

## Checklist of What to Ask

	CHFA	Other Clinic
Dentistry Performed by a Licensed Veterinary Technician	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thorough comprehensive oral exam performed by a Veterinarian with dental training	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-anesthetic blood screen	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre and Post-operative pain medications	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Individualized anesthetic protocol	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intravenous catheter and fluids to support internal organ functions	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warm water circulating blanket used to maintain body temperature during dental cleaning procedure	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anesthetic monitoring capabilities:	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heart-ECG	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pulse oximeter	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Temperature	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ultrasonic and hand dental scaling	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dental Charting	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Digital Dental radiographs	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nerve blocks for extractions	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Polishing and antibacterial treatment	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health Care Team member monitors patient as they wake up	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warming blanket used during recovery to maintain body temperature	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Detailed written aftercare instructions	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Individualized plan for at home dental care	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No charge follow up progress visit	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why does my pet need to be under anesthesia, and is it safe?

We are able to conduct a more detailed and thorough oral exam, cleaning and treating of the teeth when the patient is under anesthesia. Our staff is focused on and devoted to your pet's welfare. We utilize the highest quality anesthesia monitors to maximize safety for your pet. Fluid therapy is administered during and after the anesthesia period for the comfort and safety of your pet.

### Why are dental radiographs needed?

Without dental radiographs, the diagnosis is often impossible to establish as with periodontal disease, facial swelling, discolored or fractured teeth. Without an accurate diagnosis, it is difficult to provide appropriate and effective treatment.

### How much does it cost?

Our fees vary with each patient. An accurate estimate usually cannot be made without examining the patient. During the initial exam, we will give you an estimate of the procedure. Preventing dental disease is cheap. Treating advanced dental disease can be expensive. So, the best thing for your pet's health and your wallet is to address dental health issues early, thoroughly and regularly!



## Information on Preventative Dental Care



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Dedicated to  
Veterinary  
Excellence

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## Signs of Dental Problems

- Bad breath—one of the first signs of dental disease
- A yellowish-brown crust of plaque on the teeth next the gum line
- Red and swollen gums
- Pain or bleeding when your pet eats or when the mouth of gums are touched
- Decreased appetite or difficulty eating
- Loose or missing teeth.

## Why is it Important for My Pet to Have Proper Dental Care?

Maintaining your pet's oral health is one of the most important things you can do to help them live longer, more pain-free lives.



**Before**



**After**

Poor oral hygiene can lead to periodontal disease, tooth loss, and other serious health problems, such as heart, liver, lung and kidney disease.



## What is a Dental Procedure?

At Cascade Hospital for Animals we have made a strong commitment to dental health, and have made a significant investment in equipment for dentistry. A dental procedure is a comprehensive procedure performed under general anesthesia that allows a complete evaluation and therapeutic treatment of your pet's teeth and gums.



### A dental procedure includes:

**Hand scaling of the teeth** to remove the buildup of tartar on the teeth..

**A comprehensive oral exam is conducted** to check for pockets under the gumline where periodontal disease and bad breath start. The results are charted and placed in the medical record of the pet to track changes between dental visits.

**An ultrasonic scaler** is used to clean the teeth above and below the gumline.

**Your pet's teeth are polished**, creating a smooth surface. The gums are washed with an anti-bacterial solution to help delay the build up of tartar on the crown of the tooth as well as under the gumline.

**Digital radiographs** are an extremely valuable tool for diagnosing painful dental problems that hide under the gums, in the bones of the mouth and between the teeth. In some cases, radiographs can confirm the need for extraction of teeth that are loose or badly infected.



**Our doctors will keep in touch during the dental procedure, and will notify you if they find anything that needs to be addressed while your pet is under anesthesia.**

**Discharge and home care instructions** are provided by the Veterinarian and Licensed Veterinary Technician. They will discuss a life-long treatment plan, based on the results of the comprehensive oral exam which includes regular dental cleanings. There have been major advances in veterinary dental home-care products, and our health care team will help you develop a plan that best suits you and your pet.



**Oral Surgery** is frequently required in animals that suffer from an abscessed tooth, periodontal disease or a fractured tooth to name a few examples. The surgical removal of a tooth will only be performed if a doctor determines that it is the best course of treatment for the tooth and for the pain control of your pet.

# Unleash Their Smile!

