

Complete Dental Procedure

The Dental Procedure

Once anesthetized your pet will undergo a complete oral examination. The dental technician will evaluate the degree of tartar buildup, any fractured or broken teeth, missing teeth and /or periodontal disease.

Your pet's teeth are probed to check for any pockets that are developing around the gum line. Even though a tooth may look fine on the surface an abnormal pocket around the gum line of a tooth is an indication of a diseased tooth and will need to be addressed. The dental technician also charts all of your pet's teeth so we have a record of your pet's dental health, including missing or extracted teeth as well as any abnormalities noted.

After your pet's teeth are probed the dental technician manually removes the larger pieces of calculi that are present.

Your pet's teeth are then ultrasonically scaled. This step is key in the removal of tartar and plaque from above and below the gum line of the teeth. Bacteria below the gum line is the main cause of periodontal disease and can eventually result in the loss of those teeth.

After your pet's teeth are ultrasonically scaled they are polished. The teeth are polished with a mildly abrasive paste that contains fluoride. The purpose of polishing the teeth is to smooth out any scratches that may have been made while the teeth were being scaled. Removing these rough surfaces helps to deter the re-accumulation of bacteria and plaque that will lead to tartar build-up.

Lastly, after all of the teeth are scaled and polished we apply a gel along the gum line to help slow down the build-up of tartar after the dental cleaning.

If the health of any tooth is in question, a dental x-ray may be taken to evaluate the tooth roots and underlying bone structure. A decision may be made to extract the tooth, or to attempt to save the tooth. Often the degree of dental home care you can provide is a major factor in deciding the fate of a tooth.

After the procedure every pet waking up from anesthesia receives a warm fluffy blanket, warming discs, and a team member to comfort them.