

Bad Breath

The Evidence of Periodontal Disease

Imagine never brushing your teeth...for years. That's what happens to your pet without proper oral care. Bad breath is not a normal condition for dogs and cats. It is evidence of a very serious disease: periodontal disease.

Periodontal Disease: What is it?

It is the scientific name given to disease of the gum and the surrounding tissues of the teeth. Periodontal disease is due to the excess build up of dental plaque further infected by bacteria and mineralized into tartar. Over 85% of dogs and cats suffer from periodontal disease.

Bad breath rarely originates from intestinal or liver problems; it comes from bad oral health.

And without proper oral care, periodontal disease can have very serious and irreversible consequences.



Healthy mouth

At this stage, prevention of the disease with regular oral hygiene care is possible.



Stage 1: Gingivitis

Gums get red and sensitive; breath becomes unpleasant. Lesions are reversible with special veterinary treatment and oral hygiene care.



Stage 2: Mild Periodontitis

Gums get swollen and start receding; tartar accumulates and becomes visible. Some lesions can be irreversible or need lifelong treatment.



Stage 3: Moderate Periodontitis

Recessing gums, drifting teeth and tartar are visible signs. At this stage, abscesses may develop.



Stage 4: Advanced Periodontitis

Pain, inflammation and excess tartar are visible signs. At this stage, the lesions are irreversible. Urgent treatment by a veterinarian is required to limit pain and tooth loss.

Advanced stages of periodontal disease have very serious consequences and can shorten your pet's life:

- jaw bone destruction leading to fractures, dental abscesses, tooth loss
- intense pain preventing your animal from eating
- spreading of bacteria into the blood flow towards other organs (heart, liver, kidneys and lungs)