

Altaira recognizes that our staff often work in clients' homes where pets may pose a danger to you.

To reduce your risk of harm from pets:

- Ensure you have read the instructions provided to you prior to visiting a client. Any potential problem with a pet and strategies for avoiding harm should be documented.
- Do not enter a property where a dog is loose in the yard. Call the client to restrain the dog or call Altaira if you cannot call the client
- Never pet an animal without checking first with the owner
- Take care to avoid blind spots and approach animals slowly so that they are always aware of your presence.
- Talk softly as you approach an animal so it hears you coming. Avoid sudden movements
- Have an exit strategy. Don't allow yourself to get cornered. Maintain a clear path of escape at all times.
- Be aware of warning signs; dogs will growl, crouch, and bare their teeth when they feel threatened, cats will hiss, growl, lay ears back, twitch and/or puff up their tail
- Report any potential problems with pets to Altaira
- If you suffer any adverse effect or injury incurred as a result of a pet, seek medical attention immediately and report to Altaira

Document Name	Working with Pets	Authorised by	Clinical Operations Manager
Document Group	Work Instructions	Version No	1
Document Number	QMSW010	Issue Date	01/07/2017