Periodontal Disease Grading Sheet



Stage 1:

Plaque forms and sticks to the tooth's surface. Mild gingivitis and inflammation at the gums. A pet may drop food while chewing due to mild discomfort.

Treatment Suggestions:

Plaque removal from veterinarian plus daily and weekly prevention through brushing, oral rinse, and chews.



Stage 2:

Plaque hardens into dental tartar around teeth. Moderate gingivitis, inflammation, swelling, and sensitivity of gums.

Treatment Suggestions:

In addition to treatment suggestions for stages 1 & 2, specific periodontal therapy may be required.



Stage 3:

Plaque and tartar spread under gum line, leading gingivitis to progress to periodontitis. The gums are irritated, swollen, and bleeding with some loss of tissue to the tooth.

Treatment Suggestions:

Advanced procedures and stringent protection are needed to save the tooth.



Stage 4: EXTENSIVE & IRREVERSIBLE DAMAGE

Tissue damage continues leading to severe inflammation, gum recession, deep periodontal pockets, bone loss, tooth mobility, and profuse bleeding.

Treatment Suggestions:

Tooth extraction immediately.

RISK FACTORS

AGE: Typically older dogs and cats (but not always).

BREED: All breeds, but purebred cats, toy and small dogs, and dogs with short muzzles are especially susceptible.

CLINICAL SIGNS

Bad breath, pain, excessive salivation, loss of appetite, dropping food while chewing.



Vetoquinol provides a full line of dental products to aid in the prevention of periodontal disease in your pet. Ask your veterinarian about **Dentahex**® Oral Chews and Oral Rinse and Enzadent® Dental Chews, Toothbrushes and Toothpaste.