

DENTAL GRADING FORM

NICE JOB!

No signs of plaque or tartar.

To keep your pet's teeth healthy, prevention is better than cure! We recommend brushing weekly, using a premium dog food and giving your dog Greenies to maintain good healthy teeth.



Home dental care is needed to maintain these healthy teeth and gums. Brushing your pet's teeth regularly is ideal. We recommend Royal Canin Dental formula to help maintain healthy teeth and Hexarinse to reduce bacteria in the mouth.

Grade 1/Mild Gingivitis



There is plaque and tartar on some teeth and early signs of gingivitis. Ultrasonic scaling & polishing is advised now, to restore oral health and prevent progressive disease. A homecare program as above is needed.

Grade 2/Moderate Gingivitis



Plaque and tartar is more widespread. The gums are likely to be inflamed & maybe painful. Bad breath is present. Unchecked gingivitis will lead to tooth loss. Dental cleaning to remove tartar is needed now. Tooth condition cannot always be assessed until tartar is removed. Extractions could be required. Unchecked, bacteria will spread through the blood and kidney and heart function will be at risk

Grade 3/Severe Gingivitis



Gingivitis is more advanced; gums are red and may bleed easily. Sore mouth and bad breath. Tooth extractions will be required. A dental procedure is required to restore oral health and comfort. Unchecked, bacteria will spread through the blood and kidney and heart function will be at risk.

Grade 4/Periodontal Disease



As above, but chronic infection is destroying the gum, tooth & bone and there is extensive dental disease. Multiple extractions are likely to be required to restore long term oral health and comfort. Pets cope well with multiple extractions; owners often notice their pets are far happier afterwards

Dental staging for your pet's dental procedure

Examination of your pet's oral cavity enables a veterinarian or nurse to qualitatively assess the severity of periodontal disease present. However, in order to establish if there are any teeth requiring extraction the veterinarian will often use a probe along the gum line. If a pocket is present next to a tooth root the probe will sink into that pocket.



As you can imagine this is a delicate (and uncomfortable) procedure and is not tolerated in conscious animals. Therefore, a general anaesthetic is required before we can thoroughly and accurately assess the extent of periodontal disease and identify which teeth (if any) require extraction.

Note: If, after examination with a dental probe, extractions are required the attending veterinarian will contact you on the number provided by you on the admission form with an estimate of additional cost. If you are not contactable on this number it will be understood by us that you consent to any extractions performed at the vet's discretion by signing admission form.

All dental procedures include sedation and intravenous fluids. Pain medication and antibiotics, if required after extractions, will be charged at an additional cost.

Pre-anaesthetic blood tests are highly recommended as it checks the function of the heart, liver & kidneys, blood clotting, blood count, blood gases and electrolytes. This test determines whether your pet can handle an anaesthetic safely and whether we need to make any adjustments to the fluids, sedation type or the type of anaesthetic used.