



Lake Minnetonka Pet Wellness Center

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Mound

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The Standard of
Veterinary Excellence

What Is Your Investment For a Twelve Step Professional Oral Health Visit?

- ◆ **Step 1: pre-anesthetic examination.** This is part of our routine wellness/medical examinations.
- ◆ **Steps 2-9, 11, 12: The Gentle Dentistry Cleaning: Baseline Diagnostic and Treatment Plan**
 - includes pre-anesthetic biochemical health screen, anesthesia and safety protocol, full mouth digital dentistry radiographs
 - excludes Step 10 - Advanced Therapy, if recommended

Our Safety Protocol for ALL animals receiving a Professional Oral Health Care Visit (POHCV) at Westonka Animal Hospital:



- Pre-anesthetic blood screen
- gas anesthesia – the best anesthetic protocol for oral procedures
- An intravenous (IV) catheter
- IV fluid therapy to maintain blood pressure
- blood pressure monitoring
- heart rate and respiratory rate monitoring
- blood oxygen level monitoring
- ECG evaluation and monitoring
- body temperature monitoring
- post procedure pain control (if needed)

When comparing dental services, does another dentistry care provider:

- Do they perform all twelve steps? Many other providers only perform a few of the first 7 steps.**
- Use the safety protocols listed above?**
- Perform deep cleanings of the inflamed, painful tissue under the gums where the serious disease exists?**
- Perform advanced diagnostics like full mouth dentistry x-rays**
- Advanced treatment such as flap surgeries and root canal therapy?**

Twelve Steps To A Professional Oral Health Care Visit (POHCV)

All twelve steps are important and interlinked. When one step is not performed, patients suffer.



1) **Oral examination during physical exam.** This great starting point is most often performed during a routine physical examination.

2) **Detailed Oral examination While Anesthetized** We examine individual teeth for mobility, fractures, malocclusion, and periodontal disease and probe for pocket depths while the pet is under general anesthesia.



3) **Supragingival (above the gumline) plaque and tartar removal** using forceps, hand instruments, and ultrasonic scaling equipment, plaque and calculus is removed above the gumline.



4) **Subgingival (below the gumline) scaling, root planing, curettage.** Our dentistry technicians are trained to properly and gently clean the diseased tissue below the gumline. The cleaning below the gumline is a vital part of the professional oral health care visit. This step is painful, which is why pets require anesthesia and where a qualified medical professional must be involved. Most of the very cheap “dentals” or teeth cleanings at other clinics do not clean this hidden subgingival disease. These very cheap cleanings only clean what is visible to the client, the supragingival (above the gumline) plaque and tartar.

5) **Polishing** removes minor enamel defects which can be attachment points for new calculus.

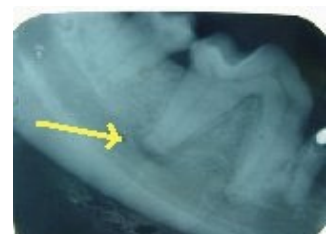
6) **Irrigation** removes diseased tissue and plaque from the gum pocket.

7) **Fluoride** may help maintain the strength and protect the enamel. We also apply an enamel bonding agent (for additional enamel protection) which some clinics do not apply.

The remaining steps, Steps 8 through 12, unfortunately, may not be performed by other veterinary clinics when doing a “dental” or “teeth cleaning”. It is our standard procedure to include all twelve steps.



8) **Diagnostics.** ALL of the teeth are x-rayed and probed for pocket depths. After cleaning and dentistry radiographs of ALL of the teeth are examined individually via periodontal probing on EVERY dentistry



patient.

A treatment plan is then devised. This is why it is important for us to be able to contact you on the day when your pet is with us during a professional teeth-cleaning treatment.

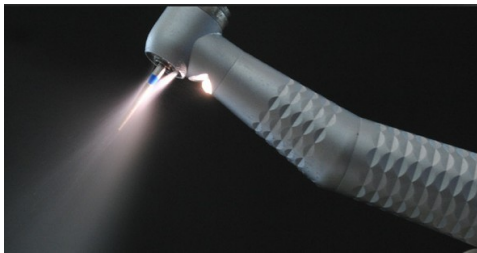
9) Charting. Record the disease that is present before starting therapy.

<p>Tooth Root Abscess A common example of a painful disease that could only be found with dentistry x-rays.</p>
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10) Advanced Therapy to treat problems noted above.(Step 10 is an additional charge.)

Some examples of advanced therapy are root canals, flap surgeries, surgical extractions, bonded sealants, or application of long acting antibiotics into a gum pocket. We try to save teeth as much as possible and avoid extraction as much as possible. *Advanced Therapy, if recommended, will be an additional expense above the base estimate. We will quote you for these recommendations first before performing them while your pet is under anesthesia.*



We use high speed dentistry specific equipment such as this hand piece. The hand piece is equipped with a light for the working area, disinfectant containing water to clean the work area and to prevent heat damage to the bone around the

tooth. The hand piece is also equipped with a high speed diamond tipped cutting bur. See the advantages?



11) Written Home Care Instructions. The pet owner is an integral part of our dentistry team. The POHCV visit is not complete until discussion is held on maintaining and improving oral health.

12) One Week Progress Visit is included. We ask that dentistry patients return one to two weeks after their cleaning, diagnostics, and treatment. At that time, a dentistry technician will discuss with you and demonstrate daily home care.

Daily home care is the single most important procedure the owner can do to maintain oral health. Daily brushing will dramatically increase the interval between teeth

cleaning appointments. Plaque is constantly being made and deposited in the mouth. If you are unable to brush your pet's teeth daily, there are other options in which you can provide daily home care for your pet.