



PROFESSIONAL DENTAL CLEANING AND TREATMENT

Pets undergoing professional dental treatment are examined prior to the procedure, dental disease grading is assessed, and bloodwork is performed to further evaluate the pet for anesthesia-readiness. After the pet is ready, a pre-anesthetic sedative is given.



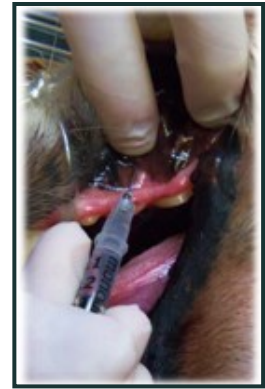
A pre-anesthetic vital sign assessment including a pre-dental ECG is performed to check for any heart arrhythmias. The patient is then anesthetized, intubated, and hooked up to all monitors (CO₂, BP, HR, RR, Temp, ECG, Pulse Oximetry). Care is taken to keep the patient warm throughout the entire treatment.



The teeth are hand scaled & scaled ultrasonically by the technician. The doctor then probes the inside and outside of every tooth for any abnormalities. (This dog has a gum fistula and epulis.) Anesthesia is constantly monitored by both the technician & doctor.



Digital dental radiography is used to assess for disease under the gum line. X-rays are a very important tool used to guide therapy. (This x-ray confirmed an incisor abscess on the patient and the necessity of extraction.). Local anesthetic is used for further pain control. (3rd picture)



Extractions are performed only on severely diseased teeth. Very small or loose teeth can be extracted without surgery. Other multi-rooted teeth often require high-speed drilling and surgical extraction. Gums are often closed with dissolvable suture.



Following extraction, final treatments including polishing, fluoride treatment and periodontal antibiotic pocket filler (if needed) are applied. The patient's mouth and face are cleaned and the patient is awakened from anesthesia and monitored until discharged from the hospital.



Many thanks to Willow's owner for allowing us to photograph this dental. Willow is a 13 year old Golden Retriever and is feeling much better after her treatment. Oral healthcare is an important part of pet wellness care during all years of life. Please ask us if you have any questions.