Stage 1 Periodontal Disease

During our dental examination today, your pet was estimated to have Stage 1 Periodontal Disease. Full determination of the level of disease will be done under general anesthesia when the procedure is performed.

In Stage 1 Periodontal Disease, varying amounts of soft plaque and hard tartar may be present and there may be inflammation of the gum tissue surrounding the teeth. At this early stage, however, these tissues are still intact, including the periodontal bone (tooth socket).

Good home care is important at this stage to help prevent further periodontal disease. While oral gels and solution can be helpful, daily brushing is still the best care you can provide. Since home care is effective on the soft plaque only, regular professional cleaning will be needed to remove any deposits of hard tartar. This also helps to prevent the destruction of periodontal tissues before it occurs. The combination of preventative home care and dental cleanings can optimize your pet's health.

We recommend that you schedule your pet's dental cleaning in the next 3 to 6 months. Pre-operative management involving blood work and medications may be indicated.

With this level of disease, it will be important to return on a regular basis (every 12 months) for dental examinations. If persistent disease is found, dental therapy may be scheduled immediately. If home care efforts have been successful, the therapy may be delayed a bit longer.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Visit us online at <u>www.WhiteBearAnimalHospital.com</u>.

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