

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR DENTAL PROCEDURES

What is involved in cleaning my pet's teeth?

There are three steps involved in the cleaning process:

- 1) The teeth are scaled with an ultrasonic scaler to remove any tartar above and below the gum line
- 2) The teeth are then polished with a unique dental paste to smooth out any rough surfaces on the teeth and minimise the attachment of future plaque
- 3) Finally, the mouth is flushed to dislodge and remove any remaining loose tartar and bacteria

What do I need to do on the day of my pet's dental procedure?

Your pet will require a general anaesthetic for the dental procedure. This means your pet will need to be fasted on the day of the procedure. Please ensure that your pet has had **no** food after midnight the night before the procedure.

Depending on your pet's age and health status, your pet may require a blood test prior to assess their liver and kidney function. Your vet can discuss this with you in further detail on the day.

Will my pet need any teeth removed?

Extractions may be required if any of your pet's teeth are infected, broken or have an excessive amount of gum recession. Sometimes it is not possible to tell if a tooth will need to be extracted until after we have examined them under general anaesthetic.

Will my pet's mouth be sore after the dental?

Your pet's mouth may be sore or a bit tender after having their dental procedure. Antibiotics and pain relief medications may be dispensed if your pet required any teeth to be extracted.

What do I feed my pet afterwards?

Feeding soft food for 3-4 days after having their dental procedure will minimise any discomfort associated with eating. You will also be given full discharge instructions when you pick up your pet that evening.

What should I do to keep my pet's teeth clean in the future?

Please refer to our handout "Steps to Keeping your Pet's Teeth Healthy"