

Dental Home Care

Periodontal disease is a natural disease caused by bacterial plaque accumulation. Plaque is a soft, sticky film that consists of bacteria, saliva and food particles which adheres to the teeth. Pets are prone to periodontal disease because unlike us they do not brush their teeth on a daily basis to remove the build up. After cleaning the teeth, plaque begins to mineralize into calculus or tartar. This is the hard yellow or brown deposit that gets cemented onto the teeth and cannot be removed by brushing alone.

Homecare procedures such as tooth brushing, attention to the type of diet, and dental supplements, all have a major part to play in the prevention of plaque build up and overall oral health. Homecare needs to be consistent as plaque builds up all the time and needs to be managed daily.

Our home care recommendations -

- □ **Brushing** Gold standard care Frequent plaque removal will prevent the start of periodontal disease and tooth brushing is considered the single most effective method for removing this plaque. Only pet designed brushes and pastes should ever be used.
- □ **Dental diets -** Special dental diets such as Hills t/d easily ensures your pet receives good oral care every day. Hills t/d works like a tooth brush by gently scrubbing away bacteria laden plaque as they chew.
- □ **Dental chews -** Dental chews and treats after meals have shown to reduce the build up of plaque and tartar.
- □ **CET oral hygiene rinse -** Rinsing once daily inhibits bacterial plaque formation providing effective plaque control without brushing.
- □ **Aquadent** Aquadent added to your pets drinking water helps to maintain healthy gums after dental surgery/scaling and polishing, which increases the length of time between dental treatments and cleaning.
- □ Oral health check in 6 months
- □ Oral health check in 12 months
 - Regular oral care will increase the length and quality of your pet's life –

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