



Post-Operative Care for your pet after a Dental

You have just collected your pet after it has had a Dental procedure here at Rose Cottage Veterinary Centre. The Vet/Nurse should have just gone through all the details and instructions that you need to know after the procedure. We appreciate that it is sometimes difficult to remember all the information you have been given. We bet you were just so glad to see your furry friend! With that in mind, we have also provided you with these post-operative instructions that you can refer back to, now that you're back home.

Dental procedures can vary greatly from patient to patient. Any teeth with irreversible damage will have been extracted and the healthy teeth will have been given a thorough scale and polish so that they are completely clean.

THIS EVENING AND FOLLOWING FEW DAYS

Once your pet is home, keep your pet nice and settled in their favourite spot for the rest of the evening to help them fully recover from the anaesthetic. Depending on the severity of the procedure, it's expected to see a small amount of blood in your pet's saliva for the remainder of the day. This should subside by the next morning but if this continues for more than 48 hours please get in touch with your Vet. They may be extra dribbly this evening, but again this should stop by tomorrow! Although their gums may be a little sore tonight, they should still be able to eat with no problem. If your pet has only had a scale and polish, it's advised to keep them on their regular diet as pain should be minimal. If multiple teeth have had to be removed, a soft palatable meal (chicken and rice, mashed potatoes etc) is recommended for the next few days. We can provide you with some prescription soft food if required. It's best to avoid any food, treats or chews that need crunching as this may cause discomfort after extractions.



LONG TERM DENTAL CARE

Dentals are a great way to return your pet's teeth to their former glory, but as we know, prevention is always better than cure. Here are a few top tips to keep those teeth sparkling!

- Toothbrushing – Brushing your pet's teeth three times a week has been proven to be the best way to reduce tartar build up. Ensure you're using a pet safe brush and toothpaste as human products are not suitable. These safe products are available at reception. Ask our Vets and Nurses for a demonstration of the best technique!
- Special diets – Dry kibble based diets work by mechanically rubbing against the tooth's surface to work away the plaque, reducing the risk of it hardening into tartar. You can also get prescription diets that contain ingredients which slow down tartar build up and inhibit bacteria in the mouth. Please ask reception for more details.
- Oral hygiene products - These are applied either directly to the mouth or to the food in the form of gels or liquid 'mouthwash' type products. They give some of the antibacterial effects of toothpaste but obviously cannot give the physical effect. These are always available from reception.

Don't forget, your pet's teeth can be checked at their annual booster appointment to allow early identification of dental disease.

If you have any questions about your pet's procedure or recovery, please don't hesitate to give us a call!