

Dental

Your pet has just had an ultrasonic dental scaling and polishing. This was done to remove any tartar and bacteria from the teeth and under the gums. Where necessary, any loose or diseased teeth may have been extracted.

In order to do a thorough and safe cleaning, they were put under general anesthesia. When your pet goes home, they may still be groggy. Allow moderate exercise for 24 hours.

Anesthesia for dental cleaning requires your pet to be intubated. This breathing tube may cause a slight irritation to your pet's airway. If your pet coughs slightly for a day after the dental cleaning this may be normal. If coughing or hacking persists for more than 24 hours please call the clinic for a brief recheck. Rarely, a pet may need medication for tracheal irritation.

Soft food may be recommended if extractions occurred. Dry food can be softened by adding water. Otherwise feed him/her their regular diet.

Now that your pet's teeth are clean you can help them stay that way. Long term oral care is best done by creating soft friction to the tooth surface. This can be accomplished by using a toothbrush or simply wrapping your index finger with gauze and 2-3 times a week moisten the gauze and scrub the cheek-side of all the teeth. This soft abrasion will strengthen the gumline and prevent tartar buildup. Tartar control food and treats are also helpful. Ask our staff about dental products available in our retail store.

Even with daily care, tartar may still form which would necessitate periodic professional cleaning. Some of the signs of unhealthy teeth and gums are: bad breath, loose teeth, difficulty eating and chewing, poor appetite, inflamed gums. If any of these signs occur please let us know.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to call us at 358-4300.