



Snippets

Small animal newsletter

Issue 105

Winter

2024



Does my pet need a dental?



Unfortunately, dental disease in dogs and cats is often overlooked, and many people assume that bad breath is normal. Periodontal disease is by far the number one health problem in our cats and dogs.

It is important to consider dental hygiene as a another key component in your pet's overall health, together with things like nutrition, proper exercise and routine grooming. Our pets rely on us to provide them with good oral health care and give them their best lives.

Dental disease can also be involved in many other diseases including kidney, liver and heart disease, due to bacteria travelling through the bloodstream.

How to know if your pet has dental disease:

- Halitosis (bad breath)
- Increased salivation
- Red and/or puffy gums
- Tartar / Calculus
- Reluctance to chew / crying out when chewing
- Bleeding gums
- Missing or loose teeth
- Behavioral changes such as a reduction in grooming in cats

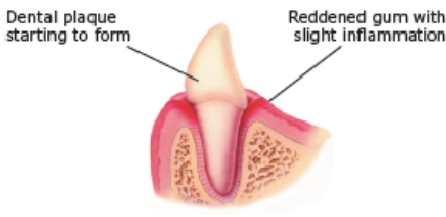


The need to eat will always out-weigh any oral pain, so 'still eating' is not a good indicator for the requirement for dental treatment

Inflamed gums are the first stage of periodontal disease. This can be reversed if treated early

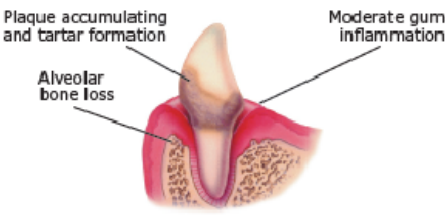
GRADE 1 **Gingivitis**

No Halitosis



GRADE 2 **Early Periodontitis**

Mild Halitosis

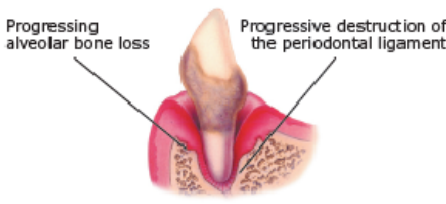


Changes are reversible with appropriate treatment, and prevented by daily dental hygiene at home

GRADE 3 **Moderate Periodontitis**

Severe Halitosis

Discomfort in the mouth.

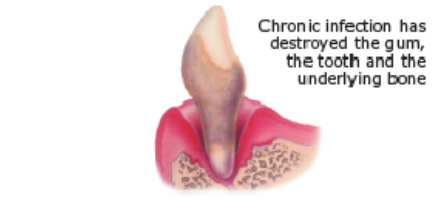


Irreversible damage

GRADE 4 **Advanced Periodontitis**

Unbearable Halitosis

Pain in the mouth. Can refuse to eat.



Tooth loss occurs in most cases





Antifreeze Poisoning in Cats and



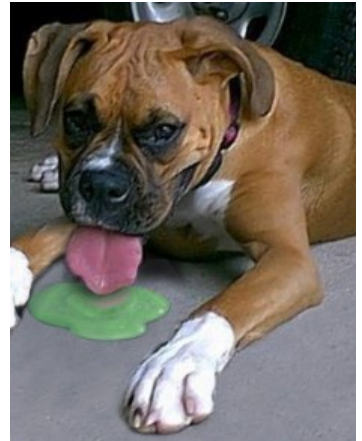
Cats and dogs are attracted to the sweet taste of ethylene glycol. Many will voluntarily drink antifreeze if it is spilled or leaks onto the garage floors and driveways and more are than ready to like the product from contaminated paws and coats.

A small quantity of concentrated antifreeze can result in signs within an hour.

Signs include:-

- Depression
- Incoordination
- Vomiting
- Sometimes excessive thirst and urination
- These signs can be followed by muscle tremors
- Within 12 – 24 hours can lead to acute renal failure
- Seizure and death can quickly follow

If you have any suspicion that you cat or dog may have come in contact



New to the team!



Hannah is a Massey University graduate and went on to complete an equine internship in Auckland. Following the internship Hannah spent a couple of years back at Massey University in the equine hospital before making a move to sunny Nelson. She loves treating all animals and is excited to jump into the small animal team at Town and Country Vets.

Hannah was born and raised in Auckland but her love for the outdoors sparked her move to Nelson. In her free time, you would find her on a hike or swimming in many rivers around Nelson/Tasman. Being a 'good' skier would not be the truth...but you can find her enjoying the slopes in winter all time same.

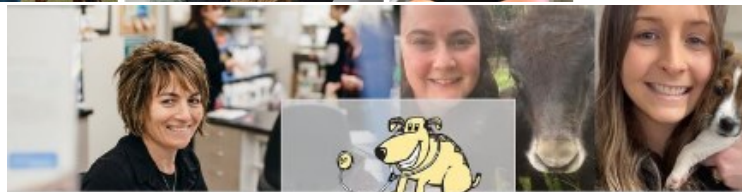


Grace has just moved here from Wanganui in the north island, to pursue my first job as a graduated diploma nurse. Currently, I am studying the Bachelor of Veterinary Nursing as well, but also enjoy a ski and lots of travelling in the meantime. I'm very keen on my art, such as painting and drawing, and doing commissions for people. I have always loved and cared for animals, and have even fostered my own dog in 2022 - 2023, in which whom I adored. Can't wait to see what Town and Country Vets brings me!



World Vet Day and National Administrative Day

We recently celebrated World Vet Day and National Administrative Day and on behalf of all the staff at Town and Country Vet we would like take those of you that took the time to thank the staff with all your kind words. We really do appreciate every single one our clients.



Thank you **VET** National Administrative Professionals Day



Did you know the Buzzy Bee is the most famous toy and well-loved NZ icon and has been following young Kiwi kids around since the 1940's

PROMO

PROTECT YOUR PETS & HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
Every purchase supports Pet Refuge in helping families & pets in need.

Receive a **FREE CAT WAND OR DOG SOFT TOY** with your purchase of Advantage™, Advocate™ or Seresto™ flea treatment*

*Pet's supply. See service sheet.

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