

Dental Disease in Companion Animals

Cats and dogs get periodontal disease just like you and me! If they brushed their teeth every day, this dirty little disease could be avoided. You can learn how to brush your pet's teeth by contacting your veterinarian and setting up an appointment to discuss oral health and prevention of dental disease. Brushing your dog or cat's teeth is easier than you think and can be a fun and bonding activity for you and your furry loved one.

If Fluffy tries to bite you every time you approach him with a tooth brush, you should consider alternatives to brushing. There are many dental treats for dogs and cats that are designed to break up tartar and encourage chewing. Your veterinarian can even prescribe food for cats and dogs with specially designed kibble that aid in the breakdown of tartar, wiping the teeth clean as your pet eats.

Once periodontal disease takes hold, a professional dental cleaning performed under anesthesia is often the only way to treat the infection in your pet's mouth. In advanced cases of periodontal disease, the tooth may need to be extracted. Finding the right combination of dental prophylaxis for your pet can help avoid the need for frequent dental cleanings. Please call the **Norwell Veterinary Hospital** if you have any questions about dental disease and ways you can prevent and treat it in your four legged friend.

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Before cleaning



After cleaning