

# LOG CABIN ANIMAL HOSPITAL

## Our Dental Care Program Includes:

**Courtesy Dental Exams:** Your pet's mouth and teeth will be evaluated for lesions and level of tartar and an estimate for appropriate dental care (prophylaxis) will be given. Your concerns about dental care can be addressed in detail prior to scheduling a dental cleaning. Our staff will go over the steps of a dental cleaning with you.

**Discounted Bloodwork:** We recommend pre-anesthetic bloodwork prior to a dental cleaning for all patients; pre-anesthetic bloodwork is required for patients 7 years of age or older. The pre-anesthetic bloodwork is provided at a discounted rate that is significantly less than our everyday bloodwork prices.

**Included Full Mouth Digital Dental Radiographs (X-rays):** Dental Radiographs allow us to evaluate the tooth structures below the gumline, including roots and surrounding bone. This is important for properly evaluating and diagnosing dental disease.

**Free Gift Bag:** After your pet receives a "dental" with us, you will be sent home with free samples of at home care products which may include: toothpaste and toothbrush, water additive, Oravet (protective sealant), dental care treats, and/or prescription dental care diet.

**Free Recheck Exam:** After your pet has had a dental cleaning and prophylaxis with us, we schedule a courtesy recheck exam (generally in 1-2 weeks) to evaluate how the mouth has healed and to go over home care in more detail, as needed.

### Other benefits of dental care at Log Cabin Animal Hospital:

- An IV catheter will be placed in every patient and IV fluids and/or other drugs administered as needed to help keep blood pressure up and to control any heart or breathing complications that may develop.
- Your pet will be continuously monitored while under anesthesia for 6 parameters, using our Bionet monitor: body temperature, blood pressure, EKG, respiration, heart rate, and blood oxygen saturation. We have also added "capnography," CO2 monitoring, the most accurate way to monitor

proper breathing while under anesthesia. Hypoventilation or hyperventilation can be treated immediately, preventing complications.

- Your pet's teeth will be scaled and polished using our new state of the art dental machine, the VetPro 1000. This machine also allows the veterinarian to perform extractions much more quickly and efficiently because it contains a high-speed drill with fiber optic lighting. This decreases anesthesia time and is safer for our patients.
- Aggressive patient warming methods, including a circulating warm water blanket and warm air blanket are used to prevent the development of hypothermia, a major side effect of anesthesia that puts pets at risk for complications, discomfort, and slow recovery.

## The steps of a "Dental" at Log Cabin Animal Hospital :

### Oral ATP (Assessment, Treatment, Prevention)

#### 1.) Assessment

- Full dental radiographs were taken and evaluated by the doctor.
- The patient's mouth is inspected, noting any abnormalities on the dental chart.
- Each tooth is inspected in detail and probed on all sides for any periodontal pockets (this is the depth of the opening between the gum and the tooth) as well as probing along the gum line looking for "cavities" or more commonly, feline resorptive lesions.
- All findings, including "calculus index" are noted on the patient's dental chart.

#### 2.) Treatment

- Pre-treatment oral antiseptic rinse of teeth decreases bacteria numbers released with cleaning.
- The plaque is removed. This may include tartar cracking with an instrument if buildup is heavy.
- Every pet will receive ultrasonic scaling of each surface of each tooth, including under the gum line (in the pocket). This also removes the microscopic tartar that cannot be seen by the naked eye.
- If there is evidence of disease beyond just simple tartar (such as periodontal disease), the doctor will make a treatment plan for each

tooth, based on radiographs and probing.

- If consent has been given by the owner, this is when the doctor would perform any needed extractions. Some extractions are simple, yet others require surgery on the gum tissue and sectioning of the teeth with a dental drill. Most extraction sites will be sutured closed with absorbable suture.

### 3.) Prophylaxis / Prevention

- Polishing of each surface of each tooth
- Application of Fluoride
- Application of Oravet (waxy substance that protects the teeth)

A technician or doctor will meet with the owner at the pet's release appointment to go over findings, treatment, and home care. A copy of the dental chart is given.