

VANDERBILT  UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Exemptions: Animals in Vanderbilt University Medical Center Buildings	Category	Infection Prevention
	Approval Date	September 2024
	Effective Date	September 2024
	Supersedes	New

I. Restricted Areas for Animal Visitation:

- A. Animals are not allowed in restricted areas:
- a. Intensive care units (ICU);
 - b. Myelosuppression units
 - c. Procedural areas (e.g., operating rooms, endoscopy suites, cath labs, holding rooms, and post-anesthesia care units (PACU));
 - d. Isolation precaution rooms;
 - e. Multiple patient occupancy rooms;
 - f. Departments where the animal cannot be shielded from the treatment (e.g., radiology, radiation therapy, magnetic resonance imaging [MRI]);
 - g. Any area where visitors are restricted or required to wear gowns, gloves, or masks prior to entry.

Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis. Exception requests are made to the primary service attending physician. If the attending physician agrees the exception request is reasonable, the Department of Infection Prevention is consulted to grant the exception. Please refer to the Infection Prevention website for current list of approved exemptions <https://www.vumc.org/infection-prevention/vumc-department-infection-prevention>.

II. Exceptions to Restricted Area Visitation

- A. Facility Animals are allowed to visit the following areas at Monroe Carell Junior Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt:
1. Intensive care units (ICU)
 2. Myelosuppression units
 3. Procedural areas, holding rooms only.