



SECTION: Pets

POLICY NAME: Visiting Restrictions

POLICY NUMBER: 410

APPLICABLE TO: all active visiting pets

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 6, 2014

LAST REVIEWED: January 17, 2017

RESPONSIBILITY OF: Executive Director

PALS Raw Food Animal Protein Diet Policy

As facility visitors (pet and handler team) of Pet Access League Society (PALS) Pet Visitation Program, the majority of the facility visits are in situations where they come into contact with individuals with suppressed and/or compromised immune systems. Due to the potential shedding of pathogenic bacteria, such as Salmonella and Listeria, feeding of a raw food animal protein diet to the visiting pet may result in a higher risk of infecting those with compromised immune systems. As a result animals that are being fed a raw food animal protein diet will be limited to facilities where clientele are not seen to have a suppressed and/or compromised immune system. Should any volunteer who currently feeds a raw food animal protein diet wish to change placements they must remain in facilities that fit this criteria, or must change their diet to acceptable food and wait the required 90-day waiting period before they are allowed to change facilities.

Please note: multiple pet households where an active visiting animal has access to food and/or the bowls used for feeding raw animal protein will result in the active visiting animal being unable to visit due to the very real possibility of eating the other pets' meals and cross-contamination.

This policy affects all PALS animals, regardless of species, breed or length of service.