Galya, (pronounced Gal-ya) is a 2 year-old yellow Labrador retriever, weighing 55 pounds. She came to Gaylord Hospital in September 2015. She has been raised and trained at an exclusive facility which places dogs with patients or healthcare providers. After a rigorous interview process with Heather Hancort, RN, Gaylord’s handler, Galya was the dog chosen to be placed with Heather and to be Gaylord’s newest employee, serving the Rehab Division.

Here to Help
Galya’s handler helps determine which patients would benefit from having her as part of their therapy program. Our therapists can incorporate fine and gross motor skills into a session with Galya. From retrieving objects to turning on the lights or shutting a door, patients recovering from brain and spinal cord injuries have the opportunity to interact. Some visits may focus on healing touch with downtime, depending on the patient’s specific situation.

Survey Says
Research has shown that animal-assisted therapy can help healing and lessen depression and fatigue. Dogs especially help people recover from or better cope with traumatic injuries.

Benefits of Gaylord’s therapy program with Galya:
- Reduced anxiety and depression
- Reduced pain and fatigue
- Increased optimism
- Increased interest in therapy activities
- Positive outlook on the future

Visits are usually 10-15 minutes at a time. Many times the patient and their family members are found smiling following Galya’s visit.

Meet our Newest Employee
Galya, (pronounced Gal-ya) is a 2 year-old yellow Labrador retriever, weighing 55 pounds. She came to Gaylord Hospital in September 2015. She has been raised and trained at an exclusive facility which places dogs with patients or healthcare providers. After a rigorous interview process with Heather Hancort, RN, Gaylord’s handler, Galya was the dog chosen to be placed with Heather and to be Gaylord’s newest employee, serving the Rehab Division.

Survey Says
Research has shown that animal-assisted therapy can help healing and lessen depression and fatigue. Dogs especially help people recover from or better cope with traumatic injuries.

Benefits of Gaylord’s therapy program with Galya:
- Reduced anxiety and depression
- Reduced pain and fatigue
- Increased optimism
- Increased interest in therapy activities
- Positive outlook on the future

Visits are usually 10-15 minutes at a time. Many times the patient and their family members are found smiling following Galya’s visit.

Meet our Newest Employee
Galya, (pronounced Gal-ya) is a 2 year-old yellow Labrador retriever, weighing 55 pounds. She came to Gaylord Hospital in September 2015. She has been raised and trained at an exclusive facility which places dogs with patients or healthcare providers. After a rigorous interview process with Heather Hancort, RN, Gaylord’s handler, Galya was the dog chosen to be placed with Heather and to be Gaylord’s newest employee, serving the Rehab Division.

Here to Help
Galya’s handler helps determine which patients would benefit from having her as part of their therapy program. Our therapists can incorporate fine and gross motor skills into a session with Galya. From retrieving objects to turning on the lights or shutting a door, patients recovering from brain and spinal cord injuries have the opportunity to interact. Some visits may focus on healing touch with downtime, depending on the patient’s specific situation.