



Caring for your pet after dental treatment

What we advise

Your pet will now have nice clean teeth after their procedure. We would like to offer you some help to prevent the recurrence of plaque and tartar on your pet's teeth and to help keep their breath smelling fresh.

After your pet's dental procedure at Oakham Veterinary Hospital you will be asked to come back for two post procedure checks with a nurse. At these checks the nurse will advise you on what would be the best preventative care for you and your pet to continue with at home.

Following a dental procedure, home care is advised to maintain a healthy mouth for as long as possible. A range of tooth brushes, pastes, liquids, dental chews, diets and toys are available to aid with ongoing dental health and hygiene.

Caring for your pet's dental health is a serious business, even more so if you feed wet food. Consider how many times a day you brush your teeth - imagine what your teeth would look like after a few months or years without brushing!

Tooth brushing is the gold standard of home care for our pets, however some of our pets may not tolerate brushing, so other methods may be more appropriate for you and your pet.

Diet can be a major factor in the development of plaque and tartar. Only specially formulated dental diets can aid in the removal of plaque and tartar build-up. Dry food, biscuits and abrasive diets will cause less plaque build-up. Wet and canned foods may contribute to plaque build-up and subsequent periodontal disease.

If you would like further advice after your pet has seen the nurse, we will be more than happy to check your pet and give advice on any concerns. Contact reception and they will book you a FREE dental nurse clinic.

Products we offer

Dentagen Aqua

Dentagen Aqua is simply added to the drinking water of cats or dogs to provide 24 hour protection against plaque. It is a palatable water additive which contains RF2 for maintaining healthy teeth and gums and keeping breath fresh by preventing the build up of plaque.

It forms part of the unique Dentagen Dental Care Programme and contains no harmful additives.

Directions for use:

For Dogs > 12kg add 10ml (one capful) to 1 litre of fresh drinking water.

For Dogs & Cats < 12kg add 5ml (1/2 capful) to 500ml of fresh drinking water.

Replace with fresh Dentagen Aqua solution every 24 hours - It is important that the level of water consumption in cats is sustained to maintain renal function.

Hill's® t/d® diet

Prescription Diet® t/d® clinical nutrition is specially formulated to support your dog's and cat's dental health. In fact, t/d is clinically proven to reduce plaque, stain & tartar build up. An antioxidant formula is added to help neutralise free radicals to aid in dental health. The kibble comes in two sizes to provide an appropriate size for different breeds. The kibble is designed to engulf the tooth before it splits and fibres wipe the tooth surface.

Hill's® Science Diet® Oral Care

Hill's Science Plan Oral Care Adult Cat/Dog Food with Chicken is a specifically designed food made with a unique kibble that gently cleans away plaque and tartar build-up on your pets' teeth whilst providing a complete balanced diet. The crunchy kibble will help aid your pet's dental health through the natural grinding process.

Enzymatic Toothpaste

Veterinary Toothpaste for Cats and Dogs is highly palatable and based on the patented Dual-Enzyme System which enhances the natural defence mechanism of the mouth.

The active ingredients within the enzymatic toothpaste work as a natural antibacterial agent and act as a catalyst in the oxidation of a number of organic and inorganic substrates.

Directions for use:

Brush your pet's teeth every day with Enzymatic Toothpaste using a soft bristled dog/cat toothbrush appropriate to the size of your pet. Follow the advice and specific directions of your veterinary surgeon or nurse. No rinsing required.

Dog toothpaste is poultry flavoured and in a 70g tube whilst the cat toothpaste is fish flavoured and in a 43g tube.

Logic Gel

Supplements and improves your pet's own natural salivary peroxidase system - an enzyme complex contained in saliva which helps maintain a normal balance of micro-organisms in the mouth. The gel coats and sticks to the teeth helping destroy existing plaque and prevent formation of new plaque. Mild abrasives in the gel boost the mechanical action of the saliva and your pet's tongue will help remove plaque build up from the surface of the teeth.

Logic Dental Chews

Contain the same active ingredient as the logic toothpaste you may use to brush your pet's teeth. The action of your pet chewing and the release of the active ingredient mixing with your pet's saliva can help to limit the build-up of plaque. They come in three different sizes to accommodate for different breed sizes.

Dentagen Chews

Also come in different sizes to accommodate for different breeds. They contain the same ingredient as the oral liquid Dentagen Aqua (mentioned above) that you add to your pet's drinking water. As your pet chews, the active ingredient is released and can aid in the reduction of plaque build-up. These chews are slightly harder than other dental chews so your pet will spend a little longer chewing them.

Royal Canin Dental Diet

Royal Canin Dental dry for feline and canine (small and large breed) is a specially formulated complete diet which limits the development of dental plaque and tartar and helps to fight bad breath. The kibble's shape, texture and size help produce a mechanical brushing effect on teeth.

Introducing your pet to tooth brushing

Brushing your pet's teeth is the best way to ensure their teeth stay clean and strong, helping the mouth to remain healthy.

- 1) Start by getting your pet used to being touched and handled around the mouth and face area, getting them used to having their lips lifted up.
- 2) Using a toothpaste specially made for your pet, let them lick the paste from your fingers.
- 3) Gradually then with the toothpaste on your finger, using a circular motion gently cover the surface of the teeth on both the upper and lower jaws.
- 4) Place the finger brush over your finger, apply toothpaste to the finger brush and, using the same circular method, start rubbing over the surface of the teeth.
- 5) Finally progress onto using the pet tooth brush. Select the smaller end first - apply the toothpaste and, using the same method, start brushing the teeth. You can then progress onto using the larger head, depending on the size of your pet's mouth.

Ensure your pet is comfortable and tolerating each stage before you then move onto the next stage. As a minimum a few days should be spent on each stage to help build your pet's confidence. Praising and treating your pet during this process will help them to get used to having their teeth cleaned and hopefully make tooth brushing a happy experience.

