

**Veterinary Dentistry
and Oral Surgery**
of New Mexico, LLC

PERIODONTAL DISEASE AND VOHC APPROVED PRODUCTS FOR PREVENTION

The key to managing the most common disease in pet dogs and cats, periodontal disease, is prevention. Daily use of products that have been awarded the VOHC Seal will help.

About Periodontal Disease



Periodontal disease (gum disease) is the most common disease in pet dogs and cats. It is an infection resulting from buildup of soft dental plaque on the surfaces of the teeth around the gums. The bacteria

in dental plaque irritate the gum tissue if plaque is allowed to accumulate, which often leads to infection in the bone surrounding the teeth.

Hard dental tartar (calculus) consists of calcium salts from saliva deposited on plaque. Tartar starts to form within a few days on a tooth surface that is not kept clean, and provides a rough surface that enhances further plaque accumulation.

Bad breath is the most common effect noted by owners. However, this is often only the tip of the iceberg. The gums become irritated, leading to bleeding and oral pain, and your cat or dog may lose its appetite or drop food from its mouth while eating. The roots may become so severely affected that some teeth become loose and fall out.

Bacteria surrounding the roots gain access to the blood stream. Studies have shown that dogs with severe periodontal disease have more microscopic damage in their

kidneys, heart muscle and liver than do dogs with less severe periodontal disease.

Managing Periodontal Disease

The key to management of gum disease is prevention. As long as the surfaces of the teeth are cleaned frequently, the gums will stay healthy. Excellent oral health is maintained by daily oral hygiene. The gold standard is brushing. Daily chewing activities can also be effective in maintaining oral health.

Daily use of products that have been awarded the VOHC Seal will help to keep your pet's teeth clean and the gum tissues and bone around the roots healthy. VOHC recommends periodic veterinary examination of the mouth and teeth of your dog or cat. Many pets require periodic professional scaling in addition to on-going plaque control.

About the VOHC Seal of Approval

The Veterinary Oral Health Council (VOHC) was developed in the early 1990s to recognize products that meet pre-set standards of plaque and calculus (tartar) retardation in dogs and cats. The VOHC is sponsored by the American Veterinary Dental College (AVDC). Products are awarded the VOHC Seal of Acceptance following review of data from trials conducted according to VOHC standards. Regular use of products carrying the VOHC Seal will reduce the severity of periodontal disease in dogs and cats.

Submission to the VOHC is voluntary. The VOHC is not a regulatory agency, and does not certify, represent

Normal or diseased? Which choice will you make for your pet?



Advanced periodontal disease



Healthy teeth and gums

or warranty any safety information. The VOHC does not perform the trials, but reviews information voluntarily submitted to them by the company or product representative. The VOHC Seal of Acceptance can be displayed on products intended to help retard plaque and tartar on the teeth of animals. All treat products should be given when the pet can be observed by owner.

For more information about the VOHC, visit www.vohc.org



List of VOHC Accepted Products as of December 2009

Treats:

Tartar Shield® Soft Rawhide Chews
Del Monte Tartar Check® Dog Biscuits
Friskies® Cheweez® Beefhide Treats
Purina Veterinary Diets® Dental Chews
Vetradent® Dog Chews (Bluechews and dc Dental Chews, original and small size)
Canine Greenies®, Original, Lite and Senior
Bright Bites and Checkups Chews

Diets:

Hill's Prescription Diet® Canine T/D, Original Bites and Small Bites
Hill's Prescription Diet® Feline T/D
Friskies® Feline Dental Diet
Science Diet® Oral Care Diet for Dogs
Science Diet® Oral Care Diet for Cats
Iams® Chunk Dental Defense Diet for Dogs
Eukanuba® Adult Maintenance Diet for Dogs
Purina Veterinary Diets® DH Dental Health brand Feline Formula
Purina Veterinary Diets® DH Dental Health brand Canine Formula, Original and Small Bites

Water Additive:

Healthymouth® anti-plaque water additive

About Dr. Bannon

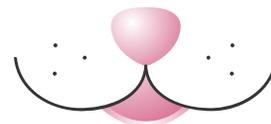


Kris Bannon, DVM, FAVD, DAVDC received her veterinary medical degree from Texas A&M University in 1998. She worked in a small animal hospital in Santa Fe, NM for ten years before starting the first veterinary practice in New Mexico dedicated to the oral health needs of our companion animals.

In 2008, she was the first veterinarian in New Mexico to earn the title Fellow of the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry (FAVD). She became a Diplomate of the American Veterinary Dental College (DAVDC) in 2010. Both certifications are earned after years of intensive training, followed by a rigorous application process and examination. As of 2010, there are only 93 Fellows of the AVD and 115 Diplomates of the AVDC worldwide. As a Diplomate of the AVDC, Dr. Bannon became the first and only board-certified veterinary dentist in the state of New Mexico!

She was elected to serve a five year term on the Board of Directors for the American Veterinary Dental Society in 2006. In her free time, Dr. Bannon enjoys volunteering with the Peter Emily International Veterinary Dental Foundation, using her advanced dental skills to benefit disadvantaged and captive wildlife in sanctuaries across the country. Dr. Bannon enjoys teaching other veterinarians about quality dental care, and lectures frequently within New Mexico and nationwide.

Dr. Bannon is very enthusiastic about dentistry, and wants to share with everyone the positive effects that good dental health and oral hygiene can have on the quality of life for our beloved furry friends. If you have any questions, please feel free to call, email, or just ask.



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