In-Theatre Information Guide to Common Oral Conditions

Print this guide out in colour and laminate for daily use in surgery

Mr Alex J Smithson
Veterinary Dental, Oral & Maxillofacial Referrals
07887 650812 / alex@orosurgeon.co.uk

Appointments via Sue Vranch: 07825 416534 / soos@doctoothfairy.com

Discoloured tooth: pulpitis very common. Xray, RCT or extract

‘Caries’ – dental decay: xray & restore or extract

Fractured & damaged teeth: xray & restore (often RCT) or extract
Root remnant (fractured): radiograph & remove. Do NOT atomise!!! Warning! Root migration into bone canals etc!

Retained deciduous teeth - intervene (xray & extract) if deciduous teeth not mobile. Warning! Developing adult roots are VERY delicate!

Malocclusion – jaw/ teeth misaligned & painful: xray & shorten, move, extract or recontour. NEVER ‘grind down’/ cut!
Resorptive Lesions - MUST XRAY!
Ghosted----coronal amputation. Warning! This is NOT atomisation!
Anatomy present, no ankylosis -----extract
Anatomy present, ankylosis -----extract (likely v difficult, surgical technique)

Gingivostomatitis & resorptive lesions: perfect extractions under radiographic control. Adjunctive antibiosis & NSAIDs if safe.

Resorptive lesions – Xrays essential!!

Missing tooth: radiograph (unerupted after jaw fracture fixation; note hole through tooth…needs treating!)
Missing tooth – dentigerous cyst: investigate (FNA, biopsy) & cyst enucleation. Warning! recurrence, fracture, nerve damage, malignancy.

**Periodontitis** – can only treat if owner will perform homecare!

- Mobility 2, 3 ---- extract OR treat
- Pocket depth >5mm----extract OR treat
- Furcation exposure 2, 3----extract OR treat
- Gingival recession (root exposure)---if alone can treat IF suitable area

Periodontitis: treat or extract; brushing can save teeth!

Periodontitis: homecare essential – daily brushing.
Oral mass: xray & wedge biopsy.

Oronasal fistula: closure options; 1st = best!

---

GUIDE TO DENTAL & ORAL CASES

Case treatment options include:

- restorations – fillings (tooth decay)
  - ‘RCT’ root canals (broken/purple teeth)
- feline oral & dental medicine & surgery - stomatitis, ‘neck’ lesions etc
- orthodontics – treating problematic alignment of jaws/teeth
- extractions – surgical techniques for difficult teeth
- periodontal therapy – saving teeth, preventing gum inflammation
- jaw and maxillofacial surgery – jaw fracture, trauma, cysts
- oncology – investigation & treatment of tumours & masses

---

DENTAL CHECKS

Puppy & Kitten vaccinations:
- Mouth/teeth fitting normally
- Initiate homecare regime

Adolescent 5month check:
- Mouth/teeth fitting normally
- Teeth exfoliating & erupting normally
- Consolidate homecare regime
1st Booster
- Mouth/ teeth fitting normally
- Consolidate homecare regime

Annual dental checks & vaccinations (ie checked orally at least every 6months)
- Consolidate homecare regime
- Assess for other initiating disease – early intervention!

Other
- Pre-acceptance onto ‘internal insurance’ schemes
- Checks every 3months for ‘at risk’ individuals eg resorptive lesion & periodontitis cases

What to look for:
- Bad breath
- Red or irregular gums
- Root exposure & gingival recession
- Broken, damaged or discoloured teeth
- Missing or worn teeth
- Holes in teeth, resorptive lesions
- Swellings around the face or inside the mouth
- Teeth not fitting properly, discharge from nose
- Changes in habits: eating, drinking, sleeping, play, behaviour