



## FACT SHEET

# KEEP YOUR PET SMILING



Periodontal disease is easily preventable and yet it's one of the most common problems that veterinarians diagnose in Aussie pets. More importantly, if it goes untreated, it can lead to other serious health problems such as infections in the kidney, heart and liver.

In its early stages, it's a disease that is reversible. However, it can also go undetected for years, despite causing pain and discomfort. Clinical signs of periodontal disease include:

- 🐾 bad breath
- 🐾 swollen or easily bleeding gums
- 🐾 broken teeth
- 🐾 reluctance to eat harder foods
- 🐾 drooling
- 🐾 pus near the gums
- 🐾 tartar build up.

To provide optimal health and quality of life for your pet, good oral care is necessary.

Conducting an oral exam during your pet's routine annual check-up can help to identify any emerging dental health issues. However, when a pet opens its mouth, only some parts of the gum and teeth are visible. This makes dental disease difficult to detect which is why your veterinarian might recommend investigating your pet's dental health further, under general anaesthesia. This allows for a thorough dental investigation of every single tooth, above and below the gum line, and it may also include dental x-rays if necessary.

Veterinarians are the only people qualified to anaesthetise, examine, diagnose and treat oral health conditions.

Talk to your vet today about your pet's dental health and keep your pet smiling.

