

Your Pet's Dentistry

What is dentistry?

Dentistry involves a complete cleaning of the tooth surface and under the gum line, polishing the surface of the teeth, and a complete dental examination.

Dental X-rays are used to visualize structures under the gum line. This allows us to see several anomalies that are often not visible during a dental examination, such as an abscess at the root.

How to be prepared for my animal's surgery?

You can offer your pet a half-portion, of their regular meal, before midnight the day before, or a quarter of their food portion before 7 AM the morning of the appointment. This will allow your dog to remain fed but not have a full stomach during the procedure. It is important to leave water available to your pet at all times, even if they are fasting from food. It is crucial to ensure that the animal remains hydrated.

It is important to provide soft food for the return home (canned food or softened kibble) even if there are no extractions.

What happens when my pet arrives?

Plan about 15-30 minutes when you bring your pet in for their surgery appointment. A brief pre-operative examination will be performed, and we will have you sign the surgical authorization form.

If you have opted for a pre anaesthetic blood test, it will be performed before proceeding with the anaesthesia. The preanaesthetic profile is recommended, but not mandatory. It allows the veterinarian to verify the blood count (white blood cells, red blood cells, platelets), kidney and liver function, protein and blood glucose levels to ensure that the drugs administered will be adequately eliminated by the body. If an abnormality is detected, the veterinarian will notify you.

What will happen the day of the surgery?

The pre-operative exam will be completed by the veterinarian. A patch of fur will be shaved on a leg to install an intravenous catheter. A sedation will be administered to your pet. It will then be put under general anaesthesia, which means they will be put to sleep using a judicious combination of injectable drugs and anaesthetic gas. All vital

signs will be closely monitored using anaesthetic monitoring devices (heart rate, respiratory rate, blood oxygen levels, blood pressure, body temperature) until they wake up.

It is very important that you are available by phone at all times during the day. It is possible that after your pet's dental examination and X-ray analysis, additional extractions may be recommended. We need your authorization quickly before proceeding, as your pet is under general anesthesia when we try to contact you.

When your pet is fully awake, an Animal Health Technician (AHT) will contact you to give you an update and confirm the time for the discharge appointment.

What to do when my animal returns home?

When you come to pick up your pet, you will meet an AHT who will discuss post-operative care and show you the medication to be administered when you return home. For cats, it is important to keep your pet indoors (if they goes outside) during its recovery period and monitor its appetite. For dogs, you can take them out on a leash only.

If extractions have been performed, your pet will have dissolvable stitches at the gum line and should eat soft food for 14 days. A follow-up appointment with an AHT is also recommended 14 days after surgery to ensure the extraction sites are healing well. This follow-up appointment is free of charge.

What are the risks of complications?

The risks of complications related to surgery are rare. The most common is an infection at the surgical site.

The risks of complications related to anaesthesia are also very rare. However, it is important to note that general anaesthesia is never without the risk of cardiorespiratory arrest. Therefore, when you bring your pet in, we will ask you in advance to make the decision regarding whether to start resuscitation maneuvers if necessary. Mobilization of the entire medical team is necessary to increase the chances of survival. Afterwards, it may be necessary for your pet to be transferred, at your expense, to an emergency center for 24/7 monitoring, depending on its overall condition.

Thank you for your trust!
