

The 16 Step Dental Prophylaxis for Pets

- 1. Oral Examination Before Anesthesia** - During this exam, we check the patient for any facial swelling; we check that the patient is not painful in the mouth and inspect the teeth and gingival for any growths or abnormalities.
Oral Examination Under General Anesthesia - We examine individual teeth for mobility, fractures, malocclusion, and periodontal disease.
- 2. Administer IV Fluids** - We place a catheter and administer fluids to keep your pet hydrated while under anesthesia.
- 3. Monitoring And Warmth** - We monitor your pet's oxygen level and heart rate. A surgical warming blanket is placed under your pet to keep body temperature normal.
- 4. Digital X-rays** - Every dental procedure includes full mouth x-rays of your pet.
- 5. Pre-Scaling Antibacterial Irrigation** - We want your pet to be exposed to the least amount of bacteria possible and to do that, we irrigate the oral cavity with an antibacterial solution called Hexarinse. This product starts to kill off the bacteria in the mouth immediately.
- 6. Supragingival (above the gum line) Plaque and Tarter Removal** - Supragingival deposits of plaque and tarter are removed from all tooth surfaces using calculus removing forceps, hand instruments and an ultrasonic scaler.
- 7. Subgingival (below the gum line) Scaling, Root Planing and Curettage** - Curettes are used to hand remove subgingival deposits. This creates a healthier environment for healing and allows for gingival reattachment. Root Planing smoothes the roughened root surfaces by debriding diseased cementum and removing embedded calculus.
- 8. Polishing** - Polishing smoothes out the defects and removes any plaque missed during previous steps. The polishing paste is a fine grain paste that works much like a fine piece of sandpaper to smooth the surface of the tooth to delay the return of tarter buildup.
- 9. Post-Scaling Irrigation** - With irrigation, diseased tissue and plaque are removed from any pockets and crevices.
- 10. Periodontal Probing** - Each tooth and surrounding gum tissue is checked for any holes or "pockets". Each pocket is then measured with a special probe and documented. Very deep pockets are treated with Doxirobe.
- 11. Fluoride Treatment** - Fluoride is placed on dry teeth to help facilitate the hardening of the tooth enamel and to decrease overall discomfort.
- 12. Post Cleaning Examination and Diagnostics** - After cleaning each tooth is checked for any abnormalities in structure. Gingiva is checked for any retained calculus.
- 13. Clean Ears and Nail Trim** - We clean your pet's ears and trim their nails, while they are sleeping.
- 14. Charting** - We record and grade the disease before therapy. We then chart any missing, loose, fractured, and discolored teeth, as well as periodontal pocket depths, gingival recession and other significant lesions.
- 15. Post Dental Therapy** - We reevaluate your pet's chart and map out the most effective after care and prescribe the necessary antibiotics and pain medication.
- 16. Home Care Instructions** - We then go over with you the findings of your pet's dental exams and give you instructions for administering any medications or needed after care.