and medicines.
2. We recognize that it is not always practical or financially possible for clients and service members to avoid bringing children with them when they visit the VTF. Consequently, we will not initially refuse veterinary services to anyone simply because children accompany them. However, we encourage clients to make other arrangements for their children if at all possible, and to bring them to the VTF only when it is absolutely unavoidable.
3. While in the VTF, children will remain under the direct control of the adult(s) who brought them. The VTF staff will NOT provide childcare services or temporary supervision of children before, during and/or after the appointment. The client is responsible for making sure that children behave with proper restraint and decorum. Specifically, clients will ensure children: keep their shoes and other clothing on at all times while in the VTF, do not crawl, sit or play on the VTF floor or counters, do not approach or attempt to pet other clients' animals, do not wander or run freely about the VTF, do not distract VTF staff members from their duties, do not attempt to touch or play with any medical implements, equipment, drugs, vaccines, sharps, computers, keyboards, etc., and do not yell while in the VTF.
4. If at any time the VTF OIC/NCOIC or military/civilian staff determines that a child is behaving in a manner such as to disrupt the provision of professional services or such as to pose a risk of injury or illness to the child or others, the appointment may be immediately terminated and the client, children, and pets will be asked to reschedule the appointment without children present.
5. If a client is asked to leave due to a disruptive child, they may be restricted from bringing children to any future veterinary appointments. However, VTF staff will try to accommodate the client by rescheduling their appointment at the end of the day or on specific child friendly days.
- 6. AT NO TIME WILL CHILDREN BE LEFT UNATTENDED AND WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION. THIS INCLUDES LEAVING CHILDREN IN WAITING ROOM, OUTSIDE, AND RESTRAINING ANIMALS.**

Owner's Signature: _____ Date: _____

OIC, Wright-Patterson AFB VTF