

By Dr. Maria Krenz, DVM – The Zimmerman Veterinary Clinic-763-856-4848

Dental health is Pet Health

Do you smell an odor coming from your pet's mouth? Is your pet over three years old? Does your pet drool, bleed from the mouth, or have difficultly eating their food? If you answered yes to any of these questions, your pet is a candidate for a professional dental cleaning. Studies show 85% of adult pets are affected with periodontal disease. Just like in humans, if caught early, the disease process can be reversed.

Effects of Dental Disease

Dental disease is one of the leading diseases among adult pets. Left untreated it can lead to gum inflammation and periodontal disease. This causes infection of the tooth, tooth looseness and loss. The bacteria in the month can also spread to other organs such as the heart, liver and kidneys. Older pets with untreated dental disease are more likely to have heart murmurs as well as liver and kidney failure. Many pets are in severe pain, but show very little signs. Can you imagine the pain of a loose tooth every day, caused by dental disease, and unable to tell anyone about it?

Home Care Prevention

Dental care should begin at home as a puppy and kitten to prevent dental disease. At The Zimmerman Veterinary Clinic, we recommend the C.E.T. home dental care products. Please visit <u>www.CETdental.com</u> for more information. This website also has a great video on how to brush your pet's teeth. Please consult your veterinarian on how to use these products properly and the frequency of using the products.

Treatment of Dental Disease

A professional dental cleaning is the only treatment for dental disease once your pet has calculus and the infection is affecting the gum and tooth. A safe, thorough and appropriate dental treatment can only be completed when the pet is anesthetized. Dog groomers, boarding facilities and trainers may offer tooth brushing. This does not remove the calculus a pet already has on its teeth and to be effective in preventing buildup it needs to be done regularly.

If dental disease is caught early, the costs are significantly less. However, pets with dental disease left untreated may need tooth extractions, x-rays, periodontal therapy and restorative treatment. Your veterinarian will need to put your pet under anesthesia to probe and evaluate all of the teeth before they can provide a price quote on any procedures. To help owners better afford their pet's medical care, The Zimmerman Veterinary Clinic offers Care Credit. This is a credit card that spreads payments over 6 months to a year without interest.

The Zimmerman Veterinary Clinic Adds the Latest Tools in Dental Care

- New state-of-the-art dental machine and the latest high speed drill to make your pet's cleaning go faster and provide more complete extractions.
- Pet comforts like a new dental wet table with the Bair Hugger warming system keeps your pet warm and comfortable during the entire procedure.
- A digital dental x-ray unit, which helps evaluate teeth that need to be removed and make sure tooth roots are completely removed, just like the digital x-ray at your dentist's office.

- Bonded sealants that allow us to seal teeth, so your pet's chipped teeth don't extend into the pulp or sensitive tissue of their mouth.
- Our staff receives extensive training to ensure your pet receives the most up-to-date care. Dr. Krenz recently returned from advanced dental training in San Diego.

Bring in this Ad

December, January and February-Free treatment plans on the cost of a professional dental cleaning. This is scheduled with a technician.

Schedule a professional Dental Cleaning in January and February and receive a FREE C.E.T. home care product of your choosing.

Disclaimer: This written content is meant to be educational and is not medical advice. Always consult a veterinarian about medical advice for your pet.