

## **Stage 2 Periodontal Disease**

During our dental examination today, your pet was estimated to have Stage 2 Periodontal Disease. Full determination of the level of disease will be done under general anesthesia during the procedure.

In Stage 2 Periodontal Disease, the bacteria present in the plaque and tartar has contributed to infection and inflammation of the tissues around the tooth, including the gums and even bone. This infection has progressed to the extent that there is initial loss of these supportive tissues. This tissue loss may be evident as periodontal pockets (a space between the tooth and gum that can retain further plaque bacteria) or gum and bone recession that can cause root exposure.

Good home care is essential to stop further destruction. 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.

With some tissue destruction already evident, we recommend that you schedule the dental cleaning and periodontal therapy within the next 30 days. Pre-operative management involving blood work and medications may be indicated. In most cases, thorough periodontal cleaning, even subgingival therapy (under the gums), may be sufficient to slow the progression of the disease. Medications such as antibiotics, even ones used in the pockets, can help in the fight against the infection.

With this level of disease, it will be important to return on a regular basis (every 9 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 [www.WhiteBearAnimalHospital.com](http://www.WhiteBearAnimalHospital.com).

### **WHITE BEAR ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

1909 East County Road E  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110  
651.777.1393