

SOUTH EAST COUNTRY VETS

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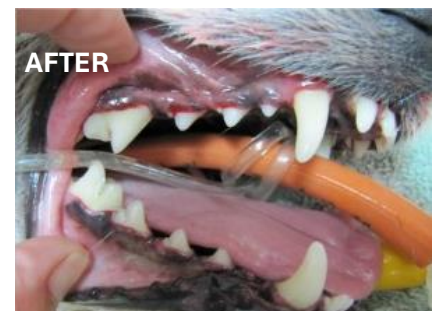


YOUR PET'S DENTAL HEALTH: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Your Pet's Dental Health: What You Need to Know

Thank you for considering dental care for your pet! Maintaining good oral health is essential for your cat or dog's overall well-being. Here's what you need to know about the procedure and why it's important:

- 1. Is anaesthesia safe for my pet?** We understand that anaesthesia can be a concern, especially for older pets. However, our veterinary team follows strict protocols to ensure safety. Before the procedure, we conduct a thorough pre-anaesthetic assessment, including blood tests, to identify any risks. An anaesthesia nurse will carefully monitor your pet throughout the procedure to maintain their safety.
- 2. Why must my pet go under?** Pets must be under anaesthesia for dental procedures to ensure a thorough, pain-free procedure. Anaesthesia also keeps them still, prevents stress, and protects their airway from debris.
- 3. What happens if dental disease is left untreated?** Neglecting dental care can lead to serious health issues, including:
 - Painful infections and abscesses
 - Tooth loss
 - Difficulty eating
 - Chronic inflammation, which can put stress on the immune system and affect overall health
- 4. What Happens During a Dental Procedure?**
 - A full oral examination is performed under anaesthesia.
 - We use ultrasonic scaling to remove plaque and tartar from teeth.
 - If necessary, diseased/broken teeth are extracted to prevent further pain and infection.
 - Your pet's mouth is polished to slow future plaque buildup.
 - They wake up comfortably and are monitored as they recover.
- 5. Signs Your Pet May Need Dental Care**
 - Bad breath (not just "dog breath" – a foul smell can indicate infection!)
 - Visible plaque build-up
 - Difficulty eating or chewing on one side
 - Drooling excessively
 - Red or bleeding gums
 - Loose or discoloured teeth



Dental disease is common but preventable! Regular check-ups and professional cleanings help keep your pet comfortable, healthy, and happy. If you have any questions about the estimate or procedure, please give our team a call.