

# Pet Dental Health 101

Many people think that "doggie or kitty breath" is inevitable. However, our pet's breath is an indication of an oral issue. Although daily brushing of your pet's teeth is always recommended, plaque and tartar can still build up in your pet's mouth. This buildup will lead to serious oral problems such as gingivitis, periodontal disease, loose teeth and oral pain.

**Bacteria can enter the blood stream which can lead to heart disease or may be filtered through the liver and kidneys.**

Periodontal disease can also lead to a loss of appetite, weight loss, abnormal chewing, drooling, oral abscesses, swelling around the mouth, and systemic diseases.

An anesthetic, comprehensive oral health assessment and treatment at PET DEPOT Veterinary Group includes:

- Full oral examination by our doctor
- Scaling, polishing, fluoride treatment
- Personal monitoring by our veterinary technicians of your pet's heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, oxygenation and perfusion, plane of anesthesia and temperature
- Pain and antibiotic injections (as needed)
- An intravenous catheter and intravenous fluids
- **Full mouth digital dental x-rays**
- In-house comprehensive blood analysis for preoperative safety (optional, recommended)



Our doctors at PET DEPOT Veterinary Group use COHAT: Comprehensive Oral Health Assessment & Treatment of their patients as opposed to a typical dental cleaning - resulting in a much better treatment for your pet!

Please consider a dental cleaning for your pet much sooner than later. We love quick, easy, and preventative procedures without extractions. Many people do not realize the importance of their pet's oral health until there is a significant problem before pursuing a dental cleaning. In those situations, anesthetic dentals can be costly, time consuming, and may result in more than just a couple minor extractions. A pet's oral health may vary based on their size and age. If your pet is on the smaller side, their mouth is able to build up plaque and tartar much faster than a larger breed. If your pet is older and has not had its teeth scaled and polished in recent years, its mouth may have developed bacteria that can have a serious effect on overall health. It's typically recommended that dogs and cats have an anesthetic dental on an annual basis. However, this again may vary on your pet. Please help us ensure your pet is free of periodontal disease, gingivitis, and perhaps even oral pain!

**Thank you for trusting PET DEPOT Veterinary Group La Verne with your pet's care! Our doctors and staff would be happy to discuss veterinary dentistry with you if you have any questions or concerns!**

“At PDVG La Verne, we love to prevent extractions, pain, and severe periodontal disease.

# Does Your Pet Have Dental Disease?

**Stage 1, Gingivitis** The gum (or gingiva) at the top of teeth is inflamed and swollen, and plaque covers the teeth. Treatment can reverse this condition.

Canine



Feline



**Stage 2, Early Periodontitis** The entire attached gum is inflamed and swollen. The pet's mouth is painful, and bad breath is noticeable. Professional treatment and home dental care can prevent this from becoming irreversible.



**Stage 3, Moderate Periodontitis** Infection and calculus are destroying the gum, now bright red and bleeding. The pet's mouth is sore, which can affect eating and behavior. Bad breath is consistent. Periodontitis has started and may be irreversible.



**Stage 4, Advanced Periodontitis** Chronic bacterial infection is destroying the gum, teeth and bone. Bacteria may be spreading in the bloodstream throughout the body, which can damage the kidneys, liver and heart.

