



# NEWSLETTER

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By Cris Moy, *Consultant, Veterinary Inventory Management.*

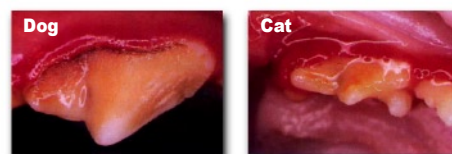
*Ever wonder why your pet's breath smells the way it does? It could be more than bad breath, it could be gum disease. The following is some information to help you and your veterinarian to discuss and resolve the "bad breath" dilemma. This is offered as general information only and NOT as a substitute for a visit to your veterinarian.*

## Periodontal Disease (Bad Breath or Gum Disease?)

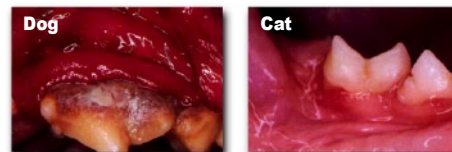
More than 85% of dogs and cats older than 4 years show signs of dental (periodontal) disease. Dogs and cats do not have to suffer the pain and discomfort of untreated broken or loose teeth or infected gums. With the help of thorough examinations, x-rays, dental care, and daily brushing, your pet can keep its teeth in its mouth where they should be.

Dental disease can be painful and cause a persistent discomfort in your pet's mouth. When periodontal disease is not treated, bacteria within the gum line can spread and cause deep pockets in the gums and bone loss below the gums. Eventually, this progression can cause tooth loss and systemic infection. In addition, periodontal disease has been shown to affect the kidney, liver, and heart. It also affects the way certain metabolic diseases such as diabetes are regulated. The following are signs of periodontal or dental disease in your pet: bad breath, red swollen gums, loose teeth, discolored teeth- usually brown, yellow, or pink, fractured teeth, abscess at the gums, tartar, and facial swelling. Because the disease is below the gum line, starting to brush your pets' teeth at this time will not improve dental health. A professional dental cleaning above and below the gums is strongly recommended. The cleaning and assessment will require general anesthesia. Prior to anesthesia, your pet will be assessed to make sure they are healthy and at a low risk for anesthesia. The evaluation may include blood work or urine analysis. Prior to the dental cleaning, a catheter will be placed in the vein so that medications and fluids can be administered. At the time of cleaning, a thorough exam and charting, much like what your dentist performs will be done. Any questionable teeth will have x-rays taken of them to assess whether further treatment or surgery is necessary.

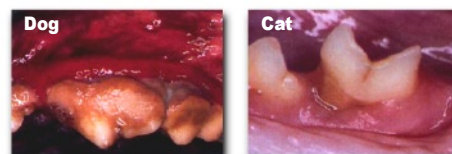
Following the cleaning, certain modifications in diet or chewing behavior may be needed. In addition, daily tooth brushing will be recommended. Most pets can become accustomed to tooth brushing with a little bit of regular effort. We can help you accomplish this.



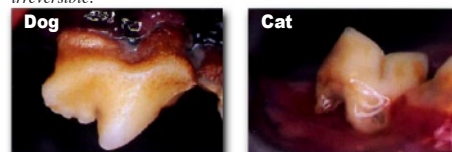
**Stage 1 - Gingivitis** Margin of attached gingiva (gum) is inflamed and swollen. Plaque covering teeth. Treatment can reverse condition.



**Stage 2 - Early Periodontitis** Entire attached gum is inflamed and swollen. Mouth is painful and odor begins to be noticeable. Professional treatment and home dental care can prevent this from becoming irreversible.



**Stage 3 - Moderate Periodontitis** Cherry red and bleeding attached gum is being destroyed by infection and calculus (tartar). Sore mouth affects eating and behavior. Bad breath is present. Beginning of periodontal disease. May become irreversible.



**Stage 4 - Advanced periodontitis** Chronic bacterial infection is destroying the gum, tooth and bone. Bacteria may be spreading throughout the entire body via the bloodstream and may damage the kidneys, liver and heart.


Photos courtesy of Jan Bellows, DVM, PA, Dipl. AVDC, Dipl. ABVP.

### Doggone Doggie Breath Gone!

Schedule your dental in  
December & receive a  
\$40 discount.

Oravet™ Plaque Prevention Gel 1x/week application



 "Brushing daily with pet paste & brush is ideal but if it is too difficult then you can block plaque build up on the teeth surface by applying Oravet gel 1x/week. It'll be a great help."

Dr. Saul Morfin DVM

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Welcome to WAGS, the White Ivie Pet Hospital Newsletter. We strive to inform, educate and illuminate you and your pets' lives.

### Thank you

We want to thank all our clients over the years for their patronage and support and welcome all new additions to your family as well as ours. For further information, please visit our website at [www.pet-hospital.info](http://www.pet-hospital.info).

**Schedule your dental in December & receive a \$40 discount.**



Hill's® Prescription t/d diet supplemental dental diet for dogs



*"With my busy life, I have trouble remembering to brush my dogs teeth regularly. But since I have been giving the T/D food, there is a big improvement in my dog's teeth and and breath! It really works."*

Dr Elaine Salinger, DVM



C.E.T.® Enzymatic Toothpaste for Dogs & Cats



VET® enzadent Toothbrush Kit Nothing beats brushing!



Oravet™ Plaque Prevention Gel 1x/week application

### AAHA Accreditation

White Ivie Pet Hospital is proud to announce that we are now one of elite 3,000 veterinary hospitals in the United States and Canada that are AAHA-accredited. Our hospital passed the evaluation with flying colors on the first inspection, a rare occurrence.

This means we've exceeded over 800 standards that effect the quality of healthcare we provide to your furry friends.

We take pride in our hospital and strive to provide leading veterinary care. Please ask any of our staff members if you would like any additional information on our accreditation.

