

# Pre-Dental Information Packet



*Thank you for trusting us  
with the care of your pet!*

Thank you for scheduling your pet's dentistry with the Brockville Animal Hospital. We hope the following information will answer questions you may have and help to make this the best experience possible for your pet. Congratulations! By having this dentistry performed you are helping to maintain your pet's overall health and that is a great thing! Please do not hesitate to call the office for more advice or details.

## **Preparing for your pet's dentistry:**

- Please arrive between 8:00 and 8:15 on the scheduled dentistry day. We will call you when your pet's dentistry is complete and set-up a discharge time that works best for you. We encourage you to call the office anytime during their stay to find out how they are doing.
- Withhold all food and treats after 10:00p.m. the night before the scheduled dentistry and the morning of.
- Water is okay for your pet to have and should not be withheld.
- If you are currently administering any medications and/or injections, give as usual unless otherwise instructed by the doctor.
- Feel free to bring your pet's favourite blanket or toy to remind them of home. This can help to make them more comfortable during their stay.
- We know your time is valuable! Fill out & submit our online [Pre-Surgical Admittance Form](#) by 10:00 pm the night before or [print our form](#), fill in and bring with you to help save time!

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Your pet's dental procedure includes a complete physical exam, all anesthetic, intravenous fluids are administered to maintain blood pressure and to help provide a speedy recovery, dental radiographs, cleaning, polishing, fluoride and a nail trim. Pain medication is given to control or alleviate pain. A technician will be monitoring your pet's temperature, blood pressure, respiration, heart rate and keep him/her comfortable, during and after their dentistry. We will schedule a complimentary follow up call after your pet's dentistry.

## **Pre-surgical Bloodwork:**

We recommend performing pre-surgical blood work to allow the doctor to assess any underlying conditions prior to anesthesia. This affordable, important screening evaluates organ function as well as blood cell counts and would be similar to the tests used in human medicine before a surgery. Please let us know if you would like this completed.

## **Digital Radiographs & Mouth Exam:**

We will radiograph all of your pet's teeth using our digital x-ray machine. We will then examine each tooth and the complete oral cavity. Our findings are recorded on your pet's chart and are reviewed by the veterinarian who will determine if there are any problem teeth that may need to be removed. Sometimes the doctor may need to call you during this procedure so it is very important that you leave the best phone number where you can be reached at any time of the day of your pet's dentistry.

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## Extractions:

Teeth are extracted differently depending on how many roots they have and the condition of the tooth on your pet's radiograph. Some are split into their separate roots using the same type of dental drill that your dentist's office would have. Some require a gingival flap be performed. This is where a piece of the gingiva is cut away temporarily while the tooth is extracted and is sutured back together after the tooth is removed. Others can be extracted using only dental elevators. Elevators are hand tools used to loosen the ligaments holding the tooth in place. Dental extractions are an additional cost which varies based on difficulty of each extraction.

## Dentistries with 2 Steps:

If your pet's dental procedure is going to be lengthy and require more than 2 hours of anesthesia, we will schedule your pet to come back for the remainder of the extractions at a second visit. This is for the safety of your pet.

We will provide you with an estimate for your pet's recommended extractions, anesthetic and surgical time necessary to perform the extractions. A charge for pain medication and/or antibiotics may be added if required after your pet's second dental appointment. Please let us know if you already have a sufficient quantity at home from a previous visit. Your pet must come back within 2-4 weeks for this second procedure. Only the teeth that have been recommended for removal will be extracted. There will be no cleaning at this appointment.

## Home Care:

If your pet requires any dental extractions, he/she will need to be fed a soft diet for two weeks after (canned food or watered down kibble). Let us know and we will have any food you require ready for you at the time of your pet's discharge. If your pet requires sutures, they are dissolvable and should fall out on their own. If you notice any undissolved sutures that have not fallen out, please let us know and we will remove them at no additional cost.

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## Keep Them Clean:

Enjoy your pet's fresh breath and keep those teeth clean. After all extraction sites are healed it is a great time to start brushing if you haven't before or resume if you have. You have a clean and healthy surface to start with and it should not be painful to your pet. Brushing is the gold standard of dental home care but if it is not possible there are other options. These include oral sprays, water additives and dental chews. Whichever option you choose, dental care should be part of your pet's daily routine.

## Vaccinations:

If your pet needs vaccinations it is a great time to do this while they are here, as he/she will already receive a complete physical exam from nose to tail prior to their dentistry. If this is his/her first vaccination, a booster will be required in a month. An addition fee applies for vaccinations and booster vaccinations.

## Important Tests:

For dogs, we recommend doing an Accuplex test to check for heartworm disease, Lyme disease and other tick borne bacteria. Feel free to let us know if you need to order any deworming, flea, tick and heartworm preventative products for your pet. We will have them ready for you at the time of your pet's discharge.

## Microchipping:

While pets are in for their dentistry, often owners request to have them microchipped as well. It is a small microchip the size of a grain of rice. It is placed just under the skin at the shoulder blade area. There have been so many success stories of returned pets because they had a microchip in place. If a lost pet has a microchip, their owner can be contacted and reunited!

[Here is a great success story!](#)

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There is more information about our services on our website, [www.brockvillevet.com](http://www.brockvillevet.com). We hope that we have helped to answer any questions. If you would like any of these added services, please let the technician know when you arrive. Thank you for allowing us to help you take great care of your pet! Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

*Your Trusted  
Pet Care Team!*

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\*All prices plus tax.