SWVH JANUARY NEWSLETTER:

Dental Disease in Dogs and Cats

Just as people should have regular dental checkups by their dentists, your pets need regular dental care by your veterinarian — who also has the pleasure of being your pet's dentist!!

DENTAL EXAMS

Every complete physical exam done at Southwest Veterinary Hospital includes a thorough dental exam. We also recommend a home care plan to help keep your pet's mouth and teeth healthy. If a cleaning is needed, preanesthetic blood work can confirm that your pet is at low risk for complications from anesthesia.

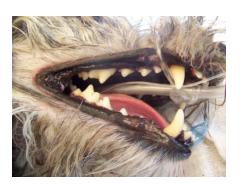
PROFESSIONAL DENTAL CLEANING

If needed, ultrasonic scaling of your pet's teeth and polishing will occur under carefully monitored anesthesia. Antibiotics and pain medication may be dispensed if required.





Missy's teeth before professional dental cleaning



Missy's teeth after professional dental cleaning

DENTAL X-RAYS

Only a portion of a tooth is visible above the gum line. SWVH uses digital dental X-rays to show what we cannot see – the tooth's structure below the gums and the bone that anchors it – and therefore treat appropriately.



Marked bone loss

around distal root of mandibular fourth premolar

{SIGNS OF DENTAL PROBLEMS}

BAD BREATH
YELLOW-BROWN CRUSTS ON TEETH
RED OR BLEEDING GUMS
CHANGE IN CHEWING OR EATING HABITS
LOOSE, CHIPPED, BROKEN OR MISSING TEETH
CHANGE IN BEHAVIOR
DROOLING

IF YOU SEE ANY OF THESE SIGNS — CALL SWVH FOR AN APPOINTMENT

USEFUL WEBSITES:

WWW.SWVHRENO.COM

WWW.PETDENTAL.COM

WWW.ORAVET.COM

HOME DENTAL CARE

Daily brushing of your pets' teeth is the very best way to help your pet avoid plaque accumulation — which is the first abnormality leading to dental disease. SWVH will demonstrate how to brush your dogs' or cats' teeth. It is not difficult to do and owners are surprised how well their pets tolerate their teeth being brushed. Many pets actually enjoy it!

Other home care options available at SWVH: special food designed to remove plaque, using treats shown to remove plaque, and/or applying an anti-plaque sealant.

Sincerely,

The Doctors and Staff of Southwest Veterinary Hospital



SWVH February Promotion

During the month of February,
Dental Care Kits will be given free
of charge with professional dental
cleanings — which will include
goodies for home dental care. The
Dental Care Kits will include a
toothbrush, dog/cat toothpaste
(fluoride free), samples of antiplaque treat/food, and oravet
(anti-plaque sealant).

If you are interested, please call to
schedule an appointment for your
pet's dental care and health!