



If the disease is in the advanced stages, a scale and polish will not treat the condition. All teeth badly affected will need to be extracted under general anaesthetic. It is always difficult to assess how many teeth will need to be extracted until we can have a proper look at them, and see how much gingival attachment has been lost. For this reason, we recommend every owner incorporate the following things into their pet's healthcare:

- Regular 6 monthly dental checks
- A good homecare regime
- A scale and polish at early stages of periodontal disease

Along with dental procedures, treatment of periodontal disease may involve a course of antibiotics and/or pain killers. It will also involve post-operative checks to ensure that the swelling and redness is reducing appropriately. It may be a month or more before the gums return to normal. If a good homecare regime is kept after a scale and polish the problem

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DENTAL CARE



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The most common problem in dogs and cats is dental disease.

Recent studies show that periodontal disease affects over 70% of dogs and cats over the age of 3 years old. It is also the most commonly undiagnosed problem in dogs and cats. The reasons for this are varied. Your dog or cat could show no signs of a problem, or slight changes in behaviour could be misinterpreted. For whatever reason, regular dental health checks are recommended to pets of any age at least every 6 months. This is an opportunity to catch any problems quickly before they become a real issue.

What is periodontal disease and why is it so important?

Periodontal disease is a chronic gum inflammation. Plaque builds up on and around teeth and causes the gums to become red and swollen. It is easily prevented and can be seen in many different stages:



Stage I Gingivitis

Plaque has built up. Gums are red and swollen. Treatment can reverse condition.

Stage II Early Periodontitis

Entire attached gum is inflamed and swollen. Mouth is painful and odour begins to be noticeable. Professional treatment and home dental care can prevent this from becoming irreversible.

Stage III Moderate Periodontitis

Cherry red and bleeding attached gum is being destroyed by infection and calculus (tartar). Sore mouth affects eating and behaviour. Bad breath is present. Beginning of periodontal disease. May be irreversible.



Stage IV Advanced Periodontitis

Chronic bacterial infection is destroying the gum, tooth and bone. Bacteria may be spreading throughout the entire body via the bloodstream and may damage the kidneys, liver and heart.

Periodontal disease is known to cause other medical problems in animals and is also caused by other medical conditions.

IF IN DOUBT, CHECK IT OUT!!

Treatment and homecare

A simple scale and polish at early stages of periodontal disease will usually solve the problem

Under general anaesthetic, you pet will have it's teeth ultrasonically cleaned. This removes any particles of tartar/calculus from the tooth's surface. Your pet's teeth are then polished using a high-speed polishing device, each individual tooth is polished to give the tooth a smooth and clean finish