



Dental Discharge Instructions

..... has had a comprehensive oral health assessment and treatment performed with us today.'s teeth were x-rayed, examined, cleaned with an ultrasonic scaler and then polished.

In order to do a thorough and safe cleaning, your pet was given a general anesthesia. You may find shaved areas on your pet where an IV catheter and various sensors were placed. These allowed us to constantly monitor heart rate, respiratory rate, oxygen saturation and blood pressure. These safeguards allow us to adjust the anesthesia properly for each individual pet. The hair should begin to re-grow within a few weeks. There is a bandage on the front leg where the intravenous catheter was. It can be removed (unwrapped or pushed off) when you get home.

Some pets experience slight throat irritation from the endotracheal tube used to administer anesthesia and oxygen. Your pet may cough at home occasionally for one to three days. If coughing is excessive or prolonged, please let us know.

When your pet goes home, he or she may still be groggy and could easily fall from a sofa or down stairs. Ensure restriction of activity to prevent any injuries.

Dental surgery

Your pet has had extractions today. Local anaesthesia (nerve blocks) have been administered to reduce discomfort.

There may be sutures in your pets mouth, these will dissolve over the next few weeks. Expect some blood tinged saliva but any excessive bleeding or swelling please notify us immediately.

Medication

Your pet is going home with the following medications

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Feeding

We recommend feeding *Hill's i/d or Calibra Gastrointestinal diet* for 3 days following any anaesthesia, to prevent nausea and tummy upset after the procedure.

Following anesthesia, patients may have loose stool, or may have a bowel movement for 24 to 36 hours. If this lasts for more than 36 hours, please call. You may feed a small meal when you get home (we recommend no more than one third of the normal amount of food). Keep water readily available. Do not be alarmed if your pet does not feel like eating, but full appetite should return by morning. If your pet vomits after eating, do not give any more food until the next morning. If extractions were done, we advise feeding canned food (or dry food softened with water) for 7 days. It may take 24 hours for your pet's appetite to return.

Follow up care

Brushing your pet's teeth is recommended. To start with just use your finger to massage the gums gently. Lift up your pet's lips and do a brushing motion over all teeth. After a few weeks you can progress to using a small piece of moistened cloth. Be sure to reward your pet after to get them used to this. You can then move onto a toothbrush and toothpaste specially designed for dogs and cats. We recommend brushing at least once a day, using Virbac C.E.T enzymatic toothpaste, in addition to Virbac Vet Aquadent solution added to the drinking water to prevent plaque build up.

A dental diet, Hill's Prescription T/D, is available to aid in the reduction of accumulation of plaque, stain, and tartar. This can be used in addition to your regular food or as treats.

Next follow up appointment

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Even with daily care, tartar may still form which will necessitate periodic professional cleaning. Some of the signs of unhealthy teeth and gums are: red, inflamed gums, grey/brown discoloration of the teeth and bad breath. If any of these signs occur please let us know. Dental disease allows bacteria to spread from the mouth through the blood stream to all the organs in the body. The heart, kidneys, or the liver can be seriously affected by this bacterial spread, and disease in any of these organs can be fatal to your pet. Our goal is to help your pet maintain good health, which includes good oral health for its entire life.