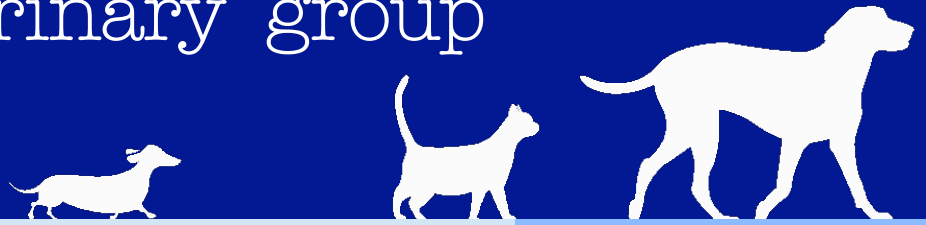


hillsdale veterinary group

january 2008



Pets need dental care, too!

Caring for our teeth and gums is just part of our daily routine, but your pet's dental health is just as important. Why wait for disease and the pain that ensues when you can take a preventative approach to dental care? For most pets, we recommend regular dental cleanings every 12 to 18 months. It's better for your pet's health, reduces pain, and costs less in the long run.

Since dental cleaning in pets requires anesthesia, we usually perform a pre-anesthesia examination and blood work to determine if any underlying risks exist. The day of dentistry, your pet will first be re-examined by a doctor prior to anesthesia. A trained veterinary technician will then clean the teeth using an ultrasonic dental scaler to remove tartar on tooth surfaces and hand scaling to remove tartar below the gum line. A thorough dental exam is performed once the teeth are cleaned, and the doctor will determine whether further treatment or extractions are necessary. Finally, the teeth are polished, an important step in slowing the rate of future tartar buildup.

The safety and comfort of your pet is our number one priority. Our Life Window® anesthesia monitor is state of the art and allows us to record your pet's vital signs during the procedure. We use digital X-rays to detect cavities, tooth abscesses or other problems. During anesthesia, your pet is placed on a heated water blanket to maintain body temperature and will wake up in one of our heated recovery cages.



Our **WINTER DENTAL SPECIAL** begins January 15 and runs through February. Call to schedule a dental cleaning and receive **\$20 OFF!** Your pet will also receive a complimentary sample of our dental diets.



The Wisdom Panel MX is a new test designed to provide comprehensive mixed-breed analysis for your dog. This test detects the breeds found in a dog's family history using analysis of over 300 distinct genetic markers. It will identify more than 130 AKC recognized breeds and is proven to have an average accuracy of 95 percent. We have added this service, so if you are interested in discovering which breeds make up your dog's true identity, please call us for more details.



**Happy New Year from
Dr. Flecker, Dr. Hoyt
and the Hillsdale
Veterinary Group
staff!**



New Canine Vaccine Available

Periodontal disease (gingivitis and periodontitis) is inflammation and infection of the gums and bone holding your dog's teeth. In 2008, we have begun offering a new vaccine developed by Pfizer designed to aid in the prevention of periodontal disease in dogs. The Porphyromonas vaccine is given as a two dose initial series followed by boosters given every 6 to 12 months. While home dental care and regular teeth cleanings are still essential, we believe this vaccine will become an important part of your dog's overall wellness care. Ask us at your next visit for more information!

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