



30 PUTIKI ROAD OSTEND WAIHEKE ISLAND

09 372 8387

info@vetsonwaiheke.co.nz

www.vetsonwaiheke.co.nz

Dental Care

Dental disease is one of the most common diseases affecting our pet's health therefore dental care is a key part of your pet's everyday wellbeing. Aside from saving your pet from pain and discomfort, a good dental health plan can reduce the chain of reactions associated with dental disease which can affect their overall health.

The best step you can take to ensure your pet's mouth is healthy is to schedule regular dental check-ups with your Vet. More frequent examinations or cleaning procedures may be required if your pet develops tartar quickly or has a history of dental disease. Home care is also extremely important and listed below are options on how best to care for your pet's teeth.

Tooth Brushing: Brushing helps remove plaque before it can mineralise into tartar. Getting your pet used to brushing requires patience and commitment. Brushing is best performed daily with a specifically formulated tooth paste for pets. Introduce the toothbrush slowly with the paste and remember to reward each attempt.

Dental Diet: Dental diets are clinically proven to reduce plaque and tartar accumulation and the occurrence of gingivitis. The biscuits are designed to clean your pet's teeth whilst they are eating. It is a complete care pet food, which means they can have it as their sole nutrition to help maintain their health.

Plaque Off & Aquadent: Plaque off is a supplement added to your pet's usual food to help reduce the build-up of plaque and prevent it from hardening into tartar. Aquadent is a supplement added to drinking water to maintain oral hygiene and freshen breath.

Bones, Chicken Necks and Chew Toys: Chewing encourages cleaning of the molar teeth and all three of these options are great ways to reduce tartar accumulation on teeth. Bones should be given under supervision and removed once all the meat has been consumed. Bones do pose a small risk of fracturing teeth if your pet is a particularly enthusiastic chewer. Never feed cooked bones which can splinter.

Greenies, Pig Ears and Deer Antlers: These are fantastic treats which can be included in your dental care plan. Their hard structure will encourage chewing with the molar teeth and aid in removing plaque. Deer antlers should be given under supervision as they can splinter under high pressure.

Regular Scale and Polish Procedures: A scale/clean and polish under general anaesthetic is the gold standard for removing plaque and tartar and may be required annually. However, if daily home care is too difficult to manage or dental disease is severe more frequent procedures are required (every 6 months). Just like in humans, if we don't brush and floss every day, dental disease can develop quickly and can cause pain and discomfort. Regular scale and polishing can manage early dental disease (grade 1-2).

Regular Dental Checks: Regular dental checks every 6 months are highly recommended.

These dental health checks with a nurse are FREE and allow early detection of changes in your pet's dental health.

Early detection means we can help you alter the dental care plan or schedule a scale and polish procedure to improve your pet's overall health and wellbeing.