

DENTAL PROCEDURES

DENTAL CLEANINGS & ANESTHETIC

For the majority of cats and dogs, proper dental care of your pet consists of regular dental cleaning under general anesthetic. A dental cleaning is much more than a cosmetic treatment. For that reason it is necessary to anesthetize your pet to allow us to scale and polish the teeth completely and perform a complete oral examination with x-rays, while preventing bacteria from entering their system.

ORAL HEALTH CARE

We recommend that dental cleanings be performed annually after the age of three in cats and small and medium sized dogs, and in some older pets biannually ,as in people. Regular dental cleaning saves teeth by preventing periodontal disease, which is inflammation and infection that weaken the attachment of the tooth. Regular cleaning also reverses early dental disease and allows the gums to heal around the tooth. It also greatly improves the overall health of your pet. Daily proper tooth brushing and dental diets can extend the duration between regular dental cleanings.

FOLLOW UP EXTRACTIONS

Occasionally, a follow-up visit for extractions is required 2 to 4 weeks after the dental cleaning. Extractions are indicated if a tooth is loose, fractured, dead or resorbing. It is also required if there are retained baby teeth, retained roots or severe crowding or malocclusion. Dental x-rays are often the only way to see these tooth problems. During this visit your pet will also be under general anesthetic and local nerve blocks are performed to decrease the amount of gas anesthetic required and to keep your pet pain free after the procedure. The gum will be sutured with absorbable sutures and we follow up with a free recheck visit 10 to 14 days later to confirm that the gums have healed well.

Remember your
toothbrush is green,
mine is blue.



Bob would learn the hard way that
dogs are color-blind.