

Bentley, the Therapy Dog

Canine Good Citizen Certified
Therapy Dog Certified





Several studies have shown the benefits of AAA in reducing pain, easing anxiety and improving mood in the pediatric setting.



The presence of trained animals can help lower anxiety. Bentley provides moral support by also wearing a mask as this anxious pediatric patient receives their much needed nebulizer treatment.



These trained animals partner with humans to bring comfort to patients. Bentley shows this patient his “booboo” as the patient’s dressing is being assessed by her nurse.



One final and unexpected advantage that AAA provided in the Wisconsin study was the touch factor. Direct contact with the animals met a need to be nurtured that was often missing during lengthy hospitalizations.





Bentley entertains a pediatric patient by pretending to autograph her new cast.

Parents scored their children's mood more positive after animal visits versus playroom activities.





Direct contact with the animals met a need to be nurtured that was often missing during lengthy hospitalizations, especially when Families were unable to visit often.



Parents witnessed a demonstration of positive emotions in their children when exposed to the animals, and perceived their children's moods to be more positive following AAA than pre-therapy or after playroom therapy.