



At our clinic, every pet gets the X-Care treatment. This is a highly effective examination and follow-up process, tailored to the changing needs of a pet at the different stages in their life, and ensures every pet receives the highest standard of health care.

Dentistry - "If only our pets could brush their teeth"

If they did this daily, they would only need to visit the dentist occasionally - like we do. Because they don't, and modern life means they do not hunt and kill their own food, we need to do much more to look after their teeth. Because we do more, pets are living much longer lives than at any time previously.



X-Care Things you can do

- X Schedule a checkup at least annually - possibly 6 monthly for older pets with previous dental problems.
- X Discuss your pet's diet with your vet and/or vet nurse. We can suggest many ways to keep teeth clean - today's veterinary diets (Hills t/d or Eukanuba with Dental Defense) also help maintain dental health. Certain "chews" also have dental cleaning properties.
- X Brush your pet's teeth daily.
- X Act on veterinary recommendations NOW - delays can cause more problems later.

X-Care How we provide high tech dental care for your pet

Before any dental treatment the vet will do a clinical examination. Very often pre-anaesthetic blood testing will be done to ensure all organ systems are functioning normally and there are no special needs for the anaesthetic.

The IV induction starts with an anaesthetic by injection so that the vet can insert an endotracheal tube into your pet's airway. This tube will be connected to the anaesthetic machine that delivers the anaesthetic gas, keeping your pet asleep throughout the procedure. The vet and nurse assisting wear protective clothing, gloves, masks and glasses as bacteria can be circulated during the scaling process. The nurse is continually monitoring the depth of anaesthetic, heart rate, respiratory rate and blood pressure.



Patients are continually monitored during procedure



Tartar is removed with ultrasonic scaler

The vet removes tartar with an ultrasonic scaler. Compressed air is used by the vet to examine pockets under the teeth and gums. Any loose or damaged teeth are removed. The vet also checks to ensure there are no retained tooth roots from previously damaged teeth.

The teeth are polished using special bubblegum flavoured animal toothpaste. Human toothpaste must not be used on animals.



Teeth are polished using special animal toothpaste

At the end of the procedure the anaesthetic gas is turned off and the circuits flushed to remove any residual gas, leaving pure oxygen flowing to your pet for a further period. As the pet awakens and is able to swallow, the tube is removed. Kept nice and warm in a recovery area the patient is closely monitored until fully awake and alert.



Dental station

The pet will then be moved to the main ward until going home later the same day. If extractions have been done, pain relief and antibiotics will be prescribed. Soft food for dinner that night is recommended, along with lots of TLC.



Teeth before treatment



Same teeth after cleaning, scaling and polishing



Regular dental care can prolong your pet's life

Without regular chewing and regular cleaning your pet could show any of the following symptoms of teeth problems.

- X Reluctance to eat food (pain)
- X Chattering of teeth when eating (pain)
- X Dribbling from mouth - especially blood tinged (pain)
- X Can't close jaw properly
- X Foul smell from mouth
- X Depressed appearance
- X Pawing at mouth after eating.

If you do not attend to the teeth when your pet exhibits any of these symptoms, apart from the pain involved, you will potentially shorten your pet's life. This is because chronic changes in the mouth will lead to infection throughout the body. These can be chronic and silent in nature, only showing up at the end stage of the process. The two most common problems will be renal (kidney) and heart failure.



The two most common complications are renal (kidney) and heart failure



FREE

Dental Check

Ring now and book a free oral check for your pet.

Our trained nurses will gently examine your pet's mouth and make recommendations - giving you a written report. They can discuss further action you may need to take or praise you for your pet's pearly whites!

Please advise when booking that you are booking for the "Nurse Oral Check".

Book early as there are limited spaces available each day.