

**CREEKSIDE****24 / 7****PET CARE CENTER**

# Dental Care

**PROCEDURE NOTES & ASSOCIATED COSTS****817-421-5850 | CreeksidePetCare.com**

## TREATMENTS REQUIRED FOR BASIC DENTAL PROCEDURE:

### **PRE-ANESTHETIC BLOOD PROFILE:**

Performed prior to procedure to assess general health and help to ensure safer anesthetic event.

### **DENTAL PROCEDURE**

The teeth are cleaned above the gumline with an ultrasonic scaler instrument and below the gumline with sterile dental instruments, then polished to seal small defects and create a smooth surface which slows plaque adherence in the future.

Fluoride is applied to decrease sensitivity and further decrease plaque adherence. The pockets between teeth and gum are measured and a dental record is created noting pocket depth as well as tooth/gum defects. Includes associated anesthesia, pulse and oxygenation monitoring, nursing care and IV catheter for fluids to help maintain normal blood pressure and protect kidney function.

## TREATMENTS RECOMMENDED WITH EVERY DENTAL PROCEDURE:

### **DIGITAL DENTAL X-RAYS & ADDITIONAL GAS ANESTHESIA TO FACILITATE X-RAYS**

X-rays are taken of the entire mouth to check the 50% of the tooth which cannot be seen without x-rays. This may show underlying painful problems such as tooth root abscess, root fracture, cystic lesion or bone loss that may not be visible without the use of x-rays. Printed copies of the x-ray will be sent home following the procedure.

### **SEALANT APPLICATION** During Procedure

### **HOME CARE KIT** (2-4 month supply)

Dental Sealant is applied at close of procedure and then a soft gel re-applied weekly at home greatly slows down the build-up of tartar and progression of dental disease after the cleaning procedure. An important and easy home care method of disease prevention between dental procedures.

## ORAL SURGERY & PERIODONTAL THERAPY

Many pets have dental disease above and beyond the scope of prophylactic cleaning that may lead to recommendations for therapy or treatment of disease once the cleaning and oral exam is completed. Such treatments may include dental extractions & treatment of the socket, periodontal pocket treatment, injectable antibiotic or pain medication, or oral antibiotic or pain medication. If your pet is in need of oral surgery or periodontal therapy, you will be notified and presented with an additional medical care plan and estimation of associated costs and treatment may be authorized over the phone during the procedure if indicated.

## HOME CARE

Dental procedures are an investment in your pet's health and well being. To get the most out of that investment, your pet's teeth need to be cared for at home following the dental procedure. Dental disease will start to build up again soon after your pet's dental procedure and dental home care is the only way to slow the process down. There are a variety of options available including tooth brushing, feeding a special tartar control food, oral rinses, dental sealants and daily dental chews or treats.

These options range in cost depending on the size of your pet and how frequently they are used. Our staff will review these options with you at the time of the procedure so that you can make dental care a part of your pet's routine at home easily and effectively.



# DENTAL CLEANING FACTS

## WHY DOES MY PET NEED A DENTAL CLEANING?

Dental disease is by far the most prevalent health problem and cause of prolonged pain in dogs and cats. Tartar, made up of bacteria and plaque, accumulate on pet's teeth. Without dental care this leads to gingivitis, gingival recession and infection of the tooth roots and surrounding bone. Once under the gum line, the bacteria travels in the bloodstream to all internal organs (heart, liver, kidneys, brain) leading to chronic damage to their structure and decreasing their function, shortening the life span of the pet by as much as 25%. This process can be avoided with regular home care and routine professional cleanings.

## WHY ARE DENTAL X-RAYS IMPORTANT?

Dental radiology (x-rays) is an essential tool in both humans and pets to complete the dental assessment and generate an acceptable therapeutic plan. 50% of each tooth is below the gum line making it impossible to examine any other way. X-rays will uncover any hidden painful disease such as root abscesses, root fractures, severe bone loss of the jaw, and cystic lesions so that they can be corrected during the procedure. Dental x-rays are especially imperative in pets due to their high tolerance of pain and inability to communicate it.

## WHAT DOES A DENTAL CLEANING ENTAIL?

Once a pet's health has been thoroughly assessed by the doctors exam and laboratory data (blood work), an IV catheter is placed. The IV catheter is important to deliver the safest forms of anesthesia as well as deliver IV fluids that support blood pressure and remove toxins (caused by bacteria) from the bloodstream. If significant gingivitis is present, an injectable dose of antibiotics will be given prior to the procedure to protect the bloodstream and begin the healing phase. In most cases, only a light plane of general anesthesia is required. Once under general anesthesia, a complete exam of the mouth will be done searching for pockets of bone loss, loose or broken teeth and tumors. The entire crown of each tooth is cleaned with an ultrasonic scaler instrument, and then a root planing procedure is done to remove the bacteria and plaque that is under the gum line. When all the debris has been removed, the crown of each tooth receives both a polishing and a fluoride treatment. It is also recommended to apply a sealant to the enamel to aid with its' protection.

