



# The SPAY CLINIC

SMALL ANIMAL SPAYS & NEUTERS

## Dental After Care Instructions

Today your pet had a dental cleaning which included a manual hand scaling of the tartar and plaque, ultrasonic scale and a polish. If there are any concerns or complications following this or any other procedure your pet had done with us please call us at 780-426-4221 between the hours of 10AM to 3PM.

We recommend the following home care to help keep the teeth and gums in a healthy state:

- Brushing the teeth with enzymatic pet toothpaste daily (or at least 1- 2 times per week)
- Dental Treats
- Dental Diet

Today we are sending a sample of enzymatic dental toothpaste home to try. This toothpaste does come in a variety of flavors, so if your pet doesn't like this one there others you can try.

If you have never brushed your pets teeth before you may need to slowly familiarize your pet to brushing. First get your pet used to you touching it's face and mouth petting their face and muzzle area. If that goes well, start lifting the lips and looking at their teeth. When your pet is comfortable with that start putting your fingers in their mouth. Begin slowly by lifting the lip and run your finger on the gums and teeth on both sides of the mouth. Once your animal accepts this you can then try using the finger brush. Run it along the teeth and gums on both sides of the mouth and if this goes well, then add the toothpaste that we provided you with. You can obtain additional finger brushes from Wal-Mart and other pet supply stores. This process can

take 2-3 weeks or more depending on your pet and it's tolerance to the process, but if you are patient you will achieve the final goal of brushing the teeth. Giving treats to your pet during this training will help your pet to understand that this is a positive activity and they are being rewarded for cooperating.

There are several dental treats that are available so try one or two to see what your pet likes. Some contain enzymes to help decrease and even prevent plaque and tartar build up. These types of treats can usually only be purchased through your full service veterinary clinic. We advise that you consult with them about the products they sell.

Dental diets are good as well, and can be used 3 ways. You can use it as treats, mix it in with their current diet or use it as their everyday diet. There are different types of dental diets available and can be purchased through your full service veterinary clinic. We are sending home a pamphlet of the veterinary dental food we prefer and recommend. You can try a diet that your veterinarian carries regularly or ask them for their suggestions.

If your pet will not let you brush it's teeth, you may want to consider these last two options. Should you have any questions regarding future dental care at home please feel free to contact us at 780-426-4221 and ask to speak with an Animal Health Technologist. You may also consult with your full service veterinary clinic for any questions or concerns that you may have regarding dental management.