



Periodontal Disease

CAUSES AND SIGNS









Plaque is a colorless film that contains large amounts of bacteria. If left unchecked, plaque builds up, creating infection, destroying gum tissue, resulting in the loss of the tissue and bone that support the teeth.

All pets are at risk for developing dental problems. If your pet displays any of the warning signs listed below, serious periodontal disease may be present.

-  Bad Breath
-  Yellow-brown crust on teeth
-  Tooth loss
-  Change in behavior
-  Abnormal drooling
-  Bleeding gums
-  Change of chewing or eating habits

Ignoring the condition of your pet's mouth can lead to periodontal disease, tooth loss and could also lead to other serious health problems, such as heart, liver or kidney failure.

HOME CARE TIPS

-  Watch your pet for the warning signs of periodontal disease.
-  Inspect your pet's mouth regularly.
-  Brushing your pet's teeth will help control plaque buildup. To begin brushing it is best to introduce the practice gradually and early; training may take several days or weeks.
-  Never brush your pet's teeth with toothpaste designed for people. Use a paste specifically made for animals and soft bristle toothbrush.
-  If brushing your pet's teeth is difficult, you could use dental chews like OraVet.
-  Dental checkups are essential. For pets who form tartar quickly or those with a history of oral problems, particularly smaller breeds of dogs and certain breeds of cats, more frequent examinations and cleanings may be advised.
-  Periodontal disease is also more common as pets grow older.
-  Regular, professional care from your veterinarian and effective daily home care from you can help keep your pet's mouth healthy.

If you have any questions feel free to give us a call!

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