

## DENTAL CARE

Keeping your dog or cat's teeth clean is one of the major ways in which you can keep your pet healthy.

Clean teeth mean fewer bacteria in the mouth, which not only help you maintain fresh breath, but will also reduce the chance of your pet developing kidney or heart trouble later in life.

### Preventative care

There are a number of ways you can keep your pet's teeth clean:

- Brushing the teeth with either a pet toothbrush or finger toothbrush and dog/cat toothpaste is perhaps the most effective way of removing bacteria from the surface of the teeth and hence stopping the build up of tartar and calculus.
- Dental treats contain agents which help clean the teeth, and are made so that chewing helps to remove existing tartar and bacteria
- Logic Oral Health Gel contains an enzyme which prevents bacteria from producing tartar, and so reduces the level of bacteria in the mouth. It can be given with food, directly into the mouth, or applied to the feet where it is groomed off into the mouth
- Specialist dental diets contain a type of biscuit that, rather than fracturing when bitten, splits slightly so that it "squeezes" up the side of the tooth, and so helps to keep the teeth clean. Royal Canin Dental is an excellent diet we recommend.

Some dogs and cats are more prone to poor teeth and gums than others; check at least monthly for problems, or ask us for advice.