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Dental Care at the Clinic

At Beach and Bay Vet, your pets' health and wellbeing are the number one priority in every dental we perform. We aim to provide the most comfortable and safe dental care on the day, and then offer a free follow-up check and ongoing dental preventative care advice to help ensure the best outcome for every animal.

Good dental health is a vital aspect of an animals' general health and quality of life.

Pre-anaesthetic

Fast and accurate blood-work can be completed in the clinic prior to your pets' general anaesthetic. With this, we can check that kidney function is normal and that the patient has sufficient red blood cells to carry oxygen around their body. By checking these important functions, we can help ensure your pets' general anaesthetic is as safe as possible.

If any concerns are raised by this pre-anaesthetic testing, we will contact the owner and discuss the best course of action.

Analgesia (Pain relief)

Prior to any dental work, we provide good pre-emptive analgesia (pain relief) in a pre-anaesthetic medication. This ensures that no pain is felt by the patient during the dental procedure, and significantly reduces any discomfort that is felt afterwards. If any teeth require removal, we perform a local nerve block to numb sensation, just as is done at a human dentist. After the procedure, more analgesia is provided and, if required, your animal will go home with continuing doses of pain relief.

We work hard to make sure this is not an unpleasant or uncomfortable experience for your four-legged family member.

Anaesthetic

Every dental procedure is performed under a full general anaesthetic. This allows us to perform the most thorough dental assessment (as often diseased, painful teeth can only be identified with an animal completely asleep), and then perform the appropriate treatment with the least discomfort or stress to the patient.

The idea of a beloved pet undergoing a full general anaesthetic is often concerning for owners, but rest assured that every care is taken to ensure the safety of our patients. We closely monitor blood pressure and oxygenation, and most importantly, have a dedicated nurse monitoring patient vital signs and comfort levels during the procedure and into recovery. We also routinely use special warming equipment, and IV fluids to maintain blood pressure, in order to further support your pet.

Dental scale and polish

Using the most up-to-date iM3 ultrasonic scaler equipment makes our dental cleaning as efficient and effective as possible. A full mouth assessment is done, with probing and charting of the health status of each tooth. We then proceed with a full scale and polish. Having your pet under anaesthetic allows careful sub-gingival scaling (cleaning the tooth below the gum-line), ensuring no hidden plaque or tartar is missed. This is an important difference between the very thorough clean a veterinarian can provide, and the more superficial job that is possible on an awake animal. This results in a bright smile and fresh breath for every patient!

Dental surgery

Some dental lesions (such as periodontal disease) can only be identified once the patient is anaesthetised. If the disease is significant and irreversible, we do our utmost to contact owners to discuss the issue and obtain informed consent before proceeding with any tooth removal. This is why it is so important that you leave up-to-date contact details prior to your pet undergoing any procedure.

Tooth removal is undertaken using new, sterile dental drills and burs for each patient, and is completed by using special stitches to neatly close the gums. Pain relief will routinely be given pre-surgery, during the procedure, and post-surgery, and sometimes your pet will be sent home with several days additional pain relief medication to ensure their welfare and comfort. *If minor extractions are required, they will be completed as part of the same procedure, however if extensive dental radiographs and major dental surgery are necessary for your pet, we may need to schedule a 2nd surgery.*

Post-visit Care

Every patient undergoing dental care at Beach and Bay Vet is welcome to book a free follow-up recheck, up to one fortnight after the procedure. This is when a nurse will check that any surgical sites are healing appropriately, and will discuss ongoing home dental care to maintain your pet's pearly whites. Our aim is to reduce the number of veterinary dental procedures your pet requires - this will be different for every animal, as it is for every person. We are always happy to discuss the latest in diet, dental treat and other pharmaceutical options available to keep your animal's teeth and mouth in the best possible condition throughout their life.

The Beach and Bay scale and polish dental package includes a pre-anaesthetic in-house simple blood test, the full general anaesthetic with IV fluids and close anaesthetic monitoring, full scale and polish procedure and a free follow-up recheck. This package is charged at a fee of \$550. If any tooth removal or extra analgesic care is required, this is charged at an additional fee after discussion with owners. If you have any further concerns or questions about our dental practices please do not hesitate to contact the clinic on 4363 2222 or info@beachandbayvet.com.au