

Rexi, the Therapy Dog, and the patients Interaction Rules in a Dr. Cuadra's Office

- 1) Patient/Rexi Consent – The patient and the dog must agree to interact with each other; no forced contact.
- 2) Gentle Behavior – The patient should avoid hard petting, grabbing, or pulling the dog.
- 3) Supervised Interaction – Dr Cuadra or Bea must always be present and attentive.
- 4) Respect Personal Space – If the patient or the dog shows discomfort, the dog should be redirected or removed.
- 5) Time Limits – Sessions should be appropriately timed to prevent overstimulation.
- 6) Emergency Protocol – If the patient or the dog shows distress, the interaction should end immediately.
- 7) Positive Reinforcement – Encourage gentle petting and reward calm behavior in both the patient and the dog.
- 8) End on a Good Note – Finish the session with a calm and positive experience for both the patient and the dog.